**KEY WORD LIST**

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| Ecosystem | A community of living things (plants, animals, and microorganisms) interacting with each other and their non-living environment (like soil, air, and water). |
| Biodiversity | A measure of the variety of different living things (species) found in a specific area or habitat. |
| Interdependence | The way different living organisms in an ecosystem rely on each other for things like food, shelter, and pollination. If one species is affected, it causes a 'knock-on' effect on others. |
| Ecosystem Service | The free benefits and life-sustaining resources that healthy nature provides to humans, such as clean air, fresh water, and pollination for our crops. |
| Abiotic | Non-living components of an ecosystem like a river |
| Biotic | Living components of an ecosystem like plants |
| Agriculture intensification | Farming practices designed to produce the maximum amount of food possible using heavy machinery, chemicals, and large amounts of land. |
| Invasive species | An animal or plant that is brought into a new area where it does not naturally belong. It can take over space and out-compete native species for resources. |

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| Grassland | A large, open area of land covered mostly with grasses, featuring very few trees, and home to grazing animals and diverse insects. |
| Monocultures | The agricultural practice of growing just one single type of crop (like only wheat or only corn) over a very large area of land. |
| **Fertiliser** | Natural or chemical substances added to soil to provide plants with extra nutrients (like nitrogen) so they grow bigger and faster. |
| **Pesticides** | Chemicals sprayed on crops to kill insects, weeds, or fungi that might damage the plants and reduce food production. |
| **Rewilding** | A conservation approach focused on letting damaged ecosystems naturally repair themselves, often by reintroducing native animals and plants without constant human management. |
| **Regenerative Grazing** | A method of farming livestock (like cows or sheep) where animals are frequently moved between smaller areas of pasture to let the grass recover and improve soil health. |
| **Eutrophication** | When excess fertilisers wash off farmland and into lakes or rivers. This causes rapid algae growth that blocks out light and takes oxygen from the water, killing fish and other aquatic life. |

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| **Food security** | Having reliable and affordable access to enough safe, nutritious food to support a population. |
| **Non-target Toxicity** | Unintended harmful effects that a chemical or drug inflicts on organisms other than the intended target |