

Name: _____

Unit 3 Biomes & Aquatic Ecosystems Study Guide

Test Format: 24 Multiple Choice Questions, 6 Matching, and 2 Short Answer Essay Questions.

1. What kinds of water are present in an estuary?

Fresh water & salt water → brackish

2. Where are swamps found?

flat, poorly drained land

3. Where are the majority of marine organisms found?

Near the coast and/or the surface

4. How do rivers change as they flow down a mountain?

They become warmer, wider, & slower

5. In which freshwater zone is life most diverse?

The littoral zone

6. Define nekton.

Free-swimming organisms → fish
→ dolphins
→ turtles

7. Define salinity.

The amount of dissolved salts in water

8. Which forest biome has trees that lose their leaves in the fall?

Temperate Deciduous Forest

9. Which biome has the greatest diversity of species?

Tropical Rainforest

10. How do latitude and altitude affect the plants that grow in an area?

As latitude & altitude increase, temp gets colder

11. How does the tropical rainforest differ from the taiga?

TR - warmer, more rain, larger biodiversity (which affects plants)
T - colder, less rain, coniferous trees

12. Give an example of how coral reefs are threatened by human activity.

Humans taking coral, pollution, bleaching due to changing conditions, overfishing

13. Give an example of how estuaries are threatened by human activity.

pollution, filling in, development, landfills

14. Compare and contrast the littoral zone and the benthic zone of a lake.

- both lake zones - littoral - top, light, diversity
- specific organisms - benthic - bottom, dark, cold

15. Which organism produces most of the food in an aquatic ecosystem?

phytoplankton

16. How are coral reefs formed?

limestone ridges built by tiny animals called coral polyps & the algae that lives inside them.

17. Why doesn't photosynthesis occur in deep ocean water?

Its too dark!

18. What animals live in the savanna?

Lions, elephants, rhinos, gazelles, giraffes

19. What damage has been done to prairies?

Overgrazing, development, agriculture

20. What are animal adaptations in the taiga, deserts, and rainforest?

T- thick coats, hibernation
D- nocturnal, burrowing
R- live in/ climb trees, handle heat & rain

21. What is included in a description of climate?

Weather over time → precipitation
→ temp → wind
→ humidity

22. What is permafrost and where is it located?

a permanent layer of frozen soil in the tundra.

23. What kinds of trees would you find in the taiga?

Coniferous Trees (Taiga ♥'s Pine trees)

24. What characteristics are included in the description of a biome?

Vegetation + Climate

25. What do rodents do for protection in the tundra?

Don't worry about this one!

26. If you travel from the North Pole to the equator, what is the order of biomes you would pass through?

Ice cap → Tundra → Taiga → Temp. Decid. forest
Temp. grassland → desert
Chapparral → savanna
tropical rainforest

27. Define latitude.

The distance N or S from the equator

28. What are the functions of wetlands?

purify pollutants, trap C & CO₂, control flooding

29. Where do estuary nutrients come from?

The currents of rivers

30. What are some causes of coastal pollution?

Fertilizer runoff, overfishing, oil spills,
land activities, trash

STUDY HARD!

♡ Mrs. Wiley