# Chapter 34 – Ecology Introduction

I. What is Ecology?

A. Ecology is the scientific study of \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and their \_\_\_\_\_.

*1. Oikos* – house … *-logy* – study of

2. Levels of organization include the following, using the Cell

Atom 🡪 Molecule 🡪 Cell 🡪 Tissue 🡪 Organ 🡪 Organ System 🡪 Organism

B. Organisms experience Levels of \_\_\_\_\_:

1. O\_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 atom … individual.
2. P\_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 organisms of the \_\_\_\_\_ species living together in a given location.
3. C\_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 populations of \_\_\_\_\_ species in a given location interacting with each other.
4. E\_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 Interactions of the \_\_\_\_\_ community & the \_\_\_\_\_ (non-living) environment.
5. B\_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 That portion of the planet where life is possible or ecosystems operate.

C. Organisms experience Levels of ORGANIZATION (expanded):

1. ORGANISM – Any unicellular or multicellular form exhibiting all of the characteristics of life, an individual.

2. P\_\_\_\_\_ – A group of organisms of the same \_\_\_\_\_ living in the same \_\_\_\_\_ at the same time.

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ and produce fertile offspring.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ with each other for resources (food, mates, shelter, etc.).

3. C\_\_\_\_\_ – Several interacting \_\_\_\_\_ that inhabit a common \_\_\_\_\_ and are interdependent.

4. E\_\_\_\_\_ – Both the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ factors of the environment.

5. B\_\_\_\_\_ – A group of ecosystems with similar \_\_\_\_\_ (temperature + rainfall) and organisms.

6. BIOSPHERE – Our entire planet with all its organisms and physical environments. The highest level of organization.

D. Organisms can be affected by two major variables:

* 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Factors include all of the organisms in an area, the \_\_\_\_\_ component of the environment.
	2. \_\_\_\_\_ Factors are the environment’s \_\_\_\_\_ component, the physical and chemical factors (gases, wind, moisture, soil).
* An organism’s \_\_\_\_\_ includes the biotic and abiotic factors present in its surroundings.

a. W\_\_\_\_\_

1. A basic constituent of the internal environment of living things. Where water is not plentiful, organisms have adaptations to secure and prevent its loss.
2. Water has high specific heat (1g/1◦ C) therefore temperature of water changes slowly, stabilizing land mass temperature.
3. Medium for the movement of sperm; xylem.
4. Water freezes (at 4◦ C) and floats on top of water insulating it(*4◦ C has greater density than 0◦ C so ice floats; most solids are more dense than liquids)*.

b. S\_\_\_\_\_

1. Composed of varying mixtures of:
* rock particles: rock, sand, silt, and clay (pure clay) tightly packed (low O2); Water, air; living organisms
* organic material, humus: a decaying material.

 2. Importance of acid-base balance.

1. T\_\_\_\_\_

With exception of birds and mammals, rate of an organism’s metabolism depends upon environmental temperature:

1. Poikilotherm 🡪 \_\_\_\_\_-blooded

* \_\_\_\_\_ *control of body temperature varies according to outside temperature.*

 2. Homeotherms 🡪 \_\_\_\_\_-blooded

* \_\_\_\_\_ *control of body temperature varies according to outside temperature.*
1. L\_\_\_\_\_
* Ultimate source of \_\_\_\_\_ for all life. A regulator of daily and seasonal activities.

1. Inorganic Nutrients – Phosphates, sulfates, calcium, sulfur, sodium.

1. Oxygen
* Necessary for all animals and plants. In polluted streams, a lack of oxygen results in death.

3. L\_\_\_\_\_ Factors

* Abiotic factors that set limits on the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of organisms that can live in an environment.

4. Ecosystems

1. Abiotic factors determine the limits of each species’ distribution, especially \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ availability.
2. The ultimate \_\_\_\_\_ factor is an energy source, which for most ecosystems is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The flow of energy through an ecosystem is one of the most important factors that determines the system’s capacity to sustain life.

II. Interactions in the Ecosystem

1. H\_\_\_\_\_
* An organism’s physical environment where they \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
1. N\_\_\_\_\_
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ an organism plays in the physical environment in which it lives; particularly its role in relation to food.
3. e.g. Bird lives in crotch of branch;
4. The deer is a browser.
5. Butterfly eats and moves pollen.
6. It is NOT the same as its habitat (*place where an organism lives and the environment they live on*).
7. Woodpeckers make nesting holes in the Saguaro cactus in Arizona.
8. Unused holes can be used by elf owls and screech owls.
9. If both occupy adjacent holes, they have the same habitat.
10. Elf owl and screech owl eat insects – same niche.
11. Food C\_\_\_\_\_
12. T\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ through a sequential series of organisms.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Producers – autotrophs

1. Green \_\_\_\_\_ or protists that capture energy from sunlight or chemicals and convert it into a form that living cells can use (glucose).
* This occurs mainly by \_\_\_\_\_.
1. A\_\_\_\_\_ are essential to the flow of energy through the ecosystem.
2. First producers of energy-rich compounds that are later used by other organisms.
	* On Land: Plants
	* In Water: Algae
3. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ level – Produce \_\_\_% of Energy for organisms.

3. C\_\_\_\_\_

1. Organisms that rely on other organisms for energy and nutrients.
2. They are \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ make their own food.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ = obtain energy by eating only plants.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ = obtain energy by eating other animals.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ = eat both plants and animals.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ = cause decay by breaking down organic matter.

4. Primary \_\_\_\_\_ make up the \_\_\_\_\_ trophic level.

1. They are the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They eat primary \_\_\_\_\_ — plants or algae — and nothing else.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ consumers are any organism that feeds directly or indirectly off \_\_\_\_\_ consumers.
* They are the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Energy Flows in the direction of the arrows.



1. D\_\_\_\_\_
2. Organisms that live upon \_\_\_\_\_ things.
3. Their purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_ inorganic materials to the environment for the producers.
4. *Earthworms,* \_\_\_\_\_*, and* \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Food W\_\_\_\_\_
6. Feeding relationships among organisms in an ecosystem usually form a \_\_\_\_\_ of complex \_\_\_\_\_ shown as a food web.
7. Each \_\_\_\_\_ represents a \_\_\_\_\_ of energy from one organism to another.
8. Organisms must ultimately receive energy from the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Sometimes the \_\_\_\_\_ of food webs by man has unexpected results. A campaign to exterminate owls because of their occasional predation upon chickens may result in an increase in other animals such as rabbits and mice.
10. Food P\_\_\_\_\_
11. Only a small portion (~\_\_\_%) of the total energy incorporated by photosynthesis by autotrophs in a community is passed on to each succeeding level.
12. The reason for energy loss is:
13. Each organism uses energy to carry on life \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Not all food material is extracted (*digestive inadequacy*).
15. \_\_\_\_\_ loss.
16. Food Relationships (predator/prey)
17. \_\_\_\_\_ – Predator \_\_\_\_\_ another organism and then \_\_\_\_\_ it. (e.g. owl, wolf, man) – energy relationship.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ are fitted often with 1) sensitive eyes, 2) sensitive hearing, 3) sensitive sense of smell, 4) strong jaws, 5) long claws, etc..
19. \_\_\_\_\_ are often fitted with organs of \_\_\_\_\_ of detection (Flying, Mimicry, Blending, Swimming, Running, special behavior patterns).
20. S\_\_\_\_\_ [*Organisms that live upon* \_\_\_\_\_ *animals and plants]*
21. S\_\_\_\_\_ organisms that act as \_\_\_\_\_ (waste products are broken down and returned to the soil or water) i.e. fungi and bacteria molds.

1. C\_\_\_\_\_ of Materials – Carbon, oxygen, water, nitrogen

III. T\_\_\_\_\_ Levels

1. Food chains are tools used to show \_\_\_\_\_ flow in an ecosystem from one organism to another, including p\_\_\_\_\_, c\_\_\_\_\_ and d\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Each \_\_\_\_\_ in a food \_\_\_\_\_ is called a \_\_\_\_\_ level.
3. Only about \_\_\_% of energy travels from trophic level to trophic level through a food chain.
4. All food chains begin with an \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Energy flows through an ecosystem in one direction:
* \_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 \_\_\_\_\_ 🡪 \_\_\_\_\_

D. Energy from \_\_\_\_\_ can be passed through an ecosystem along a Food Chain (Linear).

* Energy transfers from one organism to another by eating and being eaten.

E. General Information

1. Each step in a food chain/web is called a trophic level.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ level indicates the organism’s position in the sequence of energy transfers.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ trophic level in a food chain is always made up of \_\_\_\_\_. These organisms are referred to as Primary Producers.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ trophic level is occupied by the \_\_\_\_\_ or omnivores that feed on the producers. These organisms are referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Loss of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Levels
6. Only about 10% of energy is passed from one organism to another in each step of the food chain.
7. The remainder of the energy is used in life processes or lost as heat.



IV. Energy P\_\_\_\_\_

1. Amount of available energy \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ consumers.
2. It takes a \_\_\_\_\_ number of \_\_\_\_\_ to support a \_\_\_\_\_ number of primary \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It takes a \_\_\_\_\_ number of \_\_\_\_\_ consumers to support a \_\_\_\_\_ number of secondary consumers.

 

1. Energy supply \_\_\_\_\_ the length of food chains
2. A pyramid of production illustrates the cumulative loss of energy with each transfer in a food chain.
3. Only about \_\_\_% of the energy stored at each trophic level is available to the next level.
4. An important implication of this stepwise \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in a trophic structure is that the amount of energy available to top-level consumers is \_\_\_\_\_ compared with that available to lower-level consumers.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Level Consumers
6. Only a tiny fraction of the energy stored by photosynthesis flows through a food chain all the way to a tertiary & quaternary consumer.
7. This explains why top-level consumers such as lions, sharks, and hawks require so much geographic \_\_\_\_\_.
8. A caterpillar represents a Primary Consumer. Of the organic compounds a caterpillar ingests, about
9. 50% is eliminated in feces.
10. 35% is used in cellular respiration.
11. 15% is converted to caterpillar \_\_\_\_\_.



1. \_\_\_\_\_ Production – Sets the Energy Budget for Ecosystems
2. Ecologists call the \_\_\_\_\_ or mass of \_\_\_\_\_ organic material in an ecosystem the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The amount of \_\_\_\_\_ energy converted to \_\_\_\_\_ energy (in glucose) by an ecosystem’s producers for a given area and during a given time period is called Primary Production.
4. Primary Production - \_\_\_\_\_ produce \_\_\_\_\_ matter from inorganic matter.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Production - \_\_\_\_\_ consume producers to build \_\_\_\_\_.