

Food Chains and Webs

◆ Food Chain – A food chain is the series of organisms showing feeding relationships. A food chain almost always begins with a green plant (producer) which is eaten by an animal (consumer). The arrow means ‘is eaten by’, and shows the flow of matter and energy along the food chain. There are no decomposers in a food chain.

◆ Example of a Food Chain

Grass(Producer) → Grasshopper(1st order Consumer) → Kookaburra(2nd order Consumer)

Questions

1. (a) GRASS → SHEEP → HUMAN
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(b) PHYTOPLANKTON → PRAWN → TUNA
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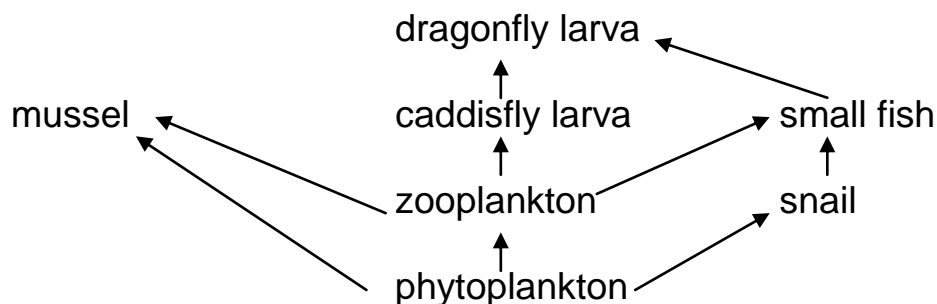
In the food chains above, identify the producer, the primary consumer and the secondary consumer.

2. Write a food chain in each of the following habitats:

(a) desert _____

(b) rainforest _____

(c) coral reef _____



3. (a) From the food web above, write down 2 different food chains: _____

(b) Name the producer _____

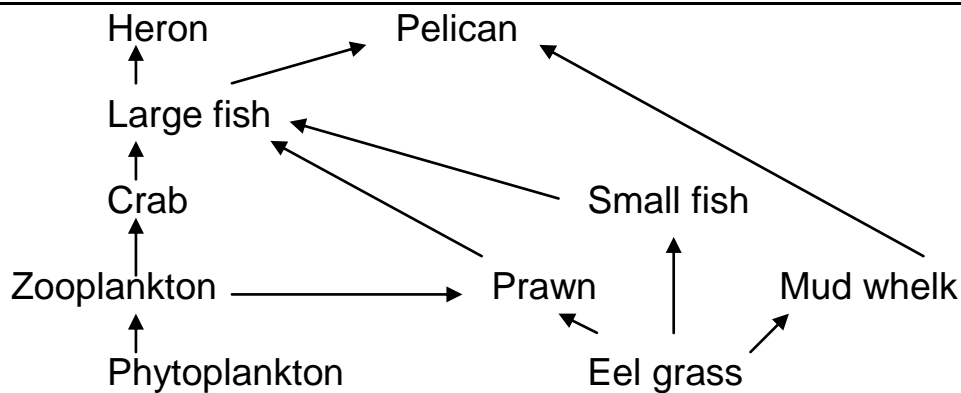
(c) Name the primary consumers _____

(d) Name the secondary consumers _____

(e) Name the tertiary consumer _____

(f) Are any organisms in more than one trophic level? If so, which ones and in which trophic levels are they? _____

(g) Explain how the organisms would be affected if the snail population died out. _____



4. (a) From the food web above, write down 2 different food chains: _____

(b) Name the producer _____

(c) Name the primary consumers _____

(d) Name the secondary consumers _____

(e) Name the tertiary consumer _____

(f) Are any organisms in more than one trophic level? If so, which ones and in which trophic levels are they? _____

(g) What would happen to the food web if a marina being built destroyed the eel grass area? _____

(h) What effect would overfishing of crabs, both male and female, have on the other organisms? _____

(I) Boat anti-fouling paint contains heavy lead which biologically accumulates along a food chain in the same way as does mercury and DDT. Which organism would suffer the greatest effect if large quantities of anti-fouling paint were released into the waterways? Explain. _____
