

Exercise Questions

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1. What is a habitat?**Solution:**

The place where organisms live is called the habitat. Habitat means a dwelling place (a home). The habitat provides food, water, air, shelter and other needs to organisms.

2. How is a cactus adapted to survive in a desert?**Solution:**

Adaptations of a cactus are as follows:

- The leaf is replaced by the spine to reduce transpiration
- Stems carry out photosynthesis
- A thick waxy layer surrounds the leaf to retain water
- The roots of a cactus are deeply rooted inside the soil to absorb water

3. Fill in the blanks

- (a) The presence of specific features, which enable a plant or an animal to live in a particular habitat, is called ———.
- (b) The habitats of the plants and animals that live on land are called ——— habitat.
- (c) The habitats of plants and animals that live in water are called ———habitats.
- (d) Soil, water and air are the ——— factors of a habitat.
- (e) Changes in our surroundings that make us respond to them are called ———.

Solution:

- (a) The presence of specific features, which enable a plant or an animal to live in a particular habitat, is called **adaptation**.
- (b) The habitats of the plants and animals that live on land are called **terrestrial** habitats.
- (c) The habitats of plants and animals that live in water are called **aquatic** habitats.
- (d) Soil, water and air are the **abiotic** factors of a habitat.
- (e) Changes in our surroundings that make us respond to them are called **stimuli**.

4. Which of the things in the following list are nonliving?

Plough, mushroom, sewing machine, radio, boat, water hyacinth, earthworm

Solution:

Plough, sewing machine, radio and boat are nonliving things

5. Give an example of a nonliving thing which shows any two characteristics of living things.

Solution:

Example: car

Features

- It can move like living beings
- It needs energy to do work

6. Which of the nonliving things listed below were once part of a living thing?

Butter, Leather, soil, wool, electric bulb, cooking oil, salt, apple, rubber

Solution:

Butter, Leather, wool, cooking oil, apple and rubber were once part of a living thing.

7. List the common characteristics of living things.

Solution:

Common characteristics of living things are as follows:

- i) Respiration
- ii) Food intake
- iii) Respond to stimuli
- iv) Excretion
- v) Movement
- vi) Reproduction
- vii) Grow and die

8. Explain why speed is important for survival in the grasslands for animals that live there. (Hint: There are few trees or places for animals to hide in grassland habitats.)

Solution:

Speed is important for survival in the grasslands for animals to avoid predation from their predators. For example, a tiger eats deer; to survive, the deer has to run faster than the tiger.