

Plant communities assemble themselves flexibly, and their particular structure depends on

question 1

According to paragraph 1, which of the following is NOT true of climax communities?

- A They occur at the end of a succession.
- B They last longer than any other type of community.
- C The numbers of plants in them and the mix of species do not change.
- D They remain stable for at least 500 years at a time.

question 2

According to paragraph 2, which of the following principles of ecosystems can be learned from the study of the Tundra?

- A Ecosystem properties change more slowly than individuals in the system.
- B The stability of an ecosystem tends to change as individuals are replaced.
- C Individual organisms are stable from one year to the next.
- D A change in the members of an organism does not affect an ecosystem's properties.

question 3

According to paragraph 3, ecologists once believed that which of the following illustrates the concept of a climax community?

- A Pioneer communities
- B Climax communities
- C Single-crop farmlands
- D Successional plant communities

question 4

According to paragraph 4, why is the question of ecosystem stability complicated?

- A The reasons for ecosystem change are not always clear.
- B Ecologists often confuse the word "stability" with the word "resilience."
- C The exact meaning of the word "stability" is debated by ecologists.
- D There are many different answers to ecological questions.

question 5

According to paragraph 4, which of the following is true of climax communities?

- A They are more resilient than pioneer communities.
- B They can be considered both the most and the least stable communities.
- C They are stable because they recover quickly after major disturbances.
- D They are the most resilient communities because they change the least over time.

question 6

Which of the following can be inferred from paragraph 5 about redwood forests?

- A They become less stable as they mature.
- B They support many species when they reach climax.
- C They are found in temperate zones.
- D They have reduced diversity during mid-successional stages.

question 7

In paragraph 5, why does the author provide the information that "A fifteen-speed racing bicycle is not more stable than a lawn mower?"

- A To illustrate a general principle about the stability of systems by using an everyday example.

- B To demonstrate that an understanding of stability in ecosystems can be applied to h
- C To make a comparison that supports the claim that, in general, stability increases wit
- D To provide an example that contradicts mathematical models of ecosystems

question 8

Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlight

- A Ecologists now think that the stability of an environment is a result of diversity rather
- B Patchy environments that vary from place to place do not often have high species div
- C Uniform environments cannot be climax communities because they do not support a
- D A patchy environment is thought to increase stability because it is able to support a v

question 9

Look at the four squares [] that indicate where the following sentence could be added
Plant communities assemble themselves flexibly, and their particular structure depends

question 10

Directions: An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided be

- A. The changes that occur in an ecosystem from the pioneer to the climax community c
- B. A high degree of species diversity does not always result in a stable ecosystem.
- C. Disagreements over the meaning of the term "stability" make it difficult to identify th
- D. Ecologists agree that climax communities are the most stable types of ecosystems.
- E. The level of resilience in a plant community contributes to its long-term stability.
- F. The resilience of climax communities makes them resistant to destruction caused by

