

NEET ECOSYSTEM — DECOMPOSITION — PYQS

Max. Marks: 36

Questions: 9

Section A (MCQ) — 9 questions

Q.1 Match **List I** with **List II** : [NEET (UG) 2026]

List-I		List-II	
A.	Decomposition	I.	Accumulation of dark coloured amorphous colloidal substance
B.	Detritus	II.	Release of inorganic nutrients by the activity of microbes in soil
C.	Mineralisation	III.	Breaking down of complex organic matter into inorganic substances.
D.	Humification	IV.	Dead remains of plants and animals including fecal matter

- (1) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV (2) A-IV, B-III, C-I, D-II
 (3) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV (4) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I

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Q.2 Identify the correct statements :

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- A. Detritivores perform fragmentation.
 B. The humus is further degraded by some microbes during mineralization.
 C. Water soluble inorganic nutrients go down into the soil and get precipitated by a process called leaching.
 D. The detritus food chain begins with living organisms.
 E. Earthworms break down detritus into smaller particles by a process called catabolism.

[NEET (UG) 2023]

- (1) B, C, D only (2) C, D, E only
 (3) D, E, A only (4) A, B, C only

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Q.3 Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: Decomposition is a process in which the detritus is degraded into simpler substances by microbes.

Statement-II: Decomposition is faster if the detritus is rich in lignin and chitin.

In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below :

[NEET (UG) 2022]

- (1) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct
 (2) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are incorrect
 (3) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (4) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

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Q.4 Detritivores breakdown detritus into smaller particles. This process is called : [NEET (UG) 2022]

- (1) Catabolism (2) Fragmentation
 (3) Humification (4) Decomposition

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Q.5 Match the following and select the correct option:

[AIPMT 2014]

List-I		List-II	
a.	Earthworm	i.	Pioneer species
b.	Succession	ii.	Detritivore
c.	Ecosystem service	iii.	Natality
d.	Population growth	iv.	Pollination

- (1) (a) → (i), (b) → (ii), (c) → (iii), (d) → (iv)
 (2) (a) → (iii), (b) → (ii), (c) → (iv), (d) → (i)
 (3) (a) → (iv), (b) → (i), (c) → (iii), (d) → (ii)
 (4) (a) → (ii), (b) → (i), (c) → (iv), (d) → (iii)

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Q.6 Which one of the following processes during decomposition is correctly described ? [NEET 2013]

- (1) Catabolism – Last step in the decomposition under fully anaerobic condition
- (2) Leaching – Water soluble inorganic nutrients rise to the top layers of soil
- (3) Fragmentation – Carried out by organisms such as earthworm
- (4) Humification – Leads to the accumulation of a dark coloured substance humus which undergoes microbial action at a very fast rate

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Q.7 The breakdown of detritus into smaller particles by earthworm is a process called [AIPMT 2011 (Mains)]

- (1) Fragmentation
- (2) Catabolism
- (3) Mineralisation
- (4) Humification

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Q.8 The slow rate of decomposition of fallen logs in nature is due to their: [AIPMT 2008]

- (1) low moisture content
- (2) poor nitrogen content
- (3) anaerobic environment around them
- (4) low cellulose content

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Q.9 Plant decomposers are:

[AIPMT 2001]

- (1) Protista and Animalia
- (2) Animalia and Monera
- (3) Monera and fungi
- (4) Fungi and plants

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ANSWER KEY

Ques.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Ans.	4	4	3	2	4	3	1	1	3		