

Key Environmental and Natural Resource Exam 2023

1. We call all the ecosystems of the Earth as a whole a _____.
 - a. **Biosphere**
 - b. Community
 - c. Population
 - d. Universe
2. A group of similar organisms that is found in a defined area is known as a _____.
 - a. Community
 - b. Family
 - c. Herd
 - d. **Population**
3. Which of the following is an abiotic feature of a particular ecosystem?
 - a. Bacteria
 - b. Rodents
 - c. Trees
 - d. **Water**
4. A branch of science that deals with the complex relationships among living things and their environment is...
 - a. Conservationist
 - b. **Ecology**
 - c. Environmentalism
 - d. Taxonomy

5. Primary succession occurs when...
- a. An ecosystem is damaged or partly destroyed
 - b. **Organisms live in an area where they did not live before**
 - c. Plants displace animals from an environment
 - d. Remnants of a former community still exist
6. The ability of a particular organism to survive more easily in a shared environment than another is an example of ...
- a. Adaptive superiority
 - b. **A competitive advantage**
 - c. The competitive exclusion principle
 - d. Secondary succession
7. The ability of an organism to survive changes in an environment is a demonstration of its
- a. Comfort zone
 - b. Competitive exclusion principle
 - c. Niche
 - d. **Range of tolerance**
8. Which of the following forms of energy occurs as a result of photosynthesis?
- a. **Chemical**
 - b. Electrical
 - c. Kinetic
 - d. Thermal

9. Which is the process by which organic matter (plant or animal tissue) is reduced to organic compounds?
- a. **Decomposition**
 - b. Photosynthesis
 - c. Respiration
 - d. Synthesis
10. Herbivores are also considered _____
- a. Carnivores
 - b. **Primary consumers**
 - c. Producers
 - d. Secondary consumers
11. Which of the following is a secondary consumer?
- a. **Carnivore**
 - b. Food plant
 - c. Herbivore
 - d. Producer
12. Population levels in an ecosystem cannot typically exceed the _____ for a sustained period of time.
- a. Carnivorous population
 - b. **Carrying capacity**
 - c. Non-exhaustible resources
 - d. Renewable resources
13. A term describing a resource that is capable of replacing itself through reproduction or new growth is...
- a. Conservation
 - b. Nonrenewable resource
 - c. **Renewable resource**
 - d. Recycling

14. The number of a particular species of plant or animal in a given area at a specific point in time is an example of...
- a. Biologistics
 - b. Carrying capacity
 - c. Multiple use
 - d. **Population level**
15. Which of the following is not a renewable resource?
- a. Forest
 - b. Plants
 - c. **Soil**
 - d. Wildlife
16. What element combines with moisture to form acid rain?
- a. Carbon
 - b. Hydrogen
 - c. Lead
 - d. **Sulfur**
17. A product of decaying plant or animal matter is...
- a. Chlorofluorocarbons
 - b. **Methane**
 - c. Nitrous oxide
 - d. Ozone
18. Air is...
- a. 10 % carbon dioxide
 - b. 21 % nitrogen
 - c. **21% oxygen**
 - d. 78% argon

19. Pure water is...
- a. A mixture of gases
 - b. Metallic tasting
 - c. One part hydrogen to two parts oxygen
 - d. **Odorless**
20. A measurement of the total concentration of ions in water is...
- a. Acidity
 - b. Alkalinity
 - c. **Salinity**
 - d. Temperature
21. A Secchi disk is used to measure what?
- a. Air pollution
 - b. Slope
 - c. **Turbidity of water**
 - d. Wind velocity
22. A clinometer is used to measure...
- a. Air pollution
 - b. **Slope**
 - c. Turbidity of water
 - d. Wind velocity
23. The function of a watershed is to...
- a. Protect potable water from weather
 - b. Protect water from contaminants
 - c. **Release a consistent flow of water throughout the year**
 - d. Shelters a water pump

24. Nature's natural water treatment like facilities include all but which of the following...
- a. Estuaries
 - b. **Golf course ponds**
 - c. Marshes
 - d. Swamps
25. When does water lose its oxygen holding capacity?
- a. When an algae bloom is present
 - b. In cooler temperature
 - c. **As water warms**
 - d. In lower altitudes
26. Groundwater that is unavailable to plant roots is called...
- a. Capillary water
 - b. Free water
 - c. Gravitational water
 - d. **Hygroscopic water**
27. The process by which water changes from liquid form to a vapor or gas is...
- a. Condensation
 - b. Distillation
 - c. **Evaporation**
 - d. Precipitation
28. As a medium for plant growth, which of the following is not provided by the soil?
- a. Anchorage
 - b. **Energy**
 - c. Nutrients
 - d. Water

29. The tendency of soil particles to break apart as erosion occurs is called...
- a. Decomposition
 - b. **Erodibility**
 - c. Illuviation
 - d. Weathering
30. 40% of soil loss in the United States is due to ...
- a. Crop production
 - b. Forest fires
 - c. Floods
 - d. **Wind erosion**
31. Which of the following soil parent materials is deposited by wind?
- a. Alluvial deposits
 - b. **Loess deposits**
 - c. Mineral and rocks
 - d. Organic deposits
32. Which term is not considered to be a physical property of the soil?
- a. Drainage
 - b. Slope
 - c. **Soil solution**
 - d. Texture
33. A learned behavior that improves the chances for a wild animal to survive is also known as...
- a. **Adaptive behavior**
 - b. Erratic behavior
 - c. Manipulative behavior
 - d. Nonadaptive behavior

34. When two species of wildlife live together neither helping or harming the other, the relationship is called...
- a. **Commensalism**
 - b. Competition
 - c. Mutualism
 - d. Parasitism
35. The greatest single cause of extinction is...
- a. An alien species
 - b. **Destruction or modification of habitat**
 - c. Nonadaptive behavior
 - d. Overharvesting
36. Low biotic potential is defined as...
- a. Failure to adapt well to a changing environment
 - b. High susceptibility to poisons in the environment
 - c. Over production of offspring each year
 - d. **Slow reproductive rate**
37. Which of the following biomes is the largest?
- a. Dessert biome
 - b. Grassland biome
 - c. **Marine biome**
 - d. Temperate forest biome
38. A water habitat in which water tends to stand for long periods of time is called a _____ habitat.
- a. **Lentic**
 - b. Lotic
 - c. Murky
 - d. Turbid

39. An organism that reproduces only once in its lifetime is said to be...
- a. Iterparous
 - b. Promiscuous
 - c. Monogamous
 - d. **Semelparous**
40. Fecundity refers to the
- a. Carrying Capacity
 - b. **How fertile a species is**
 - c. Mortality of a population
 - d. Semelparous species
41. A group of ecosystems within a region that have similar types of vegetation and similar climatic conditions is
- a. **A biome**
 - b. A habitat
 - c. A stratum
 - d. A zone
42. What is the biggest component of municipal waste?
- a. Metals
 - b. **Paper**
 - c. Plastics
 - d. Yard waste
43. All of the following occur during attenuation except...
- a. Adsorption
 - b. Biological removal
 - c. **Containment**
 - d. Filtration

44. The most important characteristic of containment landfill is...
- a. Maximum degradation of waste materials
 - b. **Minimum seepage**
 - c. Proximity to population centers
 - d. Soil type
45. Pollution that can be traced back to a specific source is known as...
- a. Carcinogenic
 - b. Mutagenic
 - c. Non-point source pollution
 - d. **Point source pollution**
46. The pH of a toxic material is related to which of the following terms?
- a. **Corrosivity**
 - b. Ignitability
 - c. Reactivity
 - d. Toxicity
47. When a waste material gives off fumes, and you inhale or absorb the contaminant through your lungs and skin this is known as
- a. **Direct exposure pathway**
 - b. Indirect exposure pathway
 - c. Mutagenic effect
 - d. Teratogenic effect

48. What is an organism called that is sensitive to pollution and is used to determine the suitability of a living environment?
- a. **Indicator species**
 - b. Invasive species
 - c. Limiting factor
 - d. Native species
49. Lines of latitude _____.
- a. Run in a north and south direction
 - b. Are equal in length
 - c. Are known as meridians
 - d. **Are known as parallels**
50. Which of the following soils has the most water holding capacity?
- a. Soils high in sand content
 - b. Soils that have an even amount of sand and silt
 - c. **Soils that have a high clay content**
 - d. Soils that have more mineral content