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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/126/2021_2022_GMAT_E8_80_83_E8_AF_95_c89_126851.htm Passage 41Neotropical coastal mangrove forests are usually “ zonal, ” with certain mangrove species foundpredominantly in the seaward portion of the habitat and other mangrove species on the morelandward portions of the coast. The earliest research on mangrove forests produced descriptions ofspecies distribution from shore to land, without exploring the causes of the distributions.The idea that zonation is caused by plant succession was first expressed by J. H. Davis in a studyof Florida mangrove forests. According to Davis ’ scheme, the shoreline is being extended in aseaward direction because of the “ land-building ” role of mangroves, which, by trapping sedimentsover time, extend the shore. As a habitat gradually becomes more inland as the shore extends, the “ land-building ” species are replaced. This continuous process of accretion and succession wouldbe interrupted only by hurricanes or storm flushings.Recently the universal application of Davis ’ s succession paradigm has been challenged. It appearsthat in areas where weak currents and weak tidal energies allow the accumulation of sediments,mangroves will follow land formation and accelerate the rate of soil accretion. succession willproceed according to Davis ’ s scheme. But on stable coastlines, the distribution of mangrovespecies results in other patterns of zonation. “ land building ” does not occur.To find a principle that explains the various distribution

patterns, several researchers have lookedto salinity and its effects on mangrove. While mangroves can develop in fresh water, they can alsothrive in salinities as high as 2.5 times that of seawater. However, those mangrove species found infreshwater habitats do well only in the absence of competition, thus suggesting that salinitytolerance is a critical factor in competitive success among mangrove species. Research suggeststhat mangroves will normally dominate highly saline regions, although not because they requiresalt. Rather, they are metabolically efficient (and hence grow well) in portions of an environmentwhose high salinity excludes plants adapted to lower salinities. Tides create different degrees ofsalinity along a coastline. The characteristic mangrove species of each zone should exhibit ahigher metabolic efficiency at that salinity than will any potential invader, including other speciesof mangrove. 253. The primary of the purpose of the passage is to(A) refute the idea that the zonation exhibited in mangrove forests is caused by adaption to salinity(B) describe the pattern of zonation typically found in Florida mangrove forests(C) argue that Davis ’ succession paradigm cannot be successfully applied to Florida mangrove forests(D) discuss hypotheses that attempt to explain the zonation of coastal mangrove forests (D)(E) establish that plants that do well in saline forest environments requre salt to achieve maximum metabolic efficiency 254. According to the passage, the earliest research on mangrove forest produced which of thefollowing?(A) Data that implied random patterns of mangrove species distribution(B) Descriptions of species distribtutions suggesting zonation(C) Descriptions of the

development of mangrove forests over time(D) Reclassification of species formerly thought to be identical (B)(E) Data that confirmed the “ land-building ” role of mangroves 255. It can be inferred from the passage that Davis ’ paradigm does NOT apply to which of thefollowing?(A) The shoreline of Florida mangrove forests first studies by Davis(B) A shoreline in an area with weak currents(C) A shoreline in an area with weak idal energy(D) A shoreline extended by “ land-building ” species of mangrove (E)(E) A shoreline in which few sediments can accumulate 256. Information in the passage indicates that the author would most probably regard which offollowing statements as INCORRECT?(A) Coastal mangrove forests are usually zonal.(B) Hurricanes interrupt the process of accretion and succession that extends existing shorelines.(C) Species of plants that thrive in a saline habitat require salt to flourish.(D) Plants with the highest metabolic efficiency in a given habitat tend to exclude other plants from that habitat. (C)(E) Shoreline in areas with weak currents and trides are more likely to be extended through the porocess of accumulation of sediment than are shorleines with strong currents and tides. 