

Unit 10



ENDANGERED SPECIES

A. READING

Before you read

Work in pairs. Look at the pictures and answer the questions.

1. Which of the animals and insects below can be found in Vietnam?
2. Which of them is/are in danger of becoming extinct?



a) tortoise



b) rhinoceros



c) monkey



d) elephant



e) leopard



f) frog



g) mosquito



h) parrot

While you read


Read the text then do the tasks that follow.

Endangered species are plant and animal species which are in danger of extinction. Over 8,300 plant species and 7,200 animal species around the globe are threatened with extinction, and many thousands more become extinct each year before biologists can identify them.


The primary causes of species extinction are habitat destruction, commercial exploitation and pollution. The drainage of wetlands, cutting of forests, urbanization and road and dam construction have destroyed or seriously damaged natural habitats. Since the 1600s, worldwide commercial exploitation of animals for food and other products has seriously reduced the number of rare species. Toxic chemicals in the air and land, contaminated water and increased water temperatures have also driven many species to the verge of extinction.

Plant and animal extinction leads to a loss of biodiversity. Maintaining biodiversity is important for us in many ways. For example, humans depend on species diversity to have food, clean air and water, and fertile soil for agriculture. In addition, we benefit greatly from the many medicines and other products that biodiversity provides.

Different conservation efforts have been made in order to save endangered species. The Red List – a global list of endangered and vulnerable animal species – has been introduced to raise people's awareness of conservation needs. Governments have enacted laws to protect wildlife from commercial trade and overhunting. A number of wildlife habitat reserves have been established so that a wide range of endangered species can have a chance to survive and develop.


 **Task 1.** The nouns in column A all appear in the passage. Match each of them with a suitable definition in column B.

A	B
1. extinction	a. the existence of a large number of different kinds of animals and plants which make a balanced environment
2. habitat	b. the act of preventing something from being lost, wasted, damaged or destroyed
3. biodiversity	c. a situation in which a plant, an animal, a way of life, etc. stops existing
4. conservation	d. the natural environment in which a plant or animal lives

 **Task 2.** Choose A, B, C or D to complete the following sentences about the reading passage.

- The number of species around the globe threatened with extinction is over _____.
 A. 7,200 B. 8,300 C. 1,600 D. 15,000
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a primary cause of species extinction?
 A. pollution C. habitat destruction
 B. natural selection D. overexploitation
- The Red List is a special book that provides names of _____ animals.
 A. vulnerable and endangered C. endangered
 B. hunted D. extinct

4. The development of wildlife habitat reserves helps _____.
- A. save a large number of endangered species
 - B. make a list of endangered species
 - C. enact laws to protect wildlife
 - D. develop commercial trade and overhunting
5. The best title for the passage is _____.
- A. Endangered Species and Conservation Measures
 - B. Endangered Species and their Benefits
 - C. The Global Extinction Crisis
 - D. Endangered Species Extinction: Causes and Conservation Measures


 **Task 3.** Find evidence in the passage to support these statements.

1. Pollution is one of the main causes of species extinction.
2. Species diversity has provided humans with so many essential things.
3. There are a number of ways to help save endangered species.

After you read

Work in pairs. Summarise the reading passage by writing ONE sentence for each paragraph.

B. SPEAKING

 **Task 1.** *Work in pairs.* Ask and answer the following questions.

1. What do you call Gấu Trúc, Tê Giác, Hổ, Voi in English?
2. In which sort of habitats can you find each of these animals?
3. Which of these animals can be kept as a pet or used for food or medicine?
4. Which of them is/are endangered?

Task 2. Work in pairs. Look at the information about the giant panda, tiger, rhino and elephant, which are endangered animals. Ask and answer questions about them.

Example:


A: Where do giant pandas live?

B: In bamboo forests in the mountains in central and western China.


A: What is the population of pandas in the world?

B: Only about 600.


Habitat: Bamboo forests in mountains in central and western China.
Population: Only about 600
Height: 1.2 to 1.5 m
Weight: 75 to 160 kg
Food: Bamboo
Life span: About 20 to 30 years
Reason for decline: Habitat destruction and illegal trading




Habitat: Grasslands, tropical and subtropical forests in Africa and southern Asia.
Population: About 17,000
Height: 1.2 to 1.8 m
Weight: 1,000 to 3,000 kg
Food: Grass and plants
Life span: About 40 years
Reason for decline: Habitat destruction and illegal hunting



Habitat: Forests, grasslands and swamps in Siberia, Southeast Asia and Southern India.
Population: Only about 6,000
Height: 1.4 to 2.8 m
Weight: 65 to 300 kg
Food: Deer, buffalo, etc...
Life span: About 15 to 17 years
Reason for decline: Habitat destruction and illegal trading



Habitat: Small areas of India, Sri Lanka, China, and Southeast Asia, and the Sahara desert in Africa.
Population: About 700,000
Height: 3 to 4 m
Weight: 5,000 to 7,000 kg
Food: Grass, bark, root, leaves and fruit
Life span: About 60 years
Reason for decline: Habitat destruction and illegal hunting



Task 3. Work in groups. Take turns to give an oral report on the animals mentioned in Task 2.

C. LISTENING

Before you listen

● *Work in pairs.* Discuss and choose the best answer A, B or C.

1. You can find gorillas in _____.

A. Europe B. Asia C. Africa

2. The male gorilla may attain a height of _____ m and a weight of about 180 kg.

A. 3 B. 1.7 C. 0.8

3. The life span of a gorilla in the wild is about _____ years.

A. 30 B. 40 C. 50



● *Listen and repeat.*

gorilla

sociable

sub-adult

nest


bared teeth

silverback

civil war

forest rangers

While you listen

 **Task 1.** Listen to the passage and choose the best answer A, B, C or D to each question.

1. Which of the following can be a group leader?

A. The biggest and strongest adult male gorilla.

B. A female gorilla.

C. The biggest adult female gorilla.

D. A grown-up gorilla.

2. With whom do baby gorillas sleep at night?


A. Their sisters.

B. Their mothers.

C. Their fathers.

D. Their mothers and sisters.

3. Why do hunters kill mountain gorillas?
 - A. For their skin.
 - B. For their nests.
 - C. For the trees they live in.
 - D. For food.
4. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - A. Mountain gorillas live in Africa.
 - B. Scientists study gorillas and show a different picture of mountain gorillas.
 - C. Life for mountain gorillas is peaceful.
 - D. A gorilla sometimes eats worms.
5. What can be learned from the passage?
 - A. Mountain gorillas are not as dangerous as they look.
 - B. Mountain gorillas live in groups.
 - C. Mountain gorillas eat mainly plants.
 - D. All of A, B and C are correct.


 **Task 2.** Listen again and complete the chart below.

General features	(1) _____, gentle, sociable, and (2) _____
Group members	the silverback, one or two sub-adult males, (3) _____
Food	(4) _____ and worms
Place for sleeping	nest (5) _____ or (6) _____
Causes of being endangered	(7) _____, hunters killing them for food, (8) _____

After you listen

Work in pairs. Summarise the main ideas of the passage, using the information and the answers in Tasks 1 and 2.


D. WRITING

 **Task 1. Work in pairs.** Suggest possible measures that should be taken to solve the following problems.

- People do not know much about the need to protect rare and endangered animals.
- Projects to save endangered animals do not have sufficient funds.
- The habitats for endangered animals are being seriously damaged and polluted.
- People who live in or near endangered animals' habitats have poor living conditions and rely mostly on wildlife products for their livelihood.
- Some countries do not have laws to protect endangered animals.
- People keep buying fashionable wildlife products.
- There are not enough wildlife habitat reserves.

Example:

People do not know much about the need to protect rare and endangered animals. We should organise different activities to raise people's awareness of the need to protect these animals.

 **Task 2.** Write a paragraph about measures for protecting endangered animals using the ideas discussed in Task 1. Begin your paragraph with:

"There are a number of measures that should be taken to protect endangered animals."

E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- **Pronunciation: Rhythm**
- **Grammar: Modal verbs: *may, might, must, mustn't, needn't***

Pronunciation

● *Practise reading the following sentences, paying attention to the stressed syllables.*

1. Tell me the time.
2. Show me the way.
3. He bought some carrots and cabbages.
4. Come for a swim.
5. Look at the clock on the mantelpiece.
6. I think he wants to go tomorrow.
7. It's not the one I want.
8. Most of them have arrived on the bus.
9. Walk down the path to the end of the canal.
10. I'm going home today for Christmas.
11. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
12. If you don't have the best, make the best of what you have.

Grammar

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences, using *may/might* with one of the verbs in the box.

bite break need rain slip wake

1. Take an umbrella with you when you go out. It might rain later.
2. Don't make too much noise. You _____ the baby up.
3. Be careful of that dog. It _____ you.

4. I don't think we should throw that letter away. We _____ it later.
5. Be careful. The footpath is very icy. You _____.
6. I don't want the children to play in this room. They _____ something.

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences, using *needn't* with one of the verbs in the box.

ask	come	explain	<u>leave</u>	tell	walk
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1. We've got plenty of time. We needn't leave yet.
2. I can manage the shopping alone. You _____ with me.
3. We _____ all the way home. We can get a taxi.
4. Just help yourself if you'd like something to eat. You _____ first.
5. We can keep this a secret between ourselves. We _____ anybody else.
6. I understand the situation perfectly. You _____ further.

Exercise 3. Complete the sentences with *must*, *mustn't* or *needn't*.

1. We haven't got much time. We must hurry.
2. We've got plenty of time. We needn't hurry.
3. We have enough food at home so we _____ go shopping today.
4. Jim gave me a letter to post. I _____ remember to post it.
5. Jim gave me a letter to post. I _____ forget to post it.
6. There's plenty of time for you to make up your mind. You _____ decide now.
7. You _____ wash those tomatoes. They've already been washed.
8. This is a valuable book. You _____ look after it carefully and you _____ lose it.

TEST YOURSELF D

I. Listening (2.5 points)

Listen to the passage and complete the note with NO MORE THAN THREE words.

FACTS ABOUT THE PANDA

Habitat : (0) *lives* in high mountains in China

Food: mainly (1) _____

Eating time: (2) _____ hours a day

Number: about (3) _____ in the wild and 100 in captivity

Cubs: more than (4) _____ die after birth

Solution: (5) _____

II. Reading (2.5 points)

Read the passage and decide if the following statements are true (T), false (F) or not mentioned (NM).

It is difficult to know how many elephants once lived in the continent, but there may have been at least 3-5 million elephants in Africa in the early part of the twentieth century. People have always hunted elephants for meat, hides and ivory. As the human population grew and weapons became more advanced, elephants were under greater threat. In the late 1970s and early 1980s there was a huge decline in the number of elephants due to the increase in poaching. It is estimated that there are now about 500,000 elephants and they are living in a small number of countries. A ban was given on all international trade in ivory in 1989, and many governments started to give poachers severe punishments. Thanks to such timely actions, some elephant populations, especially those in southern Africa, have recovered over the last decade. However, numerous threats remain for Africa's elephants.

- | | T | F | NM |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. There are now about 3 to 5 million elephants in Africa. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Elephants are hunted because they have nowhere to hide. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the number of elephants decreased sharply. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Nowadays, elephants are found only in certain countries in the world. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Since 1989, the trade in ivory has been prohibited all over the world. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

III. Grammar (2.5 points)

Complete the sentences with *must*, *mustn't* or *needn't*.

- DOCTOR: You _____ go on a diet; but you _____ eat sensibly and you _____ overeat.
- ZOO NOTICE: Visitors _____ feed the animals.
- TEACHER: You _____ read the whole book but you _____ read the first four chapters.
- RAILWAY NOTICE: Passengers _____ walk on the line.
- SCHOOL NOTICE: The lifts _____ be used in case of fire.
- DOCTOR: You _____ take more than two of these pills at once. Three might be fatal.
- DOCTOR (to patient's wife): If the pain has gone, he _____ take any more of these.

IV. Writing (2.5 points)

Study the information about the rhino then write a paragraph describing the animal and suggest possible solutions to protect it from extinction.

<p>Habitat: Grasslands, tropical and subtropical forests in Africa and southern Asia.</p> <p>Population: About 17,000</p> <p>Height: 1.2 to 1.8 m</p> <p>Weight: 1,000 to 3,000 kg</p> <p>Food: Grass and plants</p> <p>Life span: About 40 years</p> <p>Reason for decline: Habitat destruction and illegal hunting</p>
