

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Which of the following is most responsible for making a fallen tree decay and become an important part of the soil?

- A. moisture
  - B. sunlight
  - C. insects
  - D. bacteria
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2. If the food supply for mice in a field decreases, the mouse population in that field will probably

- A. increase.
  - B. decrease.
  - C. remain the same.
  - D. become extinct.
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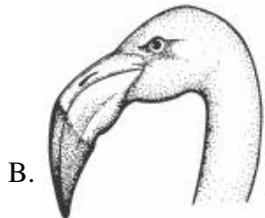
3. The color of a polar bear's fur helps it to

- A. sneak up on seals.
  - B. run in the snow.
  - C. swim in cold water.
  - D. find its den in the snow.
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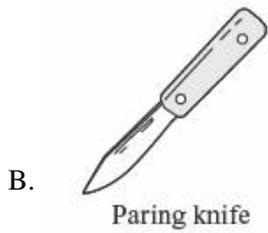
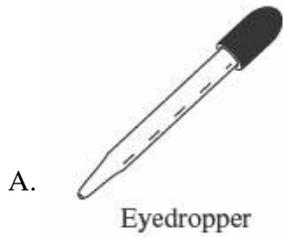
4. The picture below shows a flower with a long slender bloom.



The size and shape of a bird's beak are related to the type of food that the bird eats. Which of the following beaks is suitable for drinking nectar located deep within flowers such as the one shown above?



5. Moths have mouthparts that allow them to suck nectar from plants. Which of the following is **most** similar to the mouthparts of a moth?



*This online assessment item contains material that has been released to the public by the Massachusetts Department of Education.*

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6. Use the food chain below to answer this question.

grass → grasshopper → mouse → hawk

Which of the living things in the food chain is a producer?

- A. hawk
  - B. mouse
  - C. grasshopper
  - D. grass
-

7. Which is the BEST example of an adaptation used to cause confusion when a group of animals tries to run away from a predator?

- A. stripes on a zebra
  - B. smell from a skunk
  - C. long neck of a giraffe
  - D. long ears of a rabbit
- 

8. In a certain habitat, young deer were the main source of food for wolves. One year a severe snowstorm killed many of the young deer.

Which of the following **best** describes what probably occurred the next year?

- A. Some wolves died or moved to another habitat.
  - B. The deer moved south to have their young.
  - C. The deer population was completely destroyed.
  - D. The wolves learned to eat producers.
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9. If farmers cleared a large forest and planted grass, the squirrels that had lived in the forest would MOST LIKELY

- A. move to other areas that had trees.
  - B. learn to live in the long grass.
  - C. find seeds and nuts to plant more trees.
  - D. build their nests on the ground.
- 

10.

Identify the choice that is considered to cause the extinction of certain organisms today.

- A. too many animals
- B. too much food
- C. heavy rains
- D. toxic waste

**Answer Key**

1. D) bacteria

2. B) decrease.

3. A) sneak up on seals.

4. D)



5. A)



6. D) grass

7. A) stripes on a zebra

8. A) Some wolves died or moved to another habitat.

9. A) move to other areas that had trees.

10. D) toxic waste