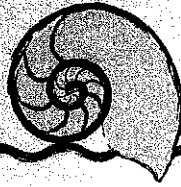


NAME _____

DATE _____

UNIT 6



Biomes

The table below lists the characteristics of the seven major biomes. Use the information in this table to answer the questions that follow.

Biome	Average yearly temperature range	Average yearly precipitation	Soil	Vegetation
Tundra	-26°C to 12°C	< 25 cm	moist, thin topsoil over permafrost; nutrient-poor; slightly acidic	mosses, lichens, dwarf woody plants
Taiga	-10°C to 14°C	35-75 cm	low in nutrients; highly acidic	needle-leafed evergreen trees
Temperate deciduous forest	6°C to 28°C	75-125 cm	moist; moderate nutrient levels	broad-leafed trees and shrubs
Temperate grassland	0°C to 25°C	25-75 cm	deep layer of topsoil; very rich in nutrients	dense, tall grasses in moist areas; short clumped grasses in drier areas
Desert	7°C to 38°C	< 25 cm	dry, often sandy; nutrient-poor	succulent plants and scattered grasses
Savanna	16°C to 34°C	75-150 cm	dry, thin topsoil; porous, low in nutrients	tall grasses, scattered trees
Tropical rain forest	20°C to 34°C	200-400 cm	moist; thin topsoil; low in nutrients	broad-leafed evergreen trees and shrubs

1. Which three biomes get the warmest?

2. Which two biomes are the driest?

3. Which biome has the least fluctuation in average yearly temperature?

Biomes (cont'd.)

4. Which biome has the greatest fluctuation in average yearly temperature?

5. What do a tundra and a tropical rain forest have in common?

6. What do a tundra and a desert have in common?

7. In which biomes does the average yearly temperature range not drop below freezing?

8. Compared to a taiga, which biome receives about twice the amount of yearly precipitation?

9. Explain why the grasses grow dense and tall in a temperate grassland.

10. What do a temperate deciduous forest and a tropical rain forest have in common so that broad-leaved trees grow in both biomes?
