### AQA Biology Unit 4.7: Ecology - Higher

Define the following terms.	Plants may have to compete with other plants. Explain why plants may grow less well on forest floor than in a meadow.	Red squirrels are the native squirrel species in European woodlands. Grey squirrels were introduced to the UK in the late 19th century. Grey squirrels feed more often at ground level than red squirrels and are able to digest acorns, which the reds can't. Grey
ecosystem:		squirrels carry a deadly pox virus which does not affect them.
population:		Explain why grey squirrels are now the dominant species of squirrel across much of England and Wales.
interdependence:		
biotic factor:		
abiotic factor:		
Give three ways that animals and plants are interdependent.		
1 2		
3	List the factors that can affect a community under e	
When young male lions reach maturity, the older males kick them out of the pride. Explain which factors cause them to do this.	the correct headings below.          abiotic       biotic	In 2010, an oil spill off the coast of Mexico polluted 1100 miles of coastline. Explain how this will have affected the marine plants that live on the floor of the ocean.
		Organisms that live in extreme environments are h called
		Give three examples of extreme environments.  1 2 3

Secondary

(1)
Link the type of adaptation to the correct example.
Animal actions, such as migration or bird calls.
adaptationbehavioural adaptationbehavioural organism.
functional adaptation The process of developing a trait that helps with survival, like temperature regulation.
Explain why most desert animals have a large surface area to volume ratio and large, thin ears.
Explain how animals that live in cold climates are adapted to survive.
A student uses a 1m <sup>2</sup> quadrat to take 10 random readings of dandelions in the school field. The results are shown below.
readings of dandelions in the school field. The results

What is the mean of their data?



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The illustration shows an ocean food chain. Label each organism with their position in the chain and what type of diet they eat (if any).	Time = Predator The numbers of predators and prey fall and rise in cycles. Use the graph to explain why.	Label each of the arrows in the illustration of the carbon cycle with the process that the arrow represents.
		Explain the role of decomposers in the recycling of materials through an ecosystem.
Name a predator from the food chain.		
Name an organism from the food chain that is prey.		
Explain the role of producers in food chains.		Evolution the importance of the water cucle to g
		Explain the importance of the water cycle to living organisms. Include the following keywords: condensation, transpiration, precipitation, evaporation, respiration.
Define biodiversity.		
Why is it important to maintain a good level of biodiversity?	Label the illustrations with the method being used d to determine the <b>abundance</b> and <b>distribution</b> of organisms.	
What programmes are scientists putting into place to maintain biodiversity?		How does pollution occur
	The abundance is	in the air?
	The distribution is	on land?

Secondary

2	)
How have humans affected the use of land?	
Explain why global warming is occurring.	
What are the biological consequences of global k warming?	



[					
Define the following terms.	Plants may have to compete with other plants.	Red squirrels are the native squirrel species in $f$			
community: All the populations of different	Explain why plants may grow less well on forest	European woodlands. Grey squirrels were introduced			
organisms that live together in a habitat.	floor than in a meadow.	to the UK in the late 19th century. Grey squirrels feed more often at ground level than red squirrels and			
stable community: Where all the species and	The plants will receive less light because the tree	are able to digest acorns, which the reds can't. Grey			
environmental factors are in balance so that	canopy will block most of it from reaching the floor.	squirrels carry a deadly pox virus which does not			
population sizes remain stable.	Light is needed to provide energy for photosynthesis;	affect them.			
	reduction of light will reduce photosynthesis and				
ecosystem: A community and its habitat.	therefore the glucose needed for growth.	Explain why grey squirrels are now the dominant species of squirrel across much of England and Wales.			
population: All the members of a single species that	The plants will have to compete for space from the				
live in a habitat.	bigger trees and plants. The plant may not have	AN ACT AND AN			
interdependence: A network of relationships between	enough space to grow, or enough space for a big root system to get water and nutrients. This means	Alt all all all all all all all all all a			
different organisms in a community.	growth would be reduced.				
biotic factor: A living thing that affects the	The bigger trees would be better at getting water and	And			
ecosystem.	mineral ions because they have large root systems.				
	Water is needed for photosynthesis - the plants will	Grey squirrels out-compete the red squirrels for food			
abiotic factor: A non-living part of the environment	get less water which will reduce photosynthesis and	because they eat more often on the ground, so are able to eat food that has fallen from the trees. They are also able to eat acorns as a food supply so they			
that affects living organisms.	therefore the glucose required for growth.				
	Mineral ions are needed to produce larger molecules	have more food available. This means that they are			
Give three ways that animals and plants are	for growth, if the plant gets less of these, its growth	more likely to survive and reproduce than the red			
interdependent.	will be reduced.	squirrel.			
Any 3 of the following:					
<ul> <li>Plants produce food by photosynthesis.</li> </ul>		The grey squirrels brought the pox virus to the			
· Flants produce rood by photosynthesis.		habitats when they were introduced. The red squirrels are not immune so the disease will have spread through the population and resulted in the loss of many red squirrels.			
<ul> <li>Animals eat plants.</li> </ul>					
Animals eat other animals.					
<ul> <li>Animals pollinate plants.</li> </ul>	List the factors that can affect a community under	In 2010, an oil spill off the coast of Mexico polluted			
<ul> <li>Plants use animal waste for nutrients.</li> </ul>	the correct headings below.	1100 miles of coastline. Explain how this will have			
		affected the marine plants that live on the floor of			
Animals use plant and animal materials for	abiotic biotic	the ocean.			
building nests or shelters.	light intensity availability of food	The sunlight cannot pass through the oil on the			
<ul> <li>Plants use animals for seed dispersal.</li> </ul>	temperature new predators arriving	surface of the water. The sunlight won't reach the			
	moisture levels new pathogens	plants so they won't be able to photosynthesise. This			
When young male lions reach maturity, the older	soil pH one species outcompeting soil mineral content another	means they won't be able to grow.			
males kick them out of the pride. Explain which	wind intensity and				
factors cause them to do this.	direction	Organisms that live in extreme environments are			
If the males remain in the pride they will compete	carbon dioxide levels for	called <b>extremophiles</b> .			
for food, territory and mates with the older lions.	plant	<ul><li>Give three examples of extreme environments.</li><li>1. high temperature</li></ul>			
The older males will be more likely to survive and	oxygen levels				
	oxygen levels	1.2 high pressure			
reproduce without this competition.	(for aquatic animals)	<ol> <li>high pressure</li> <li>high salt concentration</li> </ol>			

## Secondary

Link the type of adaptation to the correct example. 🕻					
structural adaptation	Animal actions, such as migration or bird calls.				
behavioural adaptation	Physical features, such as the shape or colour of the organism.				
functionaladaptation	The process of developing a trait that helps with survival, like temperature regulation.				

(1)

Explain why most desert animals have a large surface area to volume ratio and large, thin ears.

To increase energy transfer through their skin to the surroundings to help them cool down.

Explain how animals that live in cold climates are  $\checkmark$  adapted to survive.

They have a small surface area to volume ratio and small ears to reduce energy transfer to the surroundings.

They have thick layers of fat and fur for insulation.

A student uses a 1m<sup>2</sup> quadrat to take 10 random readings of dandelions in the school field. The results are shown below.

1	2	3	1	2	3	1	5	3	3	
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What is the range of their data? 1-5 dandelions per m<sup>2</sup>

What is the mode of their data? **3 dandelions per m**<sup>2</sup>

What is the median of their data? **3 dandelions per m**<sup>2</sup>

What is the mean of their data? **2.6 dandelions per m**<sup>2</sup>



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#### AQA Biology Unit 4.7: Ecology - Higher Answers



Label each of the arrows in the illustration of the carbon cycle with the process that the arrow represents.





Explain the role of decomposers in the recycling of  $\checkmark^{f}$ materials through an ecosystem.

Decomposers break down dead bodies and waste materials. They release mineral ions as waste products back into the soil and carbon dioxide back into the air. These can then be used by producers in the food chain.

g

Explain the importance of the water cycle to living organisms. Include the following keywords: condensation, transpiration, precipitation, evaporation, respiration.

Water vapour is lost from organisms to the atmosphere via transpiration and respiration. Other water drains into the oceans and evaporates.

The warm water vapour in the atmosphere condenses as it cools and forms clouds of water droplets. As these get heavier, they fall onto the land as rain, hail or snow. This is called precipitation. The water cycle therefore provides fresh water for plants and animals on land.

\h How does pollution occur... in water? From sewage, fertiliser or toxic chemicals that are washed or dumped into water. in the air? From smoke and acidic gases (sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides) which cause acid rain. on land? From landfill and toxic chemicals from farming.

4. Reduction of deforestation and carbon dioxide emissions.

5. Recycling resources.

# Secondary

The distribution is... how the number of species changes from one area to another.

How have humans affected the use of land? Reduced the amount of land available to other organisms by building, quarrying, farming and putting waste into landfill.

Destroyed peat bogs which reduces biodiversity in those areas.

Large scale deforestation to provide land for cattle and rice fields, and growing crops for biofuels, reduces biodiversity.

Explain why global warming is occurring.

\i

Deforestation reduces the rate at which carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere by photosynthesis. Burning the trees also releases carbon dioxide via combustion.

The land that has been cleared is often used for rice fields or cattle, both of these release methane into the atmosphere.

When peat is burnt as a fuel or used in gardens, carbon dioxide is released.

When fossil fuels are burnt in power stations, factories or vehicles, carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere.

What are the biological consequences of global 😕 warmina?

Loss of habitat by flooding reduces biodiversity.

Climate changes will affect the distribution of organisms and may cause the migration patterns of animals to change.

Climate changes may mean some organisms are no longer able to survive and will become extinct. This reduces biodiversity.

