

Diagnostic Test

CHAPTER 5 Biodiversity and Conservation

Answers Concept Mapping

CHAPTER 5 Threats to Biodiversity

Before reading Chapter 5, predict answers to questions about the chapter content based on what you already know. Circle the letter of the correct answer, and then explain your reasoning.

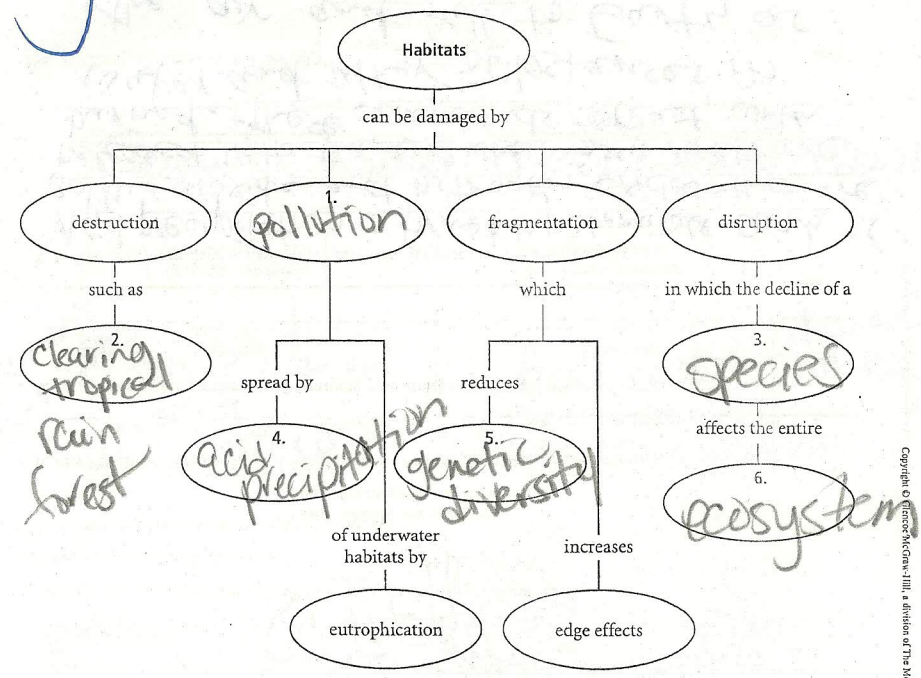
- While touring a Costa Rican rain forest on vacation, Dana learns that rain forests have the highest biodiversity of any ecosystem on the planet. The guide defines the term *biodiversity* for the group. Which definition does she give?
 - A. number of life layers in the forest
 - B. number of organisms in the forest
 - C. variety of habitats in the forest
 - D. variety of species in the forest**

Explain.

Note: You must also complete the Biodiversity Comic Strip Project. See Web

KEY

Complete the network tree about ways that biodiversity can be threatened. These terms may be used more than once: acid precipitation, clearing tropical rain forests, ecosystem, genetic diversity, pollution, species.



- Kiah hears about a plan to drain a nearby wetland to build a shopping mall. Kiah's friend agrees with the plan because she believes the wetland has no economic value. After researching the issue, Kiah responds to her friend's opinion. Which is Kiah's response?
 - A. Wetlands are beautiful ecosystems, but they have no economic value.
 - B. Wetlands breed harmful insects, and they should be drained for better use.
 - C. Wetlands have a direct economic value such as providing a food source.
 - D. Wetlands have indirect value such as cleaning pollutants from water.**

Explain.

3. Enrique hears about the accelerated global extinction rate due to rain forest deforestation and the destruction of other habitats worldwide. He comes to the conclusion that all extinctions are caused by humans and are harmful to the biosphere. Critique his conclusion.

Extinctions have always occurred naturally during Earth's history. The natural rate of extinction is called background extinction, and this extinction rate is not necessarily harmful to the biosphere. Present day extinction rates are alarmingly high due to human activities, and most scientists agree that the mass extinctions currently occurring will have adverse effects on the biosphere.