

Understanding Lichens: A Symbiotic Relationship

Biology · Answer Key · 7 Questions

1. What is a lichen?

- A) A type of fungus
- B) A close association between fungi and algae**
- C) A type of algae
- D) A single-celled organism

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

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

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

- A) Mycobiont
- B) Phycobiont**
- C) Fungobiont
- D) Zoobiont

4. Which of the following is a primary role of the fungal component (Mycobiont) in a lichen?

- A) Performing photosynthesis
- B) Providing food to its partner
- C) Absorbing H₂O and minerals**
- D) Producing oxygen

5. What is the primary function of the algal component (Phycobiont) in a lichen?

- A) Providing shelter
- B) Absorbing water and minerals
- C) Performing photosynthesis**
- D) Decomposing organic matter

6. Which component of a lichen provides food for the association?

- A) The fungal component
- B) The bacterial component
- C) The algal component**
- D) The viral component

7. What does the Mycobiont primarily provide to the Phycobiont in a lichen?

- A) Food through photosynthesis
- B) Shelter and absorbed H₂O and minerals**
- C) Carbon dioxide for respiration
- D) Protection from sunlight