

# Science

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(Chapter 15)(Our Environment)  
Class - 10

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## Question 1:

What are trophic levels? Give an example of a food chain and state the different trophic levels in it.

### Answer 1:

The various steps in food chain at which transfer of food energy takes place are called trophic levels.

Example: Food chain operating in a grassland.

Grass → Insects → Frogs → Snakes

1. Grass → 1<sup>st</sup> trophic level
2. Insects → 2<sup>nd</sup> trophic level
3. Frogs → 3<sup>rd</sup> trophic level
4. Birds → 4<sup>th</sup> trophic level

## Question 2:

What is the role of decomposers in the ecosystem?

### Answer 2:

Decomposers are microorganisms that act on dead and decaying bodies of producers and consumers and break them into simple inorganic compounds. They absorb some of the substances and release the rest into the environment to be recycled and to be used in future by producers. Thus, decomposers have a key role in the cycling of material in the biosphere and provide the raw materials to the producers. So in this way they make the soil fertile.