

Ecosystems Homework 2 Answers

1) Describe the global distribution of tropical rainforests (2)

Tropical rainforests are found around the equator [1 mark], in areas such as central America / northeast South America / central Africa / south east Asia [1 mark].

2) Describe the global distribution of hot deserts (2)

Hot deserts are found between approximately 15° and 30° north and south of the equator [1 mark], in areas such as north Africa / southwest USA / Australia [1 mark].

3) Which statement best describes the characteristics of temperate deciduous forests?

B) The trees drop their leaves in the winter to cope with the colder weather

Deciduous forests are found mainly in the mid latitudes, where there are four distinct seasons. Summers are warm and winters are colder. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in winter to cope with the colder weather.

4) Fill in the gaps

Tundra is found at **high** [1 mark] latitudes, including areas such as **northern Canada** [1 mark] / **northern Russia** [1 mark] / **the coast of Greenland** [1 mark] / **northern Europe** [1 mark]. The **cold** [1 mark] winters, and **low** [1 mark] rainfall mean that vegetation is sparse.

5) Explain and describe the features of a small-scale ecosystem in the UK (4)

This question is level marked. How to grade your answer:

Level 0: There is no relevant information. [0 marks]

Level 1: There is a basic description of some parts of the nutrient cycle. [1-2 marks]

Level 2: There is a clear explanation of the complete nutrient cycle. [3-4 marks]