

TOPIC 1.2

Terrestrial Biomes

Required Course Content

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING

ERT-1

Ecosystems are the result of biotic and abiotic interactions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

ERT-1.B

Describe the global distribution and principal environmental aspects of terrestrial biomes.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

ERT-1.B.1

A biome contains characteristic communities of plants and animals that result from, and are adapted to, its climate.

ERT-1.B.2

Major terrestrial biomes include taiga, temperate rainforests, temperate seasonal forests, tropical rainforests, shrubland, temperate grassland, savanna, desert, and tundra.

ERT-1.B.3

The global distribution of nonmineral terrestrial natural resources, such as water and trees for lumber, varies because of some combination of climate, geography, latitude and altitude, nutrient availability, and soil.

ERT-1.B.4

The worldwide distribution of biomes is dynamic; the distribution has changed in the past and may again shift as a result of global climate changes.

SUGGESTED SKILL

 *Concept Explanation*

1.B

Explain environmental concepts and processes.



AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- Classroom Resource > [AP Environmental Science Teacher's Guide](#)
- External Resource > [Environmental Literacy Council's AP Environmental Science Course Material](#)
- The Exam > [Student Performance Q&A 2016, Q1](#)
- The Exam > [Samples and Commentary 2016, Q1](#)