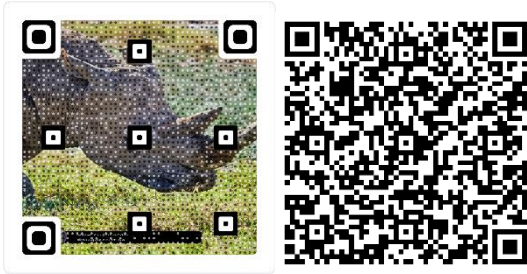


THE ENVIRONMENT

THE ANIMAL KINGDOM_ LISTENING COMPREHENSION

USEFUL VOCABULARY



- Endangered species
- Threatened ,
- On the verge of extinction
- To become extinct
- Deforestation
- Habitat
- Carnivore, herbivore, omnivore
- Predator
- food chain,
- environmentalist,
- ecosystem,
- conservation effort,
- global warming, recover,
- vulnerable,
- reforestation,
- poach,
- wildlife
- to decline,
- overhunt, overharvest, overfish,
- To breed in captivity,

LISTENING COMPREHENSION



1. Which factor is identified as a primary driver of habitat destruction and the decline of species like the orangutan and Sumatran tiger?

- A. Pollution
- B. Climate change
- C. Deforestation
- D. Introduction of non-native species

2. The illegal wildlife trade poses a significant threat to which specific animals in Southeast Asia?

- A. Pandas and Siberian tigers
- B. Rhinoceroses and elephant seals
- C. Pangolins and Siamese crocodiles
- D. Koalas and Galapagos tortoises

3. According to the speaker, how is climate change impacting the coral reefs and the polar bear population?

- A. Climate change is causing coral reefs to thrive and expanding sea ice for polar bears.
- B. Climate change is having no noticeable impact on coral reefs or polar bears.
- C. Climate change is leading to coral reef bleaching and melting sea ice for polar bears.
- D. Climate change is increasing precipitation, benefiting coral reefs but harming polar bears.

4. The loss of biodiversity has significant consequences. Which of the following is mentioned as a key reason for this?

- A. Endangered species play a minor role in their ecosystems.
- B. Endangered species contribute to the balance of the natural world.
- C. Humans are not impacted by the well-being of ecosystems.
- D. Extinction of one species does not affect the overall food chain.

5. Which of the following conservation efforts is discussed as being used to prevent extinction?

- A. Habitat restoration and reforestation
- B. Captive breeding and reintroduction programs
- C. Imposing heavy fines on poachers
- D. Relocating endangered species to new habitats

6. The speaker suggests that current conservation initiatives are limited in their scope. What does it recommend to address this shortcoming?

- A. Scaling up conservation efforts and integrating them with broader sustainability strategies
- B. Relying solely on establishing more protected areas to safeguard endangered species
- C. Focusing conservation efforts exclusively on the most iconic and charismatic species
- D. Discontinuing captive breeding programs and reintroduction efforts

7. Which of the following is NOT identified as a reason why species become endangered?

- A. Overexploitation
- B. Pollution
- C. Habitat fragmentation
- D. Lack of biodiversity

Transcript

Endangered species are animal or plant species that are at serious risk of extinction. There are many reasons why species become endangered, including habitat loss, pollution, climate change, and overexploitation. Some species are also threatened by the introduction of non-native species to their habitats.

Deforestation is a major cause of habitat destruction and has led to the decline of many species, including the orangutan and the Sumatran tiger. The illegal wildlife trade is another significant threat to many animals, particularly those in Southeast Asia, such as the pangolin and the Siamese crocodile. These animals are poached for their skins, meat, and other body parts, which are highly valued in traditional medicine and the exotic pet trade.

Climate change is also having a devastating impact on many species, as it alters their natural habitats and disrupts their life cycles. For example, rising temperatures are causing the coral reefs to bleach, which is destroying the homes of countless marine species. The polar bear is another iconic species that is vulnerable to climate change, as the melting sea ice is reducing its access to food and its ability to reproduce.

The loss of biodiversity is not only tragic but also has far-reaching consequences for the health of ecosystems and the well-being of humans. Every species plays a unique role in its ecosystem and contributes to the balance of the natural world. When a species becomes extinct, it can have a cascading effect on the entire food chain and lead to the collapse of an ecosystem.

Conservation efforts are being made around the world to protect endangered species and their habitats. These include establishing protected areas, implementing laws and regulations, raising public awareness, and supporting local communities. In some cases, captive breeding programs are used to reintroduce species into the wild and prevent them from becoming extinct. While these conservation initiatives are crucial, they need to be scaled up and integrated with broader strategies for sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Correct answers:

1. C
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. B
6. A
7. C

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