***Ecology***

***1st definition***

***The classical Haeckelian definition emphasizes both the living and the non-living components of the natural world. However, as a reflection of its vintage, it emphasizes that organisms are the relevant manifestation of the biotic world.***

***2nd definition***

***Odum (1971) began with the Haeckelian definition, but his desire to establish a new kind of ecology -- ecosystem ecology -- led him further from that cornerstone than most.***

***He provided several statements of the scope of ecology, including the difficult-to-interpret statement that ecology was simply environmental biology. Truest to his brand of ecosystem thinking was his definition of ecology as the study of the structure and function of nature.***

***Although Odum's extreme reliance on emergent properties and resuscitation of superorganismic thinking have proven problematic to many ecologists, his loosening of the bonds of Haeckel's focus on the organism is useful.***