

Lesson 2.04 Practice Text Only Version

1. What is an organisms “role” in the environment?

Answer: Niche

Feedback: An organism’s niche is the place that an organism occupies in the food web of an ecosystem.

2. What word refers to the earth or ecosystem maintaining or being in balance?

Answer: Homeostasis

Feedback: Homeostasis is maintained in ecosystems through “checks and balances” that occur because of natural relationships within the environment. Sometimes homeostasis is also referred to equilibrium.

3. What are organisms that once inhabited the Earth but they no longer exist?

Answer: Extinct Species

Feedback: Species that no longer exist on earth are said to be extinct—ex. Dinosaurs, Mammoths.

4. Which type of organism probably has the greatest numbers of individuals in existence?

Answer: Threatened species

Feedback: Threatened species are species in which numbers are beginning to decline and are on the verge of becoming endangered. Endangered species are species in which the numbers have declined enough to be on the verge of extinction.

5. This type of organism is introduced into an environment in which it does not naturally exist.

Answer: Non-Native Species

Feedback: Non-native species are those that have been introduced to a new ecosystem and often do not have natural enemies. They also can take over the niche of other organisms driving them from the ecosystem.

6. Which of the following is an example of a non-native species in Alabama?

Answer: Kudzu

Feedback: Kudzu is a non-native species that was first introduced in the U.S. in the 1800s. In the 1930s, farmers were encouraged to plant kudzu to help with soil erosion.

7. What are low oxygen areas in the ocean that are increased by fertilizers from humans that wash into the waters and create an explosion of alga bloom that die and “suck up” oxygen from the surrounding water?

Answer: Dead Zones

Feedback: Dead zones have low oxygen concentrations that cause fish and other animals that enter them to die within a short period of time.

8. This was passed in 1973 to help species whose numbers are becoming so low that they face the possibility of becoming extinct.

Answer: The Endangered Species Act

Feedback: The ESA was established to protect species that were in danger of becoming extinct, as well as, protect their habitats.

9. What would you call a person who tries to protect species by trying to eliminate human impact altogether?

Answer: Preservationist

Feedback: Preservationists want to take human impact out altogether—don't use in any way.

10. Which of the following what represent the work of a Conservationist?

Answer: A state setting a limit on the number of dove you can harvest per day or per year.

Feedback: This would represent a conservationist because it regulates human use without doing away with it altogether.

11. What is another name for a non-native species that negatively affects an ecosystem?

Answer: Invasive species

Feedback: Fire ants would be an example of a non-native/invasive species in the United States.

12. What agency is responsible for monitoring endangered and threatened marine and anadromous fish species?

Answer: NOAA

Feedback: NOAA stands for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

13. What is the physical environment that an organism occupies called?

Answer: habitat

Feedback: An organism's habitat is much like your physical address. It is where you live and all of the physical parts that you interact with.

14. Complete the sentence: As the world's population grows, the effect that humans have on the environment _____.

Answer: increase

Feedback: As the world's population grows, the effect that humans have on the environment increase.

15. Which of the following is a reason that humans have destroyed the environment?

Answer: all of the above

Feedback: All answer choices (build places to live, mine, and grow crops) are correct.