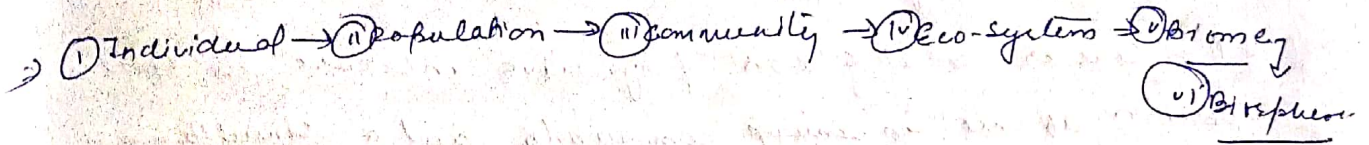


- Scientific study of reciprocal relationships between living organisms & with their environment is known as ecology.

- Environment: sum total of living & non-living components, influences & events surrounding an organisms.

- There are six levels of organisations in ecology.



I. Individual - organism having ability to act or function independently.

II. Population: Grp of organisms usually of same species occupying a defined area during a specific time.

III. Community: population of several species in a particular place or area forms a community. The characteristic pattern of the community is termed as structure which is reflected in the roles played by various population, their range the type of area they inhabit, the diversity of species in the community and the spectrum of interactions between them.

IV. Eco-Systems - "structural and functional unit of

the biosphere. It is complex set of relationships among the living resources, habitats and residuals of an area.

Each part of Ecosystem is interdependent of each other, when an Ecosystem is healthy it means that all the elements live in balance and are capable of reproducing themselves. It can be as small as single tree or as large as entire forest.

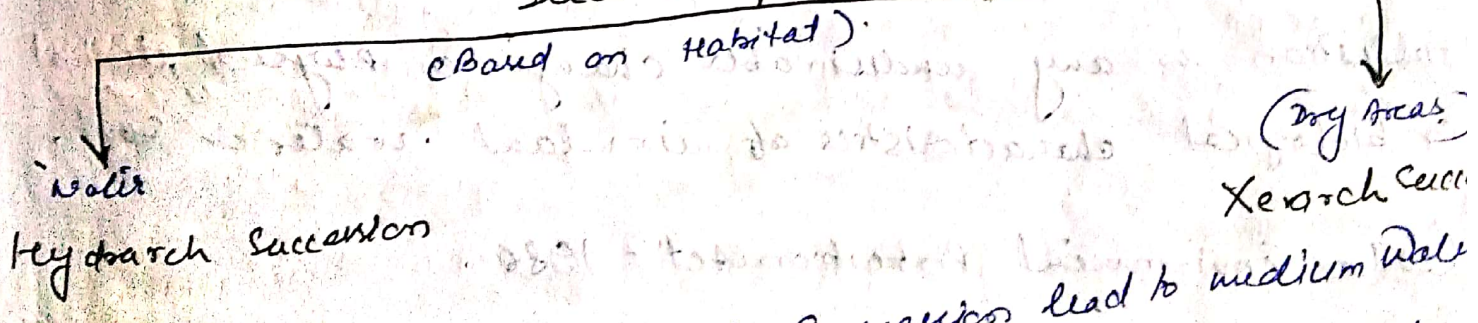
Components of Ecosystem → Abiotic → energy, rainfall, temperature, atmosphere, soil, latitude & altitude
↳ Biotic
↳ Primary producers - autotrophs, heterotrophs & phagotrophs.

Ecological Succession

Climax Community:- final community after succession that is in near equilibrium with the environment.
(The climax community remains stable as long as environment remains stable).
Ecological Succession:- The gradual and fairly predictable change in the species composition of a given area.

Sere(s):- The entire sequence of communities that successively change in a given area are called sere.
The individual transitional communities are termed as stages or seral communities.
- In the successive "Sereal" stages there is a change in the diversity of species of organisms, increase in the number of species and organisms as well as increase in the total biomass.

Succession of Plants



But both hydrarch and xerarch successions lead to medium water conditions, (mesic) neither too dry (xerich) nor too wet (hydric).

Pioneer species:- Species that invade a bare area.

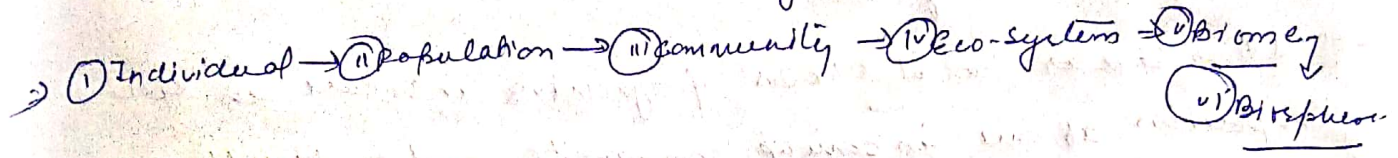
(Carbon Cycle)

71% Carbon is found dissolved in oceans, (1% Atmospherically)

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 ↳ Primary producers - autotrophs.
 ↳ Heterotrophs & phagotrophs.