Ecological Succession

Answer Key

1. **Answer**: D

Explanation: Disturbances can change the community by removing organisms or altering the availability of resources. They can either be natural phenomena or man-made activities. Choices A to C can all lead to primary succession.

2. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Disturbances can change communities drastically which may lead to different species colonizing the disturbed area and would again alter the community structure. The gradual replacement by a series of other species is the process known as ecological succession.

3. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Secondary succession occurs when a disturbance takes place and clears the existing community but leaves the soil intact. For example, we mentioned how chaparrals have periodic fires. Areas that are recovering from these types of disturbances show secondary succession.

4. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Although we might think of disturbances as negative, small-scale disturbances often have positive effects. Think of a tree in a forest being uprooted, it will open space for small seedlings or allow light to reach the forest floor in that area.

5. **Answer:** A

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Explanation: This is true that's why understanding the effects of disturbance in communities is especially important in the present because people are more widespread and can become significant agents of disturbances.