

Cycles within ecosystems: practice questions

3 questions · 8 marks · mark scheme at the back

For Edexcel International GCSE Science (Double Award) 4SD0.

Name

Total / 8

1 Which process removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere? **[1 mark]**

- A. ☐ Combustion
- B. ☐ Photosynthesis
- C. ☐ Respiration
- D. ☐ Decomposition

2 Dead leaves fall to the ground and are broken down. Describe how the carbon in the leaves is returned to the atmosphere. **[3 marks]**

3 Describe how carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere and how it is returned to the atmosphere in the carbon cycle. **[4 marks]**

Mark scheme

One mark for each point unless a maximum is given. Words in brackets are not needed for the mark.

1. [1]

B B: photosynthesis uses carbon dioxide to make glucose (1)

2. [3]

- decomposers / bacteria and fungi break down the leaves (1)
- decomposers respire (1)
- releasing carbon dioxide (into the air) (1)
- allow CO₂

3. [4]

- plants / algae take in carbon dioxide (1)
- for photosynthesis (1)
- respiration (by plants, animals and decomposers) returns carbon dioxide (1)
- combustion of fuels / burning releases carbon dioxide (1)
- decomposition / decay releases carbon dioxide (1)
- Max 4