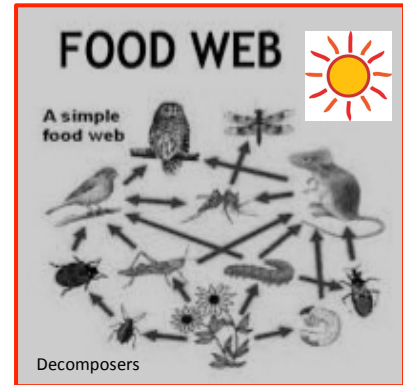
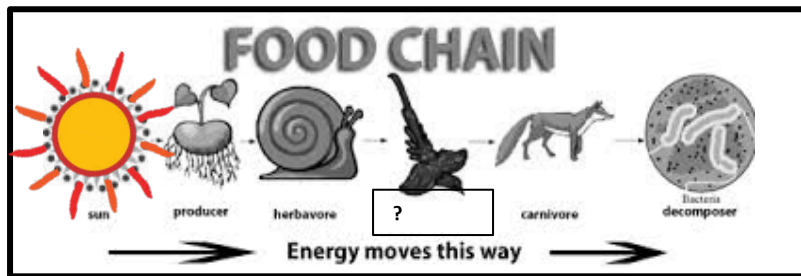


Energy Transfer in Ecosystems: Energy Pyramids

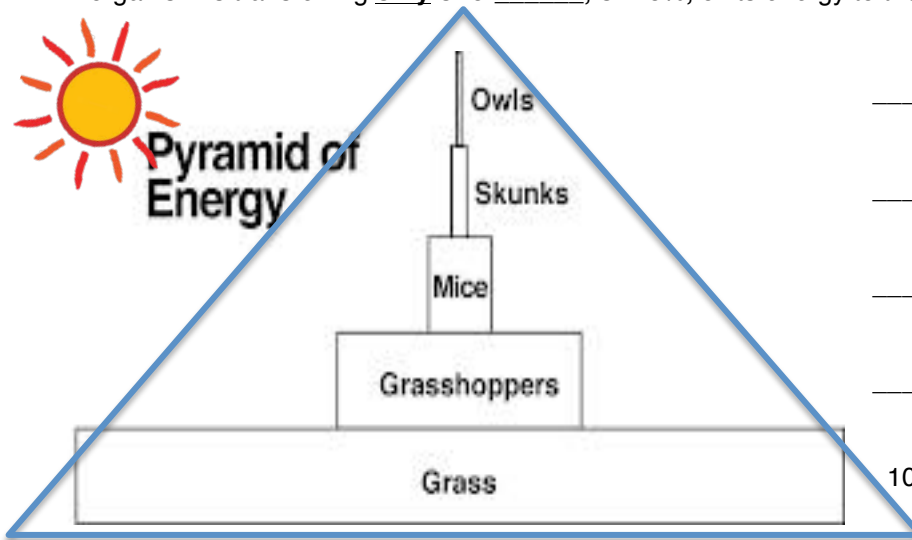
Name _____

Period _____

A. Photosynthesis explains how energy from the sun is captured by **green plants** and used to make _____. Most of this energy is used to carry on the plant's life activities. The rest of the energy is passed on as food to the next level of the **food chain** (or food web or energy pyramid).



The figures above shows energy flow in a simple food chain and a food web. At each level of the food chain, about 90% of the energy is lost, mostly as heat. The total energy passed from one level to the next is only about **one-tenth or _____%** of the energy received from the previous organism. Therefore, as you move up the food chain or food web, there is **L_____** energy available. Remember, each organism is transferring **only one-_____**, or **10%**, of its energy to the next organism.



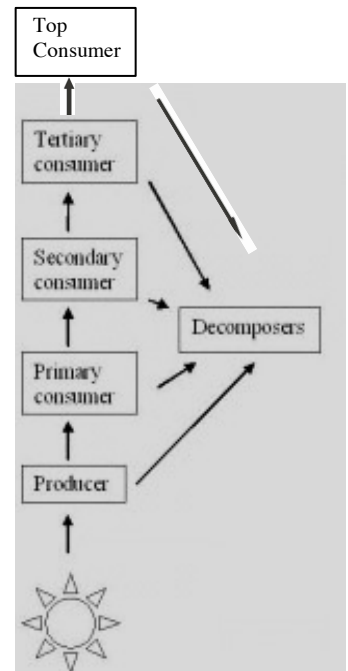
_____% = ____ml

_____% = ____ml

_____% = ____ml

_____% = ____ml

100% = 10,000 ml
(10 liters)



B. COLOR CODE:

1. Color all of the the **PRODUCERS** or their area **GREEN** in each above diagram.

C. Draw straight edge arrows to show energy transfer (Use a straight edge.):

2. Draw **arrows**→ above showing the directions of energy transfers in an **Energy Pyramid**.

3. Add a **Decompser** box and then add energy **arrows**→ to the **decomposers**.

D. Demonstrate the energy of each level as the volume of water:

4. Start with the energy of the **producers** as **100%**. Use 10,000 ml (10 liters) as 100%.

5. Figure the volume of liquid to model the amount of energy for each level. Fill in above.

6. Model the correct amount of liquid, to represent the energy at each level, by moving it to an appropriate sized container. Keep your containers lined up in order.

7. Have your liquid amounts checked.

E. Label. DO NOT USE ARROWS because arrows show energy transfer.

Use a **straight edge** for **ALL** lines or rectangles.

8. Use these "trophic" terms to label the above energy pyramid. (Do not use arrows).

1) Autotroph

3) Herbivore

6) Producer

9) Primary

2) Heterotroph

4) Carnivore

7) Consumer

10) Secondary

5) Omnivore

8) Decomposer

11) Tertiary

