

FAST TALK

AP / IB BIOLOGY — ECOLOGY

54 double-sided cards · every card verified to have 2+ valid answers

HOW TO PLAY

1. Draw a card and read the CLUE side aloud — a category with many answers.
2. Flip the card to reveal the FORMAT — the twist that narrows it down.
3. Race to shout an answer that fits BOTH sides. First correct answer wins the card. Most cards at the end wins the game.

Example: “A molecule transported across a membrane” + “A 3-letter answer”
→ CO₂! Same clue with “Includes the letter E” → glucose.

HOW TO PRINT & CUT

- Print double-sided, flipping on the LONG edge (the usual default).
- Back pages are pre-mirrored so fronts and backs line up after cutting.
- Print ONE test sheet first and hold it to the light to check alignment.
- Cut along the grey guide lines — 9 cards per sheet.

HOUSE RULES & VARIATIONS

- Letter counts ignore spaces and count numbers (CO₂ = 3).
- Justify it: the winner must explain why their answer fits both sides.
- No repeats: an answer used once is dead for the rest of the game.
- Steal: a wrong answer passes the card to the other team.

The answer key for every card in this deck is at the back of this file.

**Includes the
letter N**

**More than 6
letters**

**More than 8
letters**

**Starts with a
consonant**

**A 10-letter
answer**

**Includes the
letter P**

**Includes the
letter T**

**Includes the
letter A**

**A 11-letter
answer**

**A word from the
topic of food
webs and
energy**

**A word for
where an
organism lives
or its role**

**A way
organisms
compete or
defend
resources**

**A consequence
of pollution in
water**

A biotic factor

**Something a
decomposer
breaks down or
releases**

**A nutrient cycle
or part of one**

**A way
organisms
compete or
defend
resources**

**A nutrient cycle
or part of one**

**Ends in –sis,
–tion, or –sion**

**Includes the
letter H**

**Includes the
letter I**

**A multi-word
answer**

**Ends in the
letter E**

**A 9-letter
answer**

**Fewer than 5
letters**

**Includes the
letter L**

**A 9-letter
answer**

A biome

**A word from the
topic of food
webs and
energy**

**A consequence
of pollution in
water**

**A level of
ecological
organisation**

**Something a
decomposer
breaks down or
releases**

**A word from the
topic of
biodiversity**

**A word for
where an
organism lives
or its role**

**A human
impact on
ecosystems**

A biotic factor

**A 8-letter
answer**

**A 5-letter
answer**

**Includes the
letter O**

**A 6-letter
answer**

**Starts with a
consonant**

**Ends in the
letter S**

**Includes the
letter P**

**Includes the
letter T**

**More than 6
letters**

**A word from the
topic of
biodiversity**

**A factor that
limits
population
growth**

**A consequence
of pollution in
water**

**A word from the
topic of
biodiversity**

**A type of
species
interaction**

A biome

**A greenhouse
gas**

**A way
organisms
compete or
defend
resources**

**A human
impact on
ecosystems**

**Includes the
letter D**

**Includes the
letter U**

**Includes the
letter R**

**A 7-letter
answer**

**A 12-letter
answer**

**A 4-letter
answer**

**Includes the
letter A**

**A 5-letter
answer**

**A 4-letter
answer**

**A type of
species
interaction**

**A feeding role
in an
ecosystem**

**A feeding role
in an
ecosystem**

**An abiotic
factor**

**A word from the
topic of food
webs and
energy**

**A factor that
limits
population
growth**

A biotic factor

**A word for
where an
organism lives
or its role**

**A word from the
topic of
population
growth**

**A 7-letter
answer**

**Ends in the
letter S**

A single word

**Includes the
letter C**

**Includes the
letter M**

**Fewer than 7
letters**

**Fewer than 7
letters**

**Starts with a
vowel**

**More than 10
letters**

**A feeding role
in an
ecosystem**

**Something a
decomposer
breaks down or
releases**

A biome

**A greenhouse
gas**

**Something that
happens during
succession**

**A nutrient cycle
or part of one**

**A greenhouse
gas**

**A level of
ecological
organisation**

**A factor that
limits
population
growth**

**Includes the
letter N**

**Exactly two
words**

**Fewer than 5
letters**

**Includes the
letter S**

**Starts with a
vowel**

**Includes the
letter E**

**Ends in the
letter N**

**Includes the
letter G**

**Includes the
letter U**

**An abiotic
factor**

**A word from the
topic of
population
growth**

**A type of
species
interaction**

**Something that
happens during
succession**

**A human
impact on
ecosystems**

**An abiotic
factor**

**A level of
ecological
organisation**

**A word from the
topic of
population
growth**

**Something that
happens during
succession**

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 1 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

A way organisms compete or defend resources

+ Includes the letter N

→ fighting, chemical signals, interspecific competition, intraspecific competition

A word for where an organism lives or its role

+ More than 6 letters

→ habitat, territory, microhabitat, ecosystem

A word from the topic of food webs and energy

+ More than 8 letters

→ trophic level, food chain, primary consumer, secondary consumer, ten percent rule, apex predator

Something a decomposer breaks down or releases

+ Starts with a consonant

→ dead matter, detritus, nitrate, carbon dioxide, CO₂, humus, nutrients

A biotic factor

+ A 10-letter answer

→ competitor, vegetation

A consequence of pollution in water

+ Includes the letter P

→ eutrophication, oxygen depletion

A nutrient cycle or part of one

+ Includes the letter T

→ nitrogen cycle, water cycle, nitrogen fixation, decomposition, evaporation, photosynthesis

A way organisms compete or defend resources

+ Includes the letter A

→ displays, chemical signals, intraspecific competition

A nutrient cycle or part of one

+ A 11-letter answer

→ carbon cycle, evaporation

A consequence of pollution in water

+ Ends in -sis, -tion, or -sion

→ eutrophication, oxygen depletion, bioaccumulation, biomagnification

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 2 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

A word from the topic of food webs and energy

+ Includes the letter H

→ trophic level, food chain

A biome

+ Includes the letter I

→ rainforest, taiga

A word from the topic of biodiversity

+ A multi-word answer

→ species richness, keystone species, endangered species, invasive species, endemic species, geneti...

Something a decomposer breaks down or releases

+ Ends in the letter E

→ nitrate, carbon dioxide

A level of ecological organisation

+ A 9-letter answer

→ community, ecosystem, biosphere

A biotic factor

+ Fewer than 5 letters

→ prey, food

A human impact on ecosystems

+ Includes the letter L

→ pollution, climate change

A word for where an organism lives or its role

+ A 9-letter answer

→ territory, ecosystem

A consequence of pollution in water

+ A 8-letter answer

→ fish kill, dead zone

A factor that limits population growth

+ A 5-letter answer

→ space, water

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 3 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

A word from the topic of biodiversity

+ Includes the letter O

→ keystone species, habitat fragmentation

A biome

+ A 6-letter answer

→ desert, tundra

A type of species interaction

+ Starts with a consonant

→ mutualism, parasitism, commensalism, predation, competition, herbivory, symbiosis

A word from the topic of biodiversity

+ Ends in the letter S

→ species richness, keystone species, endangered species, invasive species, endemic species

A human impact on ecosystems

+ Includes the letter P

→ pollution, eutrophication, invasive species

A way organisms compete or defend resources

+ Includes the letter T

→ territory, fighting, interspecific competition, intraspecific competition

A greenhouse gas

+ More than 6 letters

→ carbon dioxide, methane, water vapour, nitrous oxide

A feeding role in an ecosystem

+ Includes the letter D

→ producer, decomposer, detritivore, apex predator

A feeding role in an ecosystem

+ Includes the letter U

→ producer, consumer

A type of species interaction

+ Includes the letter R

→ parasitism, predation, herbivory

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 4 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

A factor that limits population growth

+ A 7-letter answer

→ disease, climate

A word from the topic of food webs and energy

+ A 12-letter answer

→ trophic level, apex predator

An abiotic factor

+ A 4-letter answer

→ soil, wind

A word from the topic of population growth

+ Includes the letter A

→ carrying capacity, exponential growth, limiting factor, birth rate, death rate, population density

A word for where an organism lives or its role

+ A 5-letter answer

→ niche, range

A biotic factor

+ A 4-letter answer

→ prey, food

A biome

+ A 7-letter answer

→ savanna, wetland

Something a decomposer breaks down or releases

+ Ends in the letter S

→ detritus, humus, nutrients

A feeding role in an ecosystem

+ A single word

→ producer, consumer, decomposer, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, detritivore, scavenger

A nutrient cycle or part of one

+ Includes the letter C

→ carbon cycle, nitrogen cycle, water cycle, phosphorus cycle, decomposition

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 5 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

Something that happens during succession

+ Includes the letter M

→ soil formation, climax community, species replacement

A greenhouse gas

+ Fewer than 7 letters

→ CO₂, ozone

A factor that limits population growth

+ Fewer than 7 letters

→ space, water

A level of ecological organisation

+ Starts with a vowel

→ organism, ecosystem

A greenhouse gas

+ More than 10 letters

→ carbon dioxide, water vapour, nitrous oxide

A type of species interaction

+ Includes the letter N

→ commensalism, predation, competition

A word from the topic of population growth

+ Exactly two words

→ carrying capacity, exponential growth, logistic growth, limiting factor, birth rate, death rate, ...

An abiotic factor

+ Fewer than 5 letters

→ soil, pH, wind

An abiotic factor

+ Includes the letter S

→ sunlight, soil, salinity

A human impact on ecosystems

+ Starts with a vowel

→ overfishing, urbanisation, eutrophication, invasive species

ECOLOGY

Answer key — page 6 of 6 — answers satisfy BOTH the clue and the format

Something that happens during succession

+ Includes the letter E

→ pioneer species, species replacement, increased biodiversity

Something that happens during succession

+ Ends in the letter N

→ colonisation, soil formation

A word from the topic of population growth

+ Includes the letter G

→ carrying capacity, exponential growth, logistic growth, limiting factor

A level of ecological organisation

+ Includes the letter U

→ population, community