

Global Zoogeography and Ecosystems

Animals & Habitats · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which of the following island groups is renowned for its high rate of endemism, particularly among reptiles and birds, due to its volcanic origin and isolation in the Pacific Ocean, influencing Darwin's theory of evolution?

- A) The Seychelles
- B) The Galapagos Islands**
- C) The Faroe Islands
- D) The Andaman Islands

2. The unique assemblage of marsupials found in Australia, such as kangaroos and koalas, is primarily attributed to the continent's long geological isolation and its distinct evolutionary trajectory. Which biogeographic realm does Australia belong to?

- A) Afrotropical Realm
- B) Neotropical Realm
- C) Australasian Realm**
- D) Indomalayan Realm

3. The critically endangered kakapo, a flightless parrot, is endemic to which temperate island nation, known for its unique avifauna and ongoing conservation efforts against introduced predators?

- A) Madagascar
- B) New Zealand**
- C) Tasmania
- D) Patagonia

4. The diverse array of lemurs, found exclusively on the island of Madagascar, represents a classic example of adaptive radiation driven by its geographic separation from mainland Africa. What is the primary biogeographic realm Madagascar is part of?

- A) Indomalayan Realm
- B) Palearctic Realm
- C) Afrotropical Realm**
- D) Australasian Realm

5. The vast taiga biome, characterized by coniferous forests, is most extensive across which two continents, forming a contiguous circumpolar belt?

- A) Africa and South America
- B) North America and Europe
- C) Asia and Australia
- D) North America and Asia**

6. The Amazon rainforest, the largest tropical rainforest in the world, spans across multiple countries in South America. Which of the following is NOT a country that contains a significant portion of the Amazon basin?

- A) Brazil
- B) Colombia
- C) Argentina**
- D) Peru

7. The iconic Giant Panda, native to China, inhabits temperate forests characterized by bamboo undergrowth. This specific habitat is predominantly found in which mountain ranges?

- A) The Himalayas
- B) The Andes
- C) The Rocky Mountains
- D) The Qinling Mountains**

8. The rich biodiversity of the Mediterranean basin, a global biodiversity hotspot, supports a unique flora and fauna adapted to its specific climate. Which of the following is a defining climatic characteristic of this region?

- A) Hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters**
- B) Consistent rainfall throughout the year
- C) Extreme cold temperatures and low precipitation
- D) High humidity and frequent monsoons

9. The Atacama Desert, one of the driest places on Earth, is located in South America. Its extreme aridity is largely influenced by which geographical feature and oceanic current?

- A) The Andes Mountains and the Humboldt Current**
- B) The Brazilian Highlands and the Gulf Stream
- C) The Patagonia Plateau and the Falkland Current
- D) The Guiana Shield and the Brazil Current

10. The unique marine life of the Arctic Ocean, including polar bears and seals, is adapted to extreme cold and ice cover. What is the primary reason for the low species diversity in this polar region compared to tropical oceans?

- A) High levels of pollution
- B) Extreme temperatures and limited food availability**
- C) Lack of sunlight for photosynthesis
- D) Strong ocean currents

11. The Sundarbans, a vast mangrove forest and UNESCO World Heritage Site, is shared by which two South Asian countries, and is the largest habitat for the Bengal tiger?

- A) India and Nepal
- B) Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
- C) India and Bangladesh**
- D) Pakistan and India

12. The savanna biome, characterized by grasslands with scattered trees, is a prominent feature of which continent, supporting large migratory herds of herbivores?

- A) North America
- B) South America
- C) Africa**
- D) Asia

13. The temperate deciduous forest biome, known for its seasonal leaf drop, is most prevalent in which geographical regions of the Northern Hemisphere?

- A) Eastern North America, Europe, and East Asia**
- B) The Sahara Desert and the Arabian Peninsula
- C) The Amazon Basin and the Congo Basin
- D) The Australian Outback and New Zealand

14. The unique fauna of the Caucasus region, a biodiversity hotspot, is influenced by its complex topography and position at the crossroads of major biogeographic realms. Which two realms are considered to meet in this area?

- A) Afrotropical and Australasian
- B) Palaearctic and Oriental**
- C) Neotropical and Nearctic
- D) Australasian and Indomalayan

15. The extreme altitude and harsh conditions of the Tibetan Plateau create a unique alpine ecosystem. Which large mammal, adapted to high altitudes and cold temperatures, is native to this region?

- A) Grizzly Bear
- B) Snow Leopard**
- C) Walrus
- D) Platypus

16. The 'Ring of Fire' is a zone of frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions that encircles which ocean basin, influencing the types of habitats and species found there?

- A) Atlantic Ocean
- B) Indian Ocean
- C) Arctic Ocean
- D) Pacific Ocean**

17. The Okavango Delta in Botswana is the world's largest inland delta, creating a unique wetland habitat in the Kalahari Desert. This delta's existence is dependent on rainfall from which distant mountain range?

- A) The Drakensberg Mountains**
- B) The Rwenzori Mountains
- C) The Atlas Mountains
- D) The Ethiopian Highlands

18. The Komodo dragon, the world's largest lizard, is endemic to a specific archipelago in Southeast Asia. Which island nation is home to these formidable reptiles?

- A) Philippines
- B) Malaysia
- C) Indonesia**
- D) Papua New Guinea