

Middle School Environmental Science Quiz

Environmental Science · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which layer of the atmosphere contains the ozone layer that protects Earth from ultraviolet radiation?

- A) Troposphere
- B) Stratosphere**
- C) Mesosphere
- D) Thermosphere

2. What is the primary gas that makes up the majority of Earth's atmosphere?

- A) Oxygen
- B) Carbon dioxide
- C) Nitrogen**
- D) Hydrogen

3. Which process do plants use to convert sunlight into chemical energy?

- A) Respiration
- B) Transpiration
- C) Decomposition
- D) Photosynthesis**

4. What type of resource is coal, meaning it cannot be replaced once it is consumed?

- A) Renewable
- B) Non-renewable**
- C) Infinite
- D) Sustainable

5. Which term describes the variety of all living organisms on Earth?

- A) Ecosystem
- B) Biodiversity**
- C) Habitat
- D) Population

6. What is the largest ocean on Earth?

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

7. Which of these is a major greenhouse gas released by human activities such as burning fossil fuels?

A) Argon

B) Carbon dioxide

C) Helium

D) Neon

8. What is the role of decomposers in an ecosystem?

A) To produce energy from sunlight

B) To hunt primary consumers

C) To break down dead organic matter

D) To convert nitrogen into oxygen

9. Which of the following is considered a renewable energy source?

A) Natural gas

B) Coal

C) Solar power

D) Petroleum

10. What is the process where water changes from a liquid to a gas or vapour?

A) Condensation

B) Precipitation

C) Evaporation

D) Infiltration

11. Which biome is characterized by very low temperatures and a lack of trees?

A) Tropical Rainforest

B) Tundra

C) Desert

D) Grassland

12. What term refers to the total amount of greenhouse gases generated by our actions?

A) Ecological footprint

B) Carbon footprint

C) Biomass

D) Habitat loss

13. Which part of the Earth's environment consists of all living organisms?

A) Lithosphere

B) Atmosphere

C) Hydrosphere

D) Biosphere

14. What do we call the gradual increase in the average temperature of Earth's climate system?

A) Global warming

B) Weathering

C) Erosion

D) Tectonic shift

15. Which natural disaster is caused by the sudden shaking of the Earth's crust?

A) Hurricane

B) Tsunami

C) Earthquake

D) Volcano

16. What is the primary source of energy for the Earth's weather and climate?

A) Geothermal heat

B) The Sun

C) Tidal energy

D) Wind

17. Which layer of the Earth is located directly beneath the crust?

A) Inner core

B) Outer core

C) Mantle

D) Atmosphere

18. What is the main cause of the rise in sea levels globally?

A) Increased rainfall

B) Melting glaciers and ice sheets

C) Reduced ocean salinity

D) Increased ship traffic

19. Which cycle describes the continuous movement of water on, above, and below the surface of the Earth?

A) Carbon cycle

B) Nitrogen cycle

C) Water cycle

D) Rock cycle

20. What is the name of the process by which fertile land becomes desert, typically as a result of drought or deforestation?

A) Reforestation

B) Desertification

C) Urbanization

D) Conservation