

- **Humidity:**
in dry air conditions, pop. ~~etc~~ of species adapted to humidity greater than pop. of species w/out adaptations
* Dry air = greater conc. grad of water = more water lost by transpiration.

3.4.1 BIOL

Within a habitat a species occupies a niche governed by adaptation to both biotic (e.g. competition) and abiotic conditions (eg temperature).

Adaptation → A feature that members of a species have that increases their chance of survival and reproduction. (3 types...)

- Physiological
processes inside the body
- Behavioural
How an organism acts
- Anatomical
structural features of body

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3.4.1 BIOL

Adaptations to abiotic conditions

- Otters have webbed paws so can walk AND swim. Higher chance of finding food = can hunt on land/in water

• Whales have blubber for warmth. They can therefore live in places which might be colder but has plenty of food.

- Brown bears hibernate, which lowers metabolism. Conserves energy in the cold.

Adaptations to biotic conditions

- Chimpanzees use twigs to fish termites out of mounds = access to another food source

- Scorpions dance before mating: attracts mate of same species, making successful mating more likely.

- Some bacteria produce antibiotics - kills other species
↳ less competition.

3 factors to consider w/ quadrats

1) Size of quadrat

- Depends on size of organism being counted.

2) No. of sample quadrats

- More samples = more reliable

- Too many = time-consuming

- Non-fluctuating running mean = representative sample

3) Position of each quadrat within study area

- Random sampling = statistically significant results

Random sampling

Avoids bias, so data is valid.

- long tape measures @ 4 coordinates generated from calculator.
- Place quadrat at intersection of each pair of coordinates

Population size ^{can vary} ~~also varies~~ due to interactions between organisms, e.g. competition/predation.

Competition

Arises when 2 or more individuals share resource that is insufficient to fully satisfy all requirements.

Intraspecific competition → competition between members of same species

Interspecific competition → competition between members of different species

leads to competitive exclusion principle — no two species occupy same niche indefinitely w/ limited resources. one species has advantage (is better adapted to conditions at that point in time). population of this species ↑, other ↓ → complete removal (if conditions remain the same)

Examples of intraspecific competition

• limpet competing for algae (main source of food)

• oak trees: in a large population of small oak trees, some will grow larger + restrict availability of light (water/minerals) to the rest, which therefore die. pop. reduced to relatively few dominant oaks.

Availability of resources being competed for in intraspecific competition determines size of population

greater availability = ↑ pop. size.

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