

NEW TASK - Read the text carefully and click the right answer (or answers) in each question:

All the parts of an ecosystem must work together to reach a balance that allows each of the members of the system to thrive.

- *For example, in a **BALANCED ECOSYSTEM** predators keep the population of rabbits from growing too large because when there are too many rabbits they eat too many plants. If rabbits ate too many plants, the plants would not be able to grow back fast enough and other animals that need the plants would not have enough to eat. Without enough plants the animals that depend on them for food would start to die and the soil begins to erode, or wash away, which makes it harder for new plants to grow in the future.*
- ***ECOSYSTEMS** can become **IMBALANCED** when something disrupts their normal workings. Anything from bad weather to diseases to an erupting volcano can disturb an ecosystem. Human activity can also damage the balance of natural ecosystems. By cutting down trees and clearing forests, building roads and cities, killing some animals, introducing new ones or creating pollution, it can become impossible for the plants and animals in an ecosystem to grow and thrive.*

In most cases, ecosystems can recover and regain a healthy balance if given enough time and an opportunity to rest from whatever disturbed them in the first place.

1. To reach a balance that allows each of the members of the system to thrive:

- a) All parts of the biotope must work together.
- b) Biotope and biocenosis must work together.
- c) All living things must work together.

2. Which situation/s correspond to a balanced ecosystem?

- a) Carnivores eat herbivores and herbivores eat plants.
- b) Ranchers kill wolves to protect their livestock.
- c) Overpopulation of mousses if hunters kill foxes.

3. Which situation/s correspond to an imbalanced ecosystem?

- a) Carnivores eat herbivores and herbivores eat plants.
- b) Ranchers kill wolves to protect their livestock.
- c) Overpopulation of mousses if hunters kill foxes.

ACTIVITY 5 (page 46). What does unbalance an ecosystem? Click correct answers.

Cutting down trees

Creating pollution

Hunt

Fire

Diseases

Building roads

Bad weather

Drink from a river

Living inside a trunk