

Unit 4 Vocabulary

Includes:

- Populations
- Biodiversity
- Human Populations

Density

Definition: The number of individuals of the same species per unit area.

Example: The population **density** of bass in Lake Allatoona is 15 bass per cubic meter of water.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Growth Rate

Definition: The increase in the size of a population over a period of time.

Example: Historically China has had a rapid **growth rate**, though it has slowed down recently.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Exponential Growth

Definition: Rapid growth in which numbers increase by a constant rate.

Example: Bacteria populations often experience **exponential growth** when exposed to a new food source.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Logistic Growth

Definition: Growth rate decreases as the population reaches carrying capacity.

Example: The populations of most animals in nature experience **logistic growth**, slowing down as they begin to run out of resources.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Carrying Capacity

Definition: The largest population that an environment can support.

Example: The **carrying capacity** of foxes in the prairie depends on the resources they can access.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Niche

Definition: The specific function or position of a species within a community.

Example: The **niche** of a lion includes hunting and eating animals in the savanna.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Competition

Definition: The relationship between two species in which both use the same resource, negatively impacting both.

Example: Squirrels and chipmunks are often in **competition** over the same food source, acorns.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Predation

Definition: An interaction between two organisms in which one hunts, kills, and eats the other.

Example: White sharks and seals have a **predation** relationship.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Parasitism

Definition: A relationship between two organisms in which one (parasite) benefits from the other (host) who is hurt.

Example: A flea feeding on blood from a dog is an example of **parasitism**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Mutualism

Definition: A relationship between two species in which they both benefit.

Example: The relationship between a bumblebee and flowers is an example of **mutualism**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Commensalism

Definition: A relationship between two organisms in which one benefits and the other is unaffected.

Example: The relationship between a clownfish and a sea anemone is an example of **commensalism**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Symbiosis

Definition: A relationship in which two organisms live in close association with each other.

Example: There are many examples of **symbiosis** found in nature.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Fertility Rate

Definition: The number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 in one year.

Example: Fertility rates are changed by many factors, such as poverty, disease, and food availability.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Migration

Definition: Any movement of individuals or populations from one location to another.

Example: A large **migration** occurs in the US every fall when many bird species fly south for winter.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Life Expectancy

Definition: The average length of time and individual is expected to live.

Example: The longer the **life expectancy** of a country, the higher the standard of living.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Infrastructure

Definition: The basic facilities of an area, such as roads, bridges, and sewers.

Example: Developed countries have a much better **infrastructure** than developing countries do.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Keystone Species

Definition: A species that is critical to an ecosystem and the survival of other species.

Example: If a **keystone species** becomes extinct, the entire ecosystem could disappear.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Endangered Species

Definition: A species that has been identified to be in danger of extinction.

Example: If serious efforts are not made to preserve an **endangered species**, this species will likely become extinct.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Threatened Species

Definition: A species that is likely to become endangered in the future.

Example: If humans make efforts to conserve **threatened species**, they will probably never become endangered.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Invasive Species

Definition: A species that is not native to a region.

Example: Kudzu is an **invasive species** in Georgia.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Endemic Species

Definition: A species that is native only to a particular place or region.

Example: The Etowah Darter fish is an **endemic species** in Georgia.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

Indicator Species

Definition: A species whose population numbers provides information on the overall health of the ecosystem.

Example: Frogs are often **indicator species** in many ecosystems.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid: