Worksheet 2 – Hard and Soft Edges

Research of urbanization predicts some of the effects of housing density on species abundance. The graphs below are examples of housing edges with the forest habitat on one side (habitat A) and the urban habitat on the other (habitat B). The dotted line represents the abundance of mammal species from high to low.

Draw an arrow to match the correct graphs to the possible scenarios and then provide a brief explanation for your choice.

Habitat A B	Scenario that best explains the trend shown in the graph	Explanation Eg. Habitat A is preferred over habitat B because
Neutral	Yellow bellied glider in high density housing edges.	
Restricted spillover	Sugar Glider and common ringtail possum in low density housing edges	
Extended negative	Mammals in low or high density housing edges, with access to complementary resources.	
Positive	Sugar glider in high density housing edges or brush tail possum in low density housing.	