



- Exercises

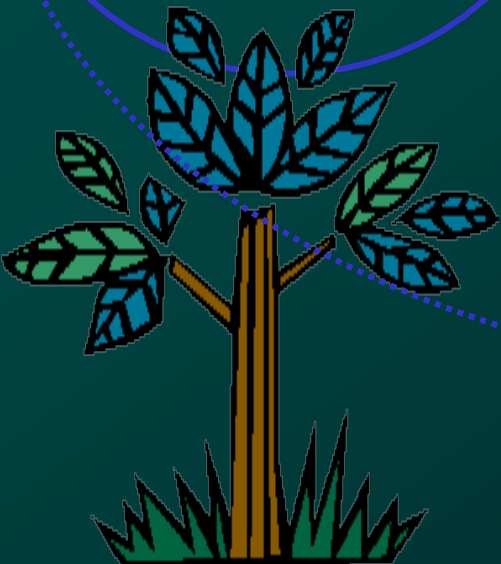
- Reading Comprehension

- Structure of the Text

- Vocabulary

- Cloze

- Translation





1. In paragraph 1, the author says that we are in the middle of a sixth great extinction. What are the extinct ones? If you name some. What is the difference between the current great extinction and the previous five great extinctions?

Reference

Ex. 1, p.50

The difference is that the previous five great extinctions have occurred for natural causes, but the current great extinction has been caused by human activities.



2. What is the author trying to do with paragraph 2?

Reference

The author gives us some examples to show what human needs have caused the current great extinction. Generally speaking, they are humans' needs for survival.



3. Why did the buffalo and the passenger pigeon in North America become extinct?

Reference

Both the buffalo and the passenger pigeon became extinct owing to overhunting by humans.



4. What point does the author want to illustrate by writing about the European rabbits in paragraph 4?

Reference

He wants to illustrate that natural habitats of some native species could be destroyed by the introduction of foreign species. The introduction of European rabbits into Australia is a good example. They multiplied quickly and threatened the habitat of native grazing animals in Australia by eating all the vegetation.



5. In paragraph 5, the author states that humans endanger other species by destroying their natural habitats. What example does the author give to support this statement?

Reference

The example is: The rapid shrinking of rainforest caused the loss of many species that made their homes in it.



6. What can we learn from paragraph 8?

Reference

Each life form occupies a special place in the ecosystem, and the disappearance of any species will affect other species in the ecosystem. But 74 species are dying out every day.



7. What are the two advantages that biodiversity has over monocultures according to paragraphs 9 – 12?

Reference

1) Biodiversity makes it possible for useful substances to be found in species we haven't got to test or study.

2) Biodiversity will save humanity from being starved to death owing to their great dependence on a small number of species.



8. In paragraph 10, the author writes about the Pacific yew tree. What makes the Pacific yew tree so highly valued today? What does the author want to tell us by mentioning this tree?

Reference

Because it is discovered that the bark of the Pacific yew tree contains a substance called taxol, which can effectively treat certain kinds of cancer. By mentioning this tree, the author wants to tell us that many species may die out before their value is discovered.



9. What is the main idea of paragraph 11?

Reference

Paragraph 11 mainly tells us that the value of the vast majority of species has yet to be discovered. It is very important for us to protect the diversity of species. If we don't, we will lose species that may turn out to be extremely important to our own survival.



10. What point is suggested by the last paragraph?

Reference

It suggests that it's hard to tell whether these protective methods will be effective or not now because the rapid human population growth may make it difficult to put these methods into practice.





Text Outline

➔ 1. Introduction (Para. 1 - 2)

➔ 2. Body

➔ 3. Conclusion (Para. 16)

Ex. II, p.51





Text Outline

1. Introduction (Paras. 1 - 2)

We are in the middle of a sixth great extinction, which is caused by human activities.



Text Outline

2. Body (Paras. 3 - 15)

1) Three major ways that human activities endanger other species. (Paras. 3 - 5)

2) The reasons why we should preserve every life-form on earth. (Paras. 6 - 13)

3) Methods of protecting endangered species. (Paras. 14 - 15)



Text Outline

2. Body (Paras. 3 - 15)

1) Three major ways that human activities endanger other species. (Paras. 3 - 5)

A. Human beings kill off animals directly for their meat, bones, skins or for protecting their crops and livestock.

B. Foreign species introduced by human beings endanger the habitat of native species.

C. Human beings destroy animals' natural habitats by cutting down forests, building towns, etc.



Text Outline

2. Body (Paras. 3 - 15)

2) The reasons why we should preserve every life-form on earth. (Paras. 6 - 13)

B. The variety of species can add natural

Every life-form has a right to exist

C. Some species provide humans with economic value.

D. Each occupies a place within its ecosystem

_____. monocultures

E. Biodiversity has obvious advantages over

_____.



Text Outline

2. Body (Paras. 3 - 15)

3) Methods of protecting endangered species.
(Paras. 14 - 15)

- A. Passing laws.
- B. Setting aside national parks and preserves.
- C. Protecting animals through captive breeding (zoos).



Text Outline

3. Conclusion (Para. 16)

We It' s hard to tell the effectiveness of these protective methods now. The biggest problem remains how to meet the needs of a growing human population





component

monoculture

multiply

conserve

Part A, Ex. V, p.53

Complete the following sentences with words given below, making sure that each word is used in the right form.





component	monoculture	multiply	conserve
prime	tropical	derive	uncounted
biodiversity	endanger	legislation	captivity

2. Climate, soil, water, and air **components** are ~~are~~ ~~living~~ of an ecosystem.



component	monoculture	multiply	conserve
prime	tropical	derive	uncounted
biodiversity	endanger	legislation	captivity

3. As a language, English **derived** _____ from the Anglo-Saxon, a West Germanic variety, although its current vocabulary includes words from many languages.



component	monoculture	multiply	conserve
prime	tropical	derive	uncounted
biodiversity	endanger	legislation	captivity

4. Stopping the loss of biodiversity and limiting climate change are the two most important challenges facing our planet.



component

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multiply

conserve

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tropical

derive

uncounted

biodiversity

endanger

legislation

captivity

5. A recent report claims that Microsoft products, with their market dominance, are **monoculture** computing _____ that's dangerously susceptible to worms and other attacks.



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multiply

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tropical

derive

uncounted

biodiversity

endanger

legislation

captivity

6. The December 26, Indian Ocean tsunami was reported to have killed more than 225,000 **uncounted** and with _____ others missing or losing their homes.



component

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multiply

conserve

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tropical

derive

uncounted

biodiversity

endanger

legislation

captivity

7. With the invention of blogs, the number of websites that would be interesting to ~~follow~~ **multiplied** each day has _____ several times over.



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8. The movie *Two Brothers* tells the story that two tigers are separated as cubs and taken into _____, only to be reunited years later as enemies.



component

monoculture

multiply

conserve

prime

tropical

derive

uncounted

biodiversity

endanger

legislation

captivity

9. In and again in , the US congress considered legislation to limit violent content and more tightly regulate the video games industry in America.



component

monoculture

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conserve

prime

tropical

derive

uncounted

biodiversity

endanger

legislation

captivity

10. The conservation projects and educational activities have contributed to wildlife habitat improvement, watershed protection, and forest health.



1. The environmental changes might have caused the disappearance of many species by eliminating food sources, or exposing animals to climatic conditions to which they were not adapted.

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined part of the sentence.

A. **extinction**

B. **distinction**

C. **punctuation**

D. **destruction**

Part B, Ex. V, pp 53-54



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