

BIO 208 DICHOTOMOUS KEY

- 1a Plant found growing up in trees (2)
- 1b Plant otherwise (3)

- 2a Leaves thick and leathery; a parasite on trees: *Phoradendron tomentosum* or **Mistletoe**
- 2b Leaves thin and silvery, an epiphyte on trees: *Tillandsia recurvata* or **Ball Moss**

- 3a Leaves minute, scalelike: *Juniperus ashei* or **Ashe Juniper**
- 3b Leaves otherwise (4)

- 4a Plant spiny with fleshy, green segmented stems (5)
- 4b Plant otherwise (6)

- 5a Stem segments rounded in cross section: *Opuntia leptocaulis* or **Pencil Cactus**
- 5b Stem segments flattened in cross section: *Opuntia lindheimeri* or **Texas Prickly Pear**

- 6a Leaves with parallel veins running from the base to the tip (7)
- 6b Leaf veins not parallel, branching from a midrib or main veins (10)

- 7a A grass (8)
- 7b Not a grass (9)

- 8a A large grass with leaves up to 2 feet in length: *Arundo donax* or **Giant Reed**
- 8b A mid-sized, bunch grass with amber colored culms: *Schizachyrium scoparium* or **Little Bluestem**

- 9a Leaves arising from the ground, twisted: *Yucca rupicola* or **Twisted-leaf Yucca**
- 9b Leaves forming a clump on the ground, resembles a grass: *Nolina lindheimeriana* or **Devil's Shoestring**

- 10a Leaves compound, the blades divided into leaflets (11)
- 10b Leaves simple, blade in one piece, not divided into leaflets (14)

- 11a Leaves trifoliolate, the blades divided into three leaflets (12)
- 11b Leaves not trifoliolate (13)

- 12a Leaflets stiff, spine tipped: *Berberis trifoliolata* or **Agarito**
- 12b Terminal leaflet 3-lobed, tapering to a wedge-shaped base: *Rhus aromatica* or **Fragrant Sumac**

- 13a Leaves once compound, the axis unbranched: *Rhus virens* or **Evergreen Sumac**
- 13b Leaves twice compound, the main axis branched into leaflet-bearing branches: *Prosopis glandulosa* or **Honey Mesquite**

- 14a Leaves alternately arranged (15)
- 14b Leaves opposite, dark green and glossy: *Ligustrum japonicum* or **Japanese Privet**

- 15a Shrub (16)
- 15b Tree (17)

- 16a Leaf margins with rounded teeth: *Ilex vomitoria* or **Yaupon Holly**
- 16b Leaf margins entire and curled under: *Diospyros texana* or **Texas Persimmon**

- 17a Thick leathery leaves with leaf margins entire: *Quercus fusiformis* or **Live Oak**
- 17b Leaves otherwise (18)

- 18a Leaves heart shaped with rose-purple flower appearing early in spring: *Cercis canadensis* or **Redbud**
- 18b Leaves ovate and asymmetrical (19)

- 19a Leaves with smooth margins, bark warty: *Celtis reticulata* or **Netleaf Hackberry**
- 19b Leaves with serrated margins: *Ulmus crassifolia* or **Cedar elm**