
Question 25 (5 marks)

What is the relationship between dissolved oxygen and biochemical oxygen demand and why is it important to monitor both in natural ways?

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Dissolved oxygen refers to the amount of oxygen in the water. This amount ~~depends~~ can change depending on the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD). BOD is the amount of oxygen needed by aerobic aquatic organisms to break down organic matter such as algal blooms. This decomposition ~~uses oxygen~~ decreases oxygen levels in the water. If oxygen levels are too low, aquatic organisms cannot survive and the water can become stagnant. Thus it is important to monitor these two levels ~~as~~ in order to have acceptable levels of oxygen for aquatic life and drinking water.

DO \rightarrow amount O_2 in water.

BOD \rightarrow amount needed by aqul - to bral