

Section 1.2 Ecosystems Study Notes



By the end of section 1.2 you should be able to understand the following:

- The abiotic components of an ecosystem support the life functions of the biotic components of that ecosystem.
- A community of organisms constantly interact with each other for food, water, sunlight or habitat.
- Interactions between organisms in a community include commensalisms, mutualism, parasitism, competition and predation.
- Every organism has a special role, or niche, within the ecosystem.

NOTES

List the natural records and documents a historical ecologist might study.

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 2. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. |
| 9. | 10. |

What is an ecosystem? What is found in an ecosystem? How large is a typical ecosystem?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

NOTES

What is a habitat? What is the relationship between biomes, ecosystems and habitats?

1.

2.

List, and describe, five abiotic components of an ecosystem.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Describe the differences between the terms species, population and community.

1.

2.

3.

Do the Reading Check on page 38

Do the Reading Check on page 39

NOTES

What is symbiosis? List, describe and give an example of the three types of symbiosis.

1.

2.

3.

4.

What is a niche? Describe the niche of a great blue heron?

1.

2.

What is competition?

1.

Do the Reading Check on page 44

NOTES

What is predation? List two predator adaptations, and two prey adaptations, that allow for survival. Describe mimicry.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

What is the relationship between the population of predators and prey?

- 1.

Do the Reading Check on page 47

What is biodiversity? What does a large biodiversity reveal about the health of an ecosystem?

- 1.
- 2.