Text 01

The food chain is the order in which animals and plants eat each other in order to survive. Every living creature needs to eat other creatures below it. Every ecosystem has a different food chain, depending on which animals and plants live there.

For example, grass produces its own food from sunlight. A rabbit eats the grass. A fox eats the rabbit. When the fox dies, bacteria break down its body, returning it to the soil where it provides nutrients for plants like grass.

Organisms in food chains are grouped into categories called trophic levels. These levels are divided into producers (first trophic level), consumers (second, third, and fourth trophic levels), and decomposers.

Producers, also known as autotrophs, make their own food. They make up the first level of every food chain. Autotrophs are usually plants or one-celled organisms. Nearly all autotrophs use a process called photosynthesis to create "food" (a nutrient called glucose) from sunlight, carbon dioxide, and water. Plants are the most familiar type of autotroph, but there are many other kinds. Algae, whose larger forms are known as seaweed, are autotrophic. Phytoplankton, tiny organisms that live in the ocean, are also autotrophs.

The second trophic level consists of organisms that eat the producers. These are called primary consumers, or herbivores. Deer, turtles, and many types of birds are herbivores. Secondary consumers eat the herbivores. Tertiary consumers eat the secondary consumers. There may be more levels of consumers before a chain finally reaches its top predator. Top predators, also called apex predators, eat other consumers.

Detritivores and decomposers are the final part of food chains. Detritivores are organisms that eat nonliving plant and animal remains. They turn them into small

parts and enrich soil so that other plants can grow better. The nutrients of dead animals and plants are converted back to the soil so that plants can use them again. The balance of plants and animals within a food chain is determined by nature. For example, if there are too many zebras in a tropical habitat many of them will die because they cannot get enough food to feed on. This also means that there is less food for predators, like lions, to eat. And when there are fewer lions the zebra population will grow again.

I- PART ONE FROM THE TEXT

1- Give a title of the text.

2- What is the food chain?

3- Schematize from the text a food chain.

4- What are the trophic levels?

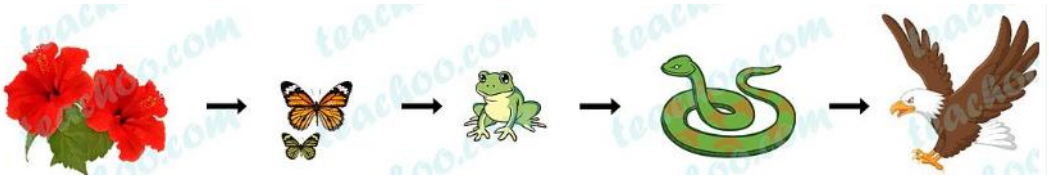
5- Give an example for each level.

6- Give the definition of the terms below:

- Producers
- Photosynthesis
- Herbivores
- Consumers
- Carnivores
- Detritivores

II- PART TWO

1- Complete the food chains below:



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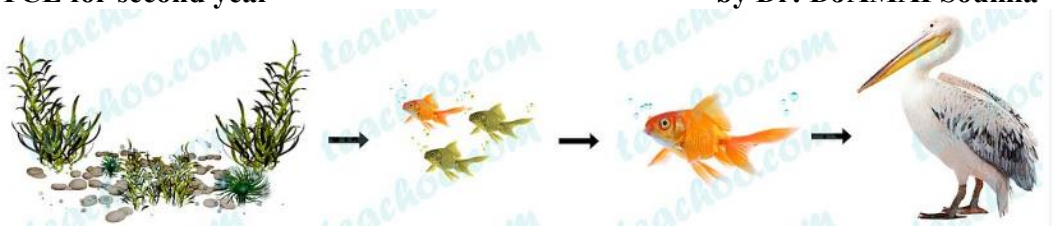

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2- Choose the best answer:

1. Considered as trophic level 1

- Primary Producers
- Primary Consumers
- Decomposers

2. Trophic level occupied by autotrophs

- Primary Producers
- Primary Consumers
- Decomposers

3. Trophic level occupied by detritivores

- Producers
- Consumers
- Decomposers

4. A primary consumer

- Tree
- Panda
- Lion

5. Consumers with a diet that typically consists of both plant and animal materials

- Herbivores
- Carnivores
- Omnivores