

Lichens: A Symbiotic Relationship

Biology · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What is a lichen?

- A) A single organism
- B) A close association between fungi and algae**
- C) A type of plant
- D) A colony of bacteria

2. What is the fungal component of a lichen called?

- A) Phycobiont
- B) Mycobiont**
- C) Algae
- D) Photosymbiont

3. What is the algal component of a lichen called?

- A) Mycobiont
- B) Fungus
- C) Phycobiont**
- D) Chlorobiont

4. What role does the fungal component (mycobiont) play in a lichen?

- A) It performs photosynthesis
- B) It provides food for the algae
- C) It provides shelter to the algae**
- D) It absorbs sunlight

5. What essential substances does the fungal component absorb for the lichen?

- A) Sunlight and carbon dioxide
- B) Water and minerals**
- C) Oxygen and sugar
- D) Nitrogen and phosphorus

6. What is the primary function of the algal component (phycobiont) in a lichen?

- A) To provide shelter
- B) To absorb water and minerals
- C) To perform photosynthesis**
- D) To protect the fungus

7. How does the algal component benefit its fungal partner?

- A) By providing shelter
- B) By absorbing water
- C) By performing photosynthesis and providing food**
- D) By absorbing minerals

8. The term 'mycobiont' refers to which part of the lichen?

- A) The algal partner
- B) The fungal partner**
- C) The entire lichen structure
- D) The reproductive structure

9. The term 'phycobiont' refers to which part of the lichen?

- A) The fungal partner
- B) The entire lichen structure
- C) The algal partner**
- D) The symbiotic relationship

10. Lichens are an example of what type of biological interaction?

- A) Parasitism
- B) Competition
- C) Commensalism
- D) Symbiosis**