

# Changing Ecosystems

# Multiple Choice:

Name:

#### 1. What is an ecosystem?

A. A community of living organisms and their physical environment.

B. A group of organisms that live in the same area and interact with each other.

C. The physical environment in which an organism lives.

D. All of the above.

### 2. What is the difference between primary and secondary succession?

A. Primary succession occurs on land that has never been colonized by plants or animals before, while secondary succession occurs on land that has already been colonized by plants and animals.

B. Primary succession occurs faster than secondary succession.

C. Primary succession occurs in areas that have been disturbed by humans, while secondary succession occurs in areas that have been disturbed by natural events.

D. None of the above.

#### 3. What are some of the ways that humans can change ecosystems?

- A. Pollution
- B. Habitat destruction
- C. Overfishing
- D. All of the above

### 4. What is the climax community of an ecosystem?

- A. The first community of organisms to colonize a new area.
- B. The final community of organisms to develop in an ecosystem.
- C. A community of organisms that is in balance with its environment.
- D. All of the above.

#### 5. Which of the following is NOT an example of a natural change to an

#### ecosystem?

- A. A forest fire
- B. A volcanic eruption
- C. Climate change
- D. The introduction of an invasive species

# True/False:

- 1. All ecosystems are the same.
- 2. Ecosystems can change over time.
- 3. Humans can have a positive impact on ecosystems.
- 4. Ecosystems are always in balance.
- 5. Biodiversity is important for ecosystem resilience.

# Short Answer:

- 1. Explain the difference between biotic and abiotic factors in an ecosystem.
- 2. Describe how a food web works.
- 3. Give two examples of natural changes to ecosystems and two examples of human-caused changes to ecosystems.
- 4. Explain why it is important to protect biodiversity.

## **Bonus Question:**

What are some of the things that you can do to help protect ecosystems?

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# Answers

# **Multiple Choice**

- 1. D
- 2. A
- 3. D
- 4. D
- 5. D

## True/False

- 1. F
- 2. T
- 3. T
- 4. F
- 5. T

## Short Answer

- 1. Biotic factors are the living components of an ecosystem, such as plants, animals, and fungi. Abiotic factors are the non-living components of an ecosystem, such as water, air, soil, and sunlight.
- 2. A food web is a diagram that shows the feeding relationships between different organisms in an ecosystem. Each organism in a food web is either a producer, a consumer, or a decomposer. Producers are organisms that make their own food from sunlight and water. Consumers are organisms that eat other organisms. Decomposers are organisms that break down dead organisms into simpler substances.
- Examples of natural changes to ecosystems include forest fires, volcanic eruptions, and climate change. Examples of human-caused changes to ecosystems include pollution, habitat destruction, and Overfishing.

4. Biodiversity is important for ecosystem resilience because it helps ecosystems to recover from disturbances. A diverse ecosystem is more likely to have organisms that can tolerate a change in the environment.

### **Bonus Question**

Here are some things that you can do to help protect ecosystems:

- ✓ Reduce your pollution footprint.
- ✓ Support sustainable agriculture and forestry practices.
- ✓ Conserve water and energy.
- ✓ Buy local and sustainable products.
- ✓ Recycle and compost.
- ✓ Get involved in environmental activism.

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