

Study Island

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1.



Cattails



Purple Loosestrife

The purple loosestrife was brought to the United States from Europe in the 1800s. Since that time, the loosestrife has been taking over wetlands, clogging waterways, and replacing the cattail in its normal environment. What impact might this situation have had on the animals in the wetlands?

- The loosestrife has decreased the population size of animals which feed only on prey that
- ☐ **A.** eats cattails.
- The loosestrife has decreased the amount of food available to the animals that eat only
- ☐ **B.** cattails.
- The loosestrife has decreased the amount of habitat available to animals that nest only in
- ☐ **C.** cattails.
- ☐ **D.** all of these
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2. The tick-bird is a species which sits on the back of large animals such as the rhinoceros. The bird eats the ticks and flies on the rhino, and so gets a free meal. The rhino gets the benefit of having those pesky bugs removed.



Which animal gets something useful from the other in this relationship?

- ☐ A. Neither of them gets anything useful from this relationship.
 - ☐ B. The tick-bird gets something useful from the rhino only.
 - ☐ C. The rhino gets something useful from the tick-bird only.
 - ☐ D. They both get something useful from each other.
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3. Which of the following describes a possible relationship between a plant and an animal in an ecosystem?

- ☐ A. parasitism—one organisms benefits; the other is significantly harmed
 - ☐ B. commensalism—one organism benefits and the other is not affected
 - ☐ C. mutualism—both organisms benefit the same amount
 - ☐ D. all of these
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4. Which of the following pictures shows a predator-prey relationship?



two deer



sheep and cow



otter and fish



**mother and baby
giraffe**

- ☐ A. the cow and sheep
 - ☐ B. the otter and fish
 - ☐ C. the two giraffes
 - ☐ D. the two deer
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5. The bird called the cattle egret follows large animals, such as rhinoceroses, elephants, cows, or antelope. The bird stays near them as they graze in the grasses, and eats the insects in the grass which get disturbed by the larger animals. Below is a picture of two cattle egrets near a pair of antelope.



Which of these animals gets something useful from the other in this relationship?

- ☐ A. Neither animal gets anything useful from the other.
 - ☐ B. The antelope gets something useful from the egret only.
 - ☐ C. They each get something useful from the other.
 - ☐ D. The egret gets something useful from the antelope only.
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6. In the 1700s, rabbits were taken into Australia. Rabbits are not native to Australia, which means that there were no rabbits in Australia before this time. The rabbit population grew quickly. The rabbits ate the same grass and other kinds of plants that many other native animals usually ate.

The rabbits changed the natural balance of wildlife in Australia by

- ☐ A. becoming the most popular pet in Australia.
 - ☐ B. eating too many harmful weeds from farm fields.
 - ☐ C. hunting and killing many kinds of native animals.
 - ☐ D. eating food other animals needed to survive.
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7. When an organism hunts and kills another organism for food, the organism that gets eaten is called

- ☐ A. a predator.
 - ☐ B. prey.
 - ☐ C. a producer.
 - ☐ D. an herbivore.
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8. The oxpecker birds on the back of this buffalo are eating the bugs that live in the buffalo's fur.



Why do the birds and the buffalo live together?

- ☐ A. The birds and the buffalo hurt each other.
 - ☐ B. The birds help the buffalo, but the buffalo hurts the birds.
 - ☐ C. The birds hurt the buffalo, but the buffalo helps the birds.
 - ☐ D. The birds and the buffalo help each other.
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9. In the ocean, small remora fish are often found cleaning bacteria and other parasites from the mouths and gills of swordfish.

Which of the following phrases best explains this interaction?

- ☐ A. weather affecting the life of an animal
 - ☐ B. climate affecting the life of an animal
 - ☐ C. plant affecting the life of an animal
 - ☐ D. animal affecting the life of an animal
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10. Dolphins live in the ocean. They swim in groups and feed primarily on fish. Herring are a kind of fish that dolphins hunt and kill for food.

In this relationship, herring are

- ☐ A. producers.
 - ☐ B. predators.
 - ☐ C. prey.
 - ☐ D. carnivores.
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