

Coral Reef Ecology – Exam Questions

1. Corals are classified as Cnidarians. Which of the following are also found in this phylum?
 - A. Rocks & Minerals
 - B. Sea Anemones and Jellyfish**
 - C. Sponges
 - D. Trees and Bushes
 - E. Crabs and Lobsters

2. Corals secrete calcium carbonate (_____) and respire carbon dioxide (_____).
 - A. CaCO_3 ; CO_2
 - B. CO_2 ; CaCO_3
 - C. Ca_3CO_2 ; C_2O
 - D. CaCO_3 ; CO_2**
 - E. CalcCarb; CarbDiox

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the seven common types of coral morphologies?
 - A. Massive
 - B. Branching
 - C. Polyp**
 - D. Foliaceous
 - E. Encrusting

4. Corals use sunlight to perform photosynthesis, which is why they are classified in the Kingdom Plantae.
 - A. True
 - B. False**

5. Which of these scientists first proposed the subsidence theory of coral reef formation?
 - A. Aspergillus Syndowii
 - B. F.B. Atoll
 - C. Charles Darwin**
 - D. Tom Garrison
 - E. None of the above

6. Why are corals important?
 - A. Prevent coastal erosion and mitigate hurricane damage
 - B. Provide essential habitats for other organisms
 - C. Their skeletons provide a long-term record of the surrounding environment.
 - D. Economic importance (fishing, tourism, etc.).
 - E. All of the above**

7. In general, coral diseases are diagnosed _____ based on the _____ of the disease, and then named according to the _____ that disease.
- A. microscopically; symptoms; scientist who first discovered
 - B. visually; signs; color and shape of
 - C. by touch; texture; pathogen that caused
 - D. visually; symptoms; pathogen that caused
8. Spur and groove formations develop as an adaptation to _____.
- A. Increased tourism
 - B. Volcanic subsidence
 - C. dynamite fishing
 - D. High wave energy and currents
 - E. Country line dancing
9. With regard to Coral Bleaching, which of the following is NOT true.
- A. Coral bleaching is caused by increased thermal and environmental stress.
 - B. Corals expel the zooxanthellae from their tissue and go into a hibernative state
 - C. The two worst bleaching events on record occurred in 1998 and 2005
 - D. Coral bleaching is not always lethal
 - E. Too much direct sunlight has caused the color to fade from the tissues of the corals.
10. Which of the following does NOT describe the Flower Garden Banks?
- A. They're a National Marine Sanctuary
 - B. They're located in the Gulf of Mexico
 - C. Bleaching, Diseases, and other stressors have pushed them to the point of collapse
 - D. 19,000 years ago they were a fringing reef along North American coast
 - E. They're one of the healthiest reefs in the Caribbean

BONUS

11. Which of the following is the Genus for the type of coral Jenny studies?
(hint: it's the coral that she mentioned throughout her lecture)
- A. *Acropora*
 - B. *Aspergillois*
 - C. *Anthozoa*
 - D. *Anemonea*
 - E. *Anoxia*