

Module 1 – Assessment Bank

These test items are not a required component of piloting the curriculum materials. They are here as a resource that you can draw from to develop your own assessments for your students.

Multiple Choice Questions

Lesson 1: Cities as systems

1. Large human populations, living in technologically advanced cities that are healthy and sustainable, have _____ impact on the global ecosystem.
 - A. the most
 - B. the least
 - C. none
 - D. the same
2. A system is defined as an entity with
 - A. a way of organizing parts
 - B. a collection of parts
 - C. a whole entity consisting of interacting parts
 - D. all of the above

Lesson 2 Impact of cities

1. A person in the US may lessen their ecological footprint by doing all of the following EXCEPT
 - A. moving to the city
 - B. taking public transportation
 - C. living in a bigger house
 - D. recycling paper, cans, and bottles
2. Developing nations tend to have lower “total ecological footprints” because
 - A. people import more from other countries
 - B. people use less public transportation
 - C. people consume more
 - D. people drive less

Lesson 3 Why cities

1. Urban sprawl may be defined as the
 - A. growth of a city’s economy
 - B. growth of a city’s population
 - C. growth of a city’s student population
 - D. growth of a city’s physical size

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2. _____ led to the creation of cities.
- A. agriculture
 - B. a desire to stay with related family
 - C. a need for culture
 - D. limited access to resources

Lesson 4 Parts of an ecosystem

1. An ecosystem is composed of all the interacting _____ of organisms in a location, as well as their abiotic environment
- A. organisms
 - B. biomes
 - C. populations
 - D. communities
2. For a salmon, all of the following are abiotic factors EXCEPT
- A. algae
 - B. sunlight
 - C. water currents
 - D. rocks
3. _____ is the largest region of earth which a characteristic climate and vegetation type.
- A. community
 - B. biome
 - C. population
 - D. organism
4. Ecosystems make up biomes and biomes make up a
- A. organism
 - B. biosphere
 - C. population
 - D. community

Lesson 5 Study site evaluation

1. A pile of dead leaves is considered
- A. biotic
 - B. abiotic
 - C. man-made
 - D. none of the above

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2. Weather is considered
 - A. biotic
 - B. abiotic
 - C. man-made
 - D. none of the above

Lesson 6 Cities as complex systems

1. One social factor, impacted by the presence of humans in cities, may include
 - A. availability of public transportation
 - B. soil pollution
 - C. air pollution
 - D. water pollution
2. A researchable question should have all of the following EXCEPT a(n)
 - A. independent variable
 - B. bias
 - C. dependent variable
 - D. control

Lesson 7 Certain organisms in certain microhabitats

1. What factors are most important in determining whether or not an organism may be found in a microhabitat
 - A. temperature
 - B. presence of food
 - C. availability of mates
 - D. all of the above
2. Forests, deserts, and ponds are all examples of
 - A. climate
 - B. abiotic places
 - C. species
 - D. habitats

Lesson 8 Sustainability

1. The fur on the back of a cat is best described as a
 - A. microhabitat
 - B. climate
 - C. microclimate
 - D. habitat

Short Answer and Essay

Lesson 1

1. Explain how cities are systems. Be specific in terms of defining what a system is and how a city meets this definition.
2. What is a mega city? Give an example of a mega city.

Lesson 2

1. List and explain two reasons why other countries generally have a lower “average total ecological footprint” than the US?

Lesson 3

1. List and describe two costs and two benefits to living in a city.
2. Why would development of agriculture lead to the creation of cities?

Lesson 4

1. Define the terms abiotic and biotic. Give an example of each in the context of an urban ecosystem.
2. Define the term symbiosis and describe a situation where this plays out in an urban ecosystem.

Lesson 6

1. We discussed the interplay of social, physical, biological, and chemical variables in an urban ecosystem. Pick two of these, give an example of each and explain how they are impacted by human actions.

Lesson 7

1. What is meant by the term sustainability when thinking about cities and urban ecosystems?
2. What does it mean to conduct a longitudinal study?

Lesson 8

1. Explain how humans impact their ecosystems in both positive and negative ways. Be very specific and think about creating healthy and sustainable communities.