Biological Diversity and Conservation

Chapter 5

In your textbook, read about biological diversity.

Use the terms below just once to complete the passage. You will not use all the terms.

- niches
- variety
- greater
- space
- species
- biological diversity
- equator
- less
- decrease
- increase

(1) ____________________ refers to the (2) ____________________ of life in an area. Another word for biological diversity is biodiversity. The simplest measure of biodiversity is the number of (3) ____________________ that live in a certain area. The more species there are, the (4) ____________________ is the biodiversity of the area. Biodiversity on land tends to (5) ____________________ as you move toward the (6) ____________________ .

Biodiversity is greater on large islands than on small islands because large islands have more (7) ____________________ and a greater variety of (8) ____________________ .

In your textbook, read about the importance of biodiversity.

For each statement below, write true or false.

9. Biodiversity provides our world with beauty. _____________
10. The loss of a species from an ecosystem usually has no effect because of the presence of other species in the ecosystem. _____________
11. Biodiversity decreases the stability of ecosystems because more species are competing with each other. _____________
12. Increasing the biodiversity of an ecosystem may result in more niches. _____________
13. Diseases are more likely to spread in an ecosystem with high biodiversity than in an ecosystem with low biodiversity. _____________
14. A decrease in Earth's biodiversity may affect people's diets. _____________
15. Preserving diverse plant species may lead to the discovery of new drugs in the future. _____________
In your textbook, read about the loss of biodiversity.

For each item in Column A, write the letter of the matching item in Column B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16. The number of members of a species is so low that there is a possibility of extinction.</td>
<td>a. passenger pigeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. This animal is an example of an endangered species.</td>
<td>b. threatened species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. The population of a species begins declining rapidly.</td>
<td>c. black rhinoceros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. This animal is an example of an extinct species.</td>
<td>d. African elephant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. All members of a species have died, so the species no longer exists.</td>
<td>e. extinct species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. This animal is an example of a threatened species.</td>
<td>f. endangered species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In your textbook, read about threats to biodiversity.

Complete the table by checking the most appropriate column for each statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Habitat Loss</th>
<th>Habitat Fragmentation</th>
<th>Habitat Degradation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22. Animals have no migratory route.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. A rain forest is burned.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. A highway divides a forest.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Acid precipitation leaches nutrients from the soil.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>26. Detergents and other chemicals pollute bodies of water.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Coral is mined for building materials.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. The reduction of the ozone layer causes more ultraviolet radiation to reach Earth’s surface.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Circle the letter of the choice that best completes the statement.

29. When species lose their habitats, they may
   a. lack food.       b. lack shelter.       c. be in danger of becoming extinct.       d. all of the above.

30. Habitat fragmentation often leads to
   a. increased species diversity within an area.       b. larger habitats for species.       c. decreased species diversity within an area.       d. an increased food supply for species.

31. Conditions where the boundaries of two ecosystems meet are called
   a. habitat fragmentation.       b. edge effect.       c. habitat loss.       d. canopy effect.

32. A great source of air pollution is
   a. volcanic eruptions.       b. forest fires.       c. burning fossil fuels.       d. all of the above.

33. Acid precipitation
   a. may decrease biodiversity on land.       b. has no effect on biodiversity.       c. may increase biodiversity in water.       d. both a and c.

34. The reduction of the ozone layer is caused by
   a. burning fossil fuels.       b. acid precipitation.       c. heavy metals.       d. CFCs.

35. Algal blooms in lakes
   a. are caused by acid precipitation.       b. decrease the amount of oxygen in the lake when they decay.       c. clog the gills of fish.       d. both a and b.

36. When exotic species are introduced into an area, their populations may grow exponentially because the species
   a. are large.       b. are predators.       c. lack competitors and predators.       d. are small.
In your textbook, read about strategies of conservation biology.

Answer the following questions.

1. What is conservation biology?

2. How does the U.S. Endangered Species Act protect biodiversity?

3. How do nature preserves help protect biodiversity?

4. Why is it usually better to preserve one large area of land instead of a few smaller areas of land?

5. Why are habitat corridors used to connect different protected areas?

6. What caused the steady decline of the black-footed ferret population in Wyoming?

7. What efforts were made to increase the size of the black-footed ferret population?

8. How are seed banks useful in protecting biodiversity?

9. What are some problems of keeping endangered animals in captivity before reintroducing them to their original habitats?