

How Do Environmental Changes Affect Organisms?

- 1 Hurricanes that strike Florida are considered natural disasters. What type of environmental change do hurricanes cause?
- (A) slow change
 - (B) rapid change
 - (C) both rapid change and slow change
 - (D) no environmental change
- 2 Although it is now extinct, the Carolina parakeet was last seen in Florida in 1920. Back then, large areas of habitat were logged and converted to agricultural fields. Honeybees evicted the parakeets from hollow trees where they nested. Many parakeets were shot for food and their feathers. In addition, farmers shot the parakeets to keep them from eating their seeds. What can you conclude from these observations about why the Carolina parakeet became extinct?
- (F) Extinction may be the result of several factors.
 - (G) Extinction is always the result of human activity.
 - (H) Extinction occurs when an organism adapts to changes in its environment.
 - (I) Extinction can be reversed if conservation measures are immediately put in place.
- 3 Carrotwood is a fast-growing landscape tree native to Australia. It became popular throughout southern Florida in the late 1970s. Today, this tree is found in a variety of habitats. It crowds out native plants. Which statement describes the carrotwood tree in Florida?
- (A) It is a native tree.
 - (B) It is a migrant tree.
 - (C) It is an invasive tree.
 - (D) It is a predatory tree.
- 4 By the mid-1980s, Florida had lost approximately 46% of its wetlands. Most of the wetlands were replaced by homes, businesses, highways, and other construction. Which answer describes the **main** reason for the loss of these wetlands?
- (F) extinctions
 - (G) human activity
 - (H) destruction by hurricanes
 - (I) rising sea level
- 5 In 2008, the water in canals along Alligator Alley in Florida spilled over banks and onto roads. Which of these answers describes the **most likely** cause of this change in the Florida Everglades?
- (A) an invasive organism
 - (B) a change in temperature
 - (C) a very dry summer season
 - (D) large amounts of rain