



Subject: Grade 8 Natural Sciences

Topic: Natural Sciences: Term 1 - Mini-Exam

Total: 70 Marks

1. algae | grass

4 marks

Explanation:

Algae and grass absorb sunlight and convert it into food during the process of photosynthesis.

2. breed | population growth

4 marks

Explanation:

All ecological populations in a community vary and change. All populations change and grow over time. The population growth of a species in the wilderness is balanced by several factors, such as drought.

3. photosynthesis | algae

4 marks

Explanation:

These are a group of simple, typically **autotrophic** organisms. The largest and most complex form is seaweed. Like plants, they make use of photosynthesis, but are simple organisms as they lack the organs found in typical vegetation on land. All true algae have a nucleus enclosed by a membrane and contain chloroplast in one or more membranes.

4. D: Yeast

4 marks

Explanation:

Yeast is a living organism that has been cultivated and used for the preparation of food and drink for many years. These micro-organisms are able to feed and reproduce. They are very sensitive to temperature and the composition of food. These fungi exist everywhere in nature. They feed on biological raw materials and produce new chemical compounds through the process of fermentation.

5. carnivore | carnivores

3 marks

Explanation:

A carnivore eats other animals.

6. false

2 marks

Explanation:

Viruses are tiny organisms that are **not always** classified as living, because they require a host in order to multiply.



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7. false 2 marks
- Explanation:**
An ecosystem can contain living and non-living parts.
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8. immune system | immune | immunity | the immune system 3 marks
- Explanation:**
The immune system enables vertebrates to protect themselves against the harmful effects of disease-causing micro-organisms like viruses and bacteria.
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9. false 2 marks
- Explanation:**
Some birds are scavengers and some are carnivores. Birds that are primary consumers are the ones that feed on plant matter only.
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10. A: C only 4 marks
- Explanation:**
Abiotic factors are the non-living parts of an ecosystem, the biotic factors are the living parts.
- The plants and fish are biotic factors, while the soil and water are abiotic.
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11. ecology 3 marks
- Explanation:**
It also refers to the interaction of organisms with each other.
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12. B: obtain its food from producers 4 marks
- Explanation:**
An example would be a cow(primary consumer) feeding on grass(producer).
-
13. water | wind 6 marks
- Explanation:**
Abiotic means non-living. The answers are 'water' and 'wind'.
-
14. D: it feeds only on plant material 4 marks
- Explanation:**
Herbivores eat plant matter.

15. water

3 marks

Explanation:

Most mesophytic plants do not do well in soft, poorly drained soil because it needs water. Mesophytes usually grow in sunny, open areas such as fields or pastures and forested areas that receive average amounts of water.

16. tertiary consumers | least | producers

6 marks

Explanation:

17. false

2 marks

Explanation:

All types of pollution damages the water. Washing powder, fertilizer and sewage and toxic substances from industries all end up in rivers through wastewater. An example of pollution that is devastating, is an oil spill. Different parts of the ecosystem, especially marine life, are affected by this pollution.

18. A: Poaching

4 marks

Explanation:

The slaughter of rhinos for their horns is something that has drastically reduced the numbers of rhino populations over the past 20 years. In addition to the threat it poses to the species itself, poaching also has a negative effect on the ecosystem of which rhinos are usually a part of.

19. false

2 marks

Explanation:

Many species of lizards are omnivores i.e. eat insects and plant matter.

There are however certain species of lizards that eat only insects and are therefore carnivores.

20. elephant | zebra

4 marks

Explanation:

Primary consumers are those that feed on producers (plants) only. The lion, snake and leopard are all carnivores and therefore not primary consumers.

Total: 70 Marks