

Name _____

The Essential Players: Producers, Consumers, and Decomposers

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Discuss the interdependence of producers, consumers, and decomposers in maintaining ecosystem balance, providing examples of their interactions.
2. Explore the impact of human activities on the populations of producers, consumers, and decomposers in ecosystems, considering potential consequences for ecosystem health and biodiversity.
3. Describe a hypothetical scenario in which the removal of decomposers from an ecosystem would disrupt nutrient cycling, explaining the potential effects on other organisms within the ecosystem.
4. Compare and contrast the energy flow through different trophic levels in ecosystems, discussing the efficiency of energy transfer and the implications for ecosystem stability.

