



Ecosystems and Ecology

CURRENT EVENT DEFENSE

Instructions: Find an environmental news event from a specific region within the past year. It could be a story about weather, fires, climate, or natural catastrophe that had an impact on the inhabitants of effected ecosystems. Write a paper using Ecology Academic Language with evidence statements to describe how the event influenced the stability and health of the ecosystem(s) as well as a prediction of what the ecological future may look like for the communities within it.

- Remember, you are demonstrating your proficiency with using Ecology terms and concepts, so include details!
- Underline or Bold Print each Academic Term used in your defense report.

Grading Rubric – Review the following information before writing your Written Defense

Criteria	4	3	2	1	0
Academic Language	Includes 8+ relevant Ecology terms	Includes 5-7 relevant Ecology terms	Includes 3-4 relevant Ecology terms	Includes 1-2 relevant Ecology terms	No Evidence
Evidence Statements	Accurately describes ALL Ecology terms used	Accurately describes MOST Ecology terms used	Accurately describes SOME Ecology terms used	Accurately describes MINIMAL Ecology terms used	No Evidence
Defense Demonstrates Proficiency	Definitely	Yes	Almost	Somewhat	No Evidence