

**Chapter - 15**  
**Our Environment**

**Q. 1 Using Kulhads as disposable cups to serve tea in trains, proved to be a bad idea. Why?** **1 Mark**

Ans. Making Kulhads on large scales leads to the loss of top soil.

**Q. 2 Why is plastic not degraded by bacteria?** **1 Mark**

Ans. Plastic is not degraded by bacteria because they do not have enzymes to degrade plastic.

**Q. 3 DDT has entered food chain. Which food habit is safer- vegetarian or non-vegetarian?** **2 Marks**

Ans. Vegetarian habit is safer. Being closer to producers, less DDT will accumulate in our body.

Bio magnification leads to higher level of DDT in higher trophic levels.

**Q. 4 Aquarium requires regular cleaning whereas lakes normally do not. Why?** **2 Marks**

Ans. Normally a lake has more diverse forms of life and hence a larger number of food chains. This leads to natural cleaning. Thus, the ecosystem is more stable.

The aquarium has a very limited number of food chains and unable to sustain itself.

But, sometimes there is excessive growth of algae in lake. Then it also needs to be cleaned.

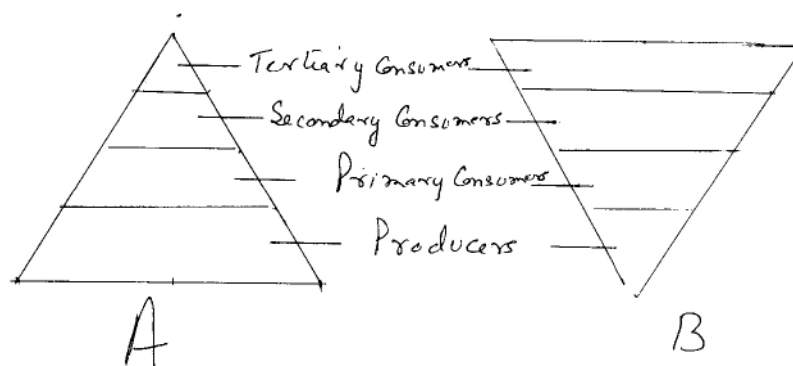
**Q. 5 How will accumulation of bio degradable waste effect our environment?** **2 Marks**

Ans. Accumulation of bio degradable waste will:

(a) not let minerals return to mineral pool.

(b) become site of pest breeding.

**Q. 6 Look at the following figures. Choose the correct one and give reason for your choice.** **3 Marks**



Ans. **Fig. "A"** is correct.

- In an ecosystem, the number of individuals at producer level is maximum. This number reduces at each successive level. Therefore, the shape is a pyramid with broader base and tapering apex.
- On an average 10% of the food changes into body mass and is available for the next level of consumers.

**Q. 7 It is the responsibility of the government to arrange for the management and disposal of waste. As an individual you have no role to play. Do you agree?**

**Support your answers with two reasons.**

**3 Marks**

Ans. I do not agree. As an individual, I also have the responsibility and can contribute in the following ways:-

- (i) Cut down waste generation.
- (ii) Make compost pit for bio degradable waste.
- (iii) Recycle non biodegradable waste.