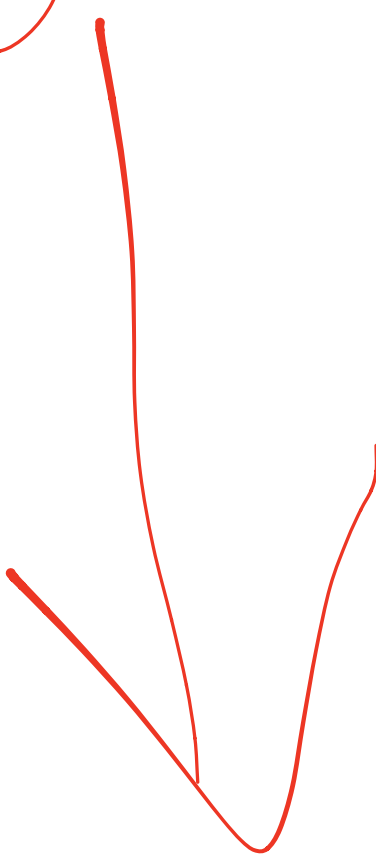


Environmental Science Midterm Practice Questions

SCROLL
DOWN



1. An ecosystem is represented below. This ecosystem will be self-sustaining if



- A. the organisms labeled A outnumber the organisms labeled B
- B. the organisms labeled A are equal in number to the organisms labeled B
- C. the type of organisms represented by B are eliminated
- D. materials cycle between the organisms labeled A and the organisms labeled B

2. According to Darwin's theory of evolution, differences between species may be the result of

- A. the disuse of body structures
- B. the transmission of acquired characteristics
- C. natural selection
- D. mutagenic agents

3. Which concept was not included in Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection?

- A. survival of the fittest
- B. struggle for existence
- C. overproduction of offspring
- D. punctuated equilibrium

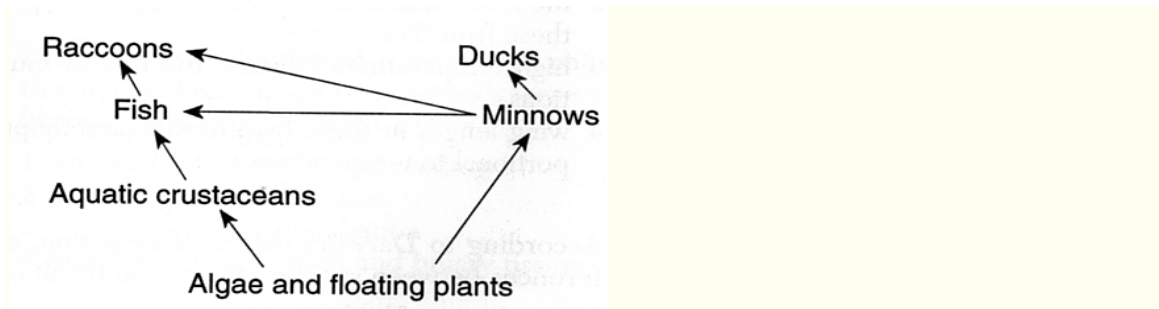
4. Mutations can be considered as one of the raw materials of evolution because they

- A. contribute to new variations in organisms
- B. are usually related to the environment in which they appear
- C. are usually beneficial to the organism in which they appear
- D. usually cause species of organisms to become extinct

All of Earth's water, land, and atmosphere within which life exists is known as

- 1. a population
- 2. a community
- 3. a biome
- 4. the biosphere

Which statement best describes some organisms in the food web shown below?



1. Minnows and fish are primary consumers.
2. Algae and floating plants are decomposers.
3. Aquatic crustaceans are omnivores.
4. Raccoons, fish, and ducks are secondary consumers.

Most autotrophs store energy in the form of

1. starches
2. carbon dioxide
3. water
4. nucleic acids

The timber wolves, rabbits, and vegetation in a particular region of northern New York together constitute part of a

1. population
2. community
3. genus
4. species

A rocky island appears as oceanic waters recede. Which of the following forms of vegetation would probably appear first on the bare rocks?

1. lichens
2. weeds
3. shrubs
4. pioneer trees

After a building was torn down and the area was cleared, grasses began to grow in the area. Several years later, small bushes replaced the grasses. This pattern of plant growth is known as ecological

- (1) stability
- (2) cultivation
- (3) succession
- (4) coordination

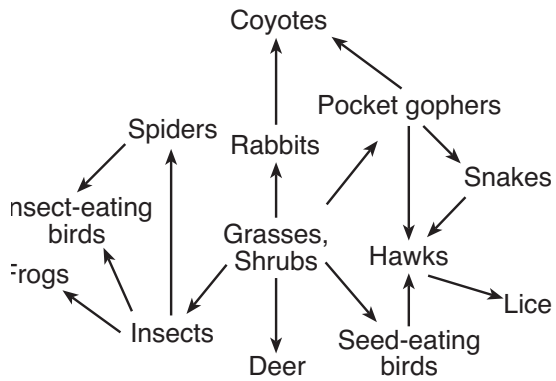
A human activity that could significantly *decrease* the amount of carbon dioxide in the air is

- (1) increasing the use of fossil fuel
- (2) controlling insect pests that eat stored grain
- (3) burning garbage and trash to generate electricity
- (4) preserving and expanding forest habitats that shelter wildlife

The wetland plant purple loosestrife was imported to North America from Europe. Since its introduction, the loosestrife has spread, which has resulted in a dramatic decline in the biological diversity of native wetland plants. A likely reason for the spread of the purple loosestrife is that it can

- (1) successfully compete with native herbivores for food
- (2) serve as an excellent food source for native herbivores
- (3) successfully compete with native plants for space
- (4) prevent the migration of native plants

The diagram below represents a food web.



Which statement regarding organisms in this food web is correct?

- (1) There would be more snakes than pocket gophers.
- (2) There would be more coyotes than rabbits.
- (3) There would be more insects than insect-eating birds.
- (4) There would be more hawks than seed-eating birds.