

ECOSYSTEMS REVIEW (APES)

1. Who has a natural unit consisting of all plants, animals, and microorganisms (biotic factors) in an area functioning together with all the abiotic factors of the environment?
I have ECOSYSTEM. It is a community interacting with the physical environment.
2. Who has what ecological niches, stratification, distribution of populations, species diversity, and species abundance could collectively be described as?
I have ECOSYSTEM CHARACTERISTICS. Get the picture?
3. Who has what could be described as clumped, linear, random, or uniform?
I have POPULATION DISPERSAL. You can probably figure out which populations stick together, occur in lines, don't occur in any particular pattern, or are evenly distributed over their range?
4. Who has the type of species that live in a narrow niches, are sensitive to environmental changes, and are more prone to extinction than generalists?
I have SPECIALIST SPECIES. These, like Pandas, have an advantage when conditions are stable because there are few competitors. Really? You mean you don't go out and crunch bamboo in large quantities? No, but you do break up bamboo stands and fragment these Panda populations! Yes, they're endangered.
5. Who has the type of species that is able to live in broad niches, withstand a wide range of environmental conditions and changes, and are very adaptable?
I have GENERALIST SPECIES. Mice, us and cockroaches are the ultimate examples. Whoa, you just made the list with mice and cockroaches! Congratulations you generalists!
6. Who has the type of interactions between species in which one may live on another, may live in another, or may be obligate in some way to one other species?
I have SYMBIOSIS. These include mutualism (+,+), parasitism (+,-), and commensalism (+,0). Come on, you can come up with your own examples. Take a few seconds to share a few for each symbiotic example.
7. Who has the series of changes that occur in an ecological community over a long time after a disturbance?
I have ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION. This can be primary if the soil is removed all the way down to rock, or it can be secondary if soil and some organisms still survive the disturbance. Most succession is secondary!

8. Who has what we call rapid evolution from one founder species into many species when they inhabit a new ecosystem like an island?
I have ADAPTIVE RADIATION. This occurred with honeycreeper birds in Hawaii and finches in the Galapagos.
9. Who has the process by which favorable traits get inherited more often than less favorable traits as determined by the environment a species lives in?
I have NATURAL SELECTION. It can be directional if it is to 1 extreme, disruptive if it is to 2 extremes, or stabilizing if it is toward the mean (as in the average, not more evil).
10. Who has the type of competition that lions and cheetahs going for the same prey would be?
I have INTERSPECIFIC. This occurs between two different species. For instance, ground squirrels going for my tomatoes...let's just don't think about that right now.
11. Who has the idea that expresses that no 2 species can coexist if they compete for the exact same resources?
I have COMPETITIVE EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE. Paramecium aurelia and Paramecium caudatum raised in the same environment, same niches, and aurelia kicks caudatum butt? Or does it?
12. Who has the type of biological interaction where one species feeds on another by killing it and eating it?
I have PREDATION. Predators are known as keystone species because they increase the biodiversity of an ecosystem by preventing a single herbivore species from dominating.
13. Who has the type of species whose presence contributes to a diversity of life and whose extinction would lead to extinction of other forms of life?
I have KEYSTONE SPECIES. Grizzly bears, Sea stars, Otters, and Prairie dogs are essential to their ecosystems' survival.
14. Who has the regional or global biotic communities characterized by the dominant forms of plant life and prevailing climate.
I have BIOMES. Rainforest, Desert, Grassland, Temperate forest, Taiga, and Tundra are determined by their latitude or altitude, and thus their temperature and precipitation levels. Diversity decreases as you go up in altitude or up in latitude.
15. Who has what we call the phenomena that occurs where two ecosystems have a transition area where biodiversity increases?
I have EDGE EFFECT. You will find more "critters" and plants on the edge of a forest near a developed Homo sapien community than you will find deep in the forest.

16. Who has the ecosystem where a notable exception in the scheme of a pyramid of biomass occurs?

I have AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM. The producers are microscopic algae that reproduce so quickly they don't need to have more biomass than the herbivores feeding on them. Exceptional! Not so with terrestrial ecosystems.

17. Who has what is most often measured as an indicator of the health of an ecosystem?

I have BIODIVERSITY. The greater the genetic diversity, species diversity, and ecosystem diversity, the greater the chance it will survive environmental change.