**Unit 6: ENDANGERES SPECIES**

**EX.1. Read the passage then choose the best answer**

**Polar Bear Makes the List**



In spring 2008, the polar bear was placed on the **endangered species** list. According to the USA's Endangered Species Act, an endangered species is an animal, plant or any other kind of wildlife that is likely to face **extinction** in its natural **habitat**. Polar bears had already been categorized as a "threatened" species which the ESA defines as one that is likely to become "endangered" in the foreseeable future.

The polar bear is the first animal that has been classified as endangered due primarily to **global warming**. Global warming is a form of climate change caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide and other **greenhouse gases** that become trapped in the atmosphere. Oil and gas heaters, engines using oil or petrol (or gasoline) and coal-powered electricity plants all require **fossil fuels** that lead to global warming. Renewable energy sources or **renewables** that don't cause global warming include solar, wind and hydro-electricity power. These alternative forms of power, as well as the science of climate change, have been strongly attacked by many of the world's biggest companies in order to protect the huge profits they make from fossil fuels. They do this even though they're fully aware of how much fossil fuels are damaging our planet and endangering many of the species we share it with.

The polar bear's habitat is more **vulnerable** to global warming than many other species. Polar bears live mainly on the sea ice in the Arctic. This is where they hunt for fish and build up fat reserves. When the ice melts many polar bears move to land and live off their stored fat. In the Arctic, global warming is causing the ice to melt slightly earlier and form slightly later. This results in a shorter feeding season for the polar bear. Some **risk** their lives to find ice. If they have to swim too far they will drown from exhaustion and hunger. The World Wildlife Fund estimates that over 25% of Arctic sea ice has disappeared in the past 30 years.

It is not only the polar bear that is at risk in the Arctic. Every species of plant, animal, and insect there is threatened by global warming. Nevertheless, groups of concerned scientists and **environmentalists** such as the World Wildlife Fund often study large carnivores in order to assess the health of an **ecosystem**. The Arctic **food chain** relies on the polar bear. In addition, donations are more commonly offered for the protection of large animals such as bears or elephants. People in general are less interested in **conservation efforts** that protect small wildlife, such as plants or insects. However, by using donor money to protect the habitats of larger animals through **reforestation** and similar programs, entire ecosystems with many threatened or endangered species can be saved.

It is important that animals such as the polar bear make it onto the endangered species list. Once they are on the list there are laws that protect these animals from being hunted for food or sport. Agencies also receive money and tools to protect the habitat and **recover** the species. The goal of removing the animal from the list is often achievable. Since the Endangered Species Act was introduced in the US in 1973, many species have been taken off the list due to increased populations. In fact, it is rare for a species to go extinct after they make the list. Sadly, many species do go extinct while waiting for consideration.

1. The place where a species lives and reproduces is its natural

A. habitat B. wildlife C. extinction

2. According to the article, an endangered species is one that is

A. already extinct B. already dangerous C. in danger of extinction?

3. Which poses the greatest threat to polar bears today?

A. wildlife hunting B. climate change C. water pollution

4. What major change has occurred in the polar bear's natural habitat?

A. colder air temperatures B. less hunger and exhaustion C. disappearing sea ice

5. Which type of energy contributes to global warming?

A. hydro-electricity B. coal-generated electricity C. wind-electricity

6. Certain companies use money and political influence to attack climate science and renewables in order to protect\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

A. endangered species B. natural habitats C. their future profits

7.The World Wildlife Fund estimates that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Arctic sea ice has disappeared in the past 30 years.

A. over 25% B.over 20% C. about 10%

8. What type of conservation efforts are people generally interested in?

A. saving insects and spiders B. protecting large animals C. reforestation projects

9. Many threatened or endangered species can be saved by a large\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. reforestation project B. food chain C. coal mine

10. Thanks to laws that protect them, species that make it onto the endangered species list \_\_\_\_\_ become extinct.

A. always B. often C. rarely

EX.2.

# **Extinct and Endangered Animals**

There are no more dinosaurs living on the Earth. They are **extinct**, which means there is no longer a certain kind of plant or animal living anywhere in the world. A **species** is a certain group of living organisms, like dinosaurs, humans, birds, and many others. Scientists believe many organisms, along with the dinosaurs, died out when a large asteroid collided with the Earth. The collision caused a **mass extinction**, which occurs at a faster rate over a very short time-period.

There are usually two reasons for the extinction of animals and other living things. The first is **naturally**, which may take place when animals do not adapt to natural changes in their environment. For example, if the habitat of a bird suddenly changes, and if the bird does not adapt, it could become extinct.

Examples of naturally occurring extinction may take place during a change in the climate. This took place during the Ice Age when the temperature of the Earth was much lower. During a natural extinction, the species may be eliminated by new predators that move into their environment. The food needed to survive may no longer be available.

Another example of this type of extinction was the wooly mammoth, a relative of the elephant, which died out 10,000 years ago due to climate change and the disappearance of its habitat.

The second reason for the extinction of animals is **human interaction**, which includes hunting and habitat destruction caused by people. An animal's environment may be destroyed by pollution or construction, such as the destruction of parts of a rainforest. Humans also overhunt sometimes wiping out an entire species. In addition, the moving of non-native species into an area where they are not usually found may lead to the extinction of another species.

Examples include the Dodo bird that became extinct due to overhunting and other animals moving into its environment. The passenger pigeon died out due to the destruction of its habitat, as well as overhunting. There are many animals that have become extinct, but when animals are in danger of becoming extinct, yet still survive, they are called **endangered animals**.

Endangered means a plant or animal is at risk of becoming extinct. This occurs when the population of a certain animal is so low, that they are in danger of dying out forever and becoming extinct. The reasons for an animal to become endangered are mostly the same as for those that have become extinct. There are many animals in the world today that are on the endangered species list. Some are so in danger of becoming extinct, they can only be found in a zoo.

Some of the endangered animals in the world as of 2017 include the black rhino, found in Africa, where hunting has led to the decline of its population with fewer than 5,000 of them still surviving. The orangutan found in the country of Malaysia is a highly intelligent relative of the ape family, but it too has been endangered due to the loss of their habitat and overhunting. The blue whale is endangered and threatened by climate change, habitat loss, and poisonous substances in the water. Finally, two other endangered species examples include the Bengal tiger, giant panda, mountain gorilla, sea lions, and others.

11. All the following are endangered animals EXCEPT:

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1. Sea lions B. Wooly mammoths C. Bengal tigers D. Giant pandas

12. All the following are extinct species EXCEPT:

1. Dinosaurs B.Orangutans C. Carrier pigeons D. Dodo birds

13.Which of the following is a reason for the extinct and endangered animals?

1. Climate change B. Habitat destruction C. Overhunting D. all the above

14.New predators moving into the environment may first lead to which of the following?

1. Extinction of another species B. An increase in new food sources

C. Endangered species D. Loss of land resources

15.Which of the following best defines a mass extinction?

A. An extinction that occurs at a faster rate compared to a typical extinction

B. An extinction of just one animal or plant species

C. An extinction in just one area of the world

D. All the above

16.Hunting and habitat destruction are reasons for which of the following types of extinction?

A. natural B. Human C. Mass D. None of the above

**EX.3. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

You have learned about dinosaurs in school. Maybe you have seen them in museum. But how much do you really know about these animals?

Not all dinosaurs were just big reptiles. For years, scientists thought dinosaurs were big, dumb, and cold blooded - in other words, just giant reptiles. Some dinosaurs were huge. But **many** were about the size of modern-day birds or dogs. Were dinosaurs warm- or cold blooded? Paleontologists are not sure. But they believe some were intelligent. Of course, no dinosaur was as smart as a human or even a monkey. However, some smaller dinosaurs - like the two-meter (six-foot) Troodon - had fairly large brains.

Was Tyrannosaurus rex a powerful predator? Some scientists think the opposite is true. In the movies, T.rex is often a speedy giant, but in fact, this dinosaur could not run very fast. Physically, it was too large. In reality, T.rex probably moved as fast as an elephant. Also, T. rex had very small arms. Without strong legs or arms, this dinosaur probably wasn't a powerful hunter. It may have been a ***scavenger*** instead, only eating animals that were already dead.

Did an asteroid kill the dinosaurs? An asteroid hit Mexico's Yucantan Peninsula about 65 million years ago. It created a 180-kilometer (110-mile) wide crater called Chicxulub. Many believe this asteroid caused the extinction of the dinosaurs. But even before this, dinosaurs were already dying out around the world, for many reasons. At the end of the Cretaceous period, for example, the global climate was changing uc Earth's temperature was getting colder.

Dinosaurs completely disappeared about 65 million years ago. However, scientists believe modern-day birds are descendants of certain dinosaurs. If this true, then dinosaurs' relatives are still walking - and flying - among us!

17. The best title for this reading could be \_\_\_\_.

A. What Really killed the Dinosaurs C. Dinosaurs Discovered in Mexico

B. The Facts and Fiction about Dinosaurs D. Our Favorite Dinosaurs

18. Which statement about the Troodon is probably true according to the passage?

A. It was as smarter as a monkey. C. It was warm-blooded.

B. It was a huge animal. D. It was quite intelligent.

19. Some paleontologists think T.rex was ***scavenger*** (paragraph 3). What does this mean?

A. It had small arms. B. It was similar to an elephant.

C. It was a powerful killer. D. It ate animals that were already dead.

20. According to the passage, at the end of the Cretaceous period \_\_\_\_.

A. some dinosaurs started to fly B. the Earth's temperature was changing

C. humans appeared on Earth D. dinosaur numbers were increasing in Mexico

21. Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

A. Dinosaurs were giant reptile and powerful predators.

B. Dinosaurs were probably intelligent but less smart than monkey.

C. Dinosaurs may have become extinct due to global climate changes.

D. Dinosaurs may have become extinct after an asteroid collided with the earth

**EX4. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

Together, the thousands of scientists and conservation organizations that contribute to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List and other systems of assessment provide the world's largest knowledge base on the global status of species. The aim of these systems is to provide the general public, conservationists, nongovernmental organizations, the media, decision makers, and policy makers with comprehensive and scientifically rigorous information on the conservation status of the world's species and the threats that drive the observed patterns of population decline. Scientists in conservation and protected area management agencies use data on species status in the development of conservation planning and prioritization, the identification of important sites and species for dedicated conservation action and recovery planning, and educational programs. Although the IUCN Red List and other similar species-assessment tools do not prescribe the action to be taken, the data within the list are often used to inform legislation and policy and to determine conservation priorities at regional, national, and international levels. In contrast, the listing criteria of other categorization systems (such as the United States Endangered Species Act, the CITES) are prescriptive; **they** often require that landowners and various governmental agencies take specific **mandatory** steps to protect species falling within particular categories of threat

It is likely that many undescribed or unassessed species of plants, animals, and other organisms have become or are in the process of becoming extinct. To maintain healthy populations of both known and unknown species, assessments and reassessments are valuable tools. Such monitoring work must continue so that the most current knowledge can be applied to effective environmental monitoring and management efforts. For many threatened species, large well-protected conservation areas (biological reserves) often play major roles in **curbing** population declines. Such reserves are often **cited** by conservation biologists and other authorities as the best way to protect individual species as well as the ecosystems they inhabit. In addition, large biological reserves may harbor several undescribed and unassessed species. Despite the creation of several large reserves around the world, poaching and illegal trafficking plague many areas. Consequently, even species in those areas require continued monitored and periodic assessment.

22. Which could be the best title for the passage?

A. Species Assessment and Management

B. Species Assessments and Reassessments

C. Conservation Status of the World's Species

D. Environmental Monitoring and Management Efforts

23. According to the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE about the IUCN Red List?

A. It is the best way to protect individual species.

B. It prescribes species conservation actions.

C. It helps to determine conservation priorities.

D. It requires landowners to take mandatory actions.

24. According to the passage, scientists do NOT use data on species status in \_\_\_\_.

A. developing conservation prioritization B. identifying areas for recovery planning

C. designing educational programs D. determining dedicated conservation action

25. The word '**they**' in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_.

A. categorization systems B. the listing criteria

C. conservation priorities D. species-assessment tools

26. The acronym CITES in paragraph 1 best stands for \_\_\_\_.

A. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

B. The Conference on International Trade in Endangered Species

C. The Confession of International Trade in Endangered Species

D. The Conservation of International Trade in Endangered Species

27. The word "**mandatory**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

A. comprehensive B. important C. reasonable D. compulsory

28. The word "**curbing**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

A. stopping B. affecting C. avoiding D. controlling

29. The word "**cited**" in paragraph 2 mostly means \_\_\_\_.

A. quoted B. mentioned C. described D. defined

30. It is understood from the passage that \_\_\_\_.

A. many animals became extinct before being assessed

B. governmental agencies best protect threatened species.

C. every species living in biological reserves is described.

D. there is steady decline in species population in biological reserves.

31. In general, the passage is \_\_\_\_.

A. argumentative B. informative C. inventive D. predictive

**EX5. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.**

According to Vietnamese legend, (32) \_\_\_\_ giant turtle in Hanoi's Hoan Kiem Lake reclaimed a magic sword given to King Le Loi in the 15th century that he used to win independence (33) -------- China's Ming Dynasty. The lake was thereafter named 'Ho Hoan Kiem', or 'Lake of the Returned Sword', and Hanoi has been built up (34) \_------ it.

Margie Mason of Associated Press wrote: "(35) \_\_\_\_ once was a magic golden turtle that lived in Hanoi's most enchanted lake. The giant turtle was believed so powerful, it snatched a divine sword from a warrior king and returned it to the gods of the depths nearly six centuries (36)-------That tale has long been a (37) -------- among young and old Vietnamese living in the capital city, but folklorists soon may have to rewrite the story to (38) \_\_\_\_ a very sad ending. In real life, the last giant soft-shell turtle (39) \_-------- in Hoan Kiem Lake probably will die alone, and at least one biologist says the species (40) \_----------- then be extinct. The elusive creature - with a shell as big as a desk - occasionally pokes its wrinkled head out of the murky waters of the downtown lake to (41) ---------- a breath, but few Vietnamese are lucky enough to glimpse it. And certainly no one knows its age."

32. A. a B. the C. that D. where

33. A. of B. from C. away D. against

34. A. above B. over C. around D. along

35. A. What B. That C. It D. There

36. A. ago B. earlier C. formerly D. previously

37. A. favoring B. favorable C. favored D. favorite

38. A. inscribe B. create C. include D. develop

39. A. live B. lives C. living D. lived

40. A. will B. would C. can D. could

41. A. hold B. take C. make D. catch

**EX.6. Read the text and complete each gap by circling A, B, C, or D.**

There are more and more animals in danger of extinction. Therefore, helping wildlife (42) an important issue today. Both (43) governments and people should be responsible for helping wildlife.

(44) , groups such as the World Wildlife Foundation are taking steps to prevent endangered animals (45) forever from the earth. However, simply relying (46) their help may not be enough. If you (47) the following suggestions, you will definitely make the world safer for them. First, when you see wild animals that are hurt, don't get close to them as they (48) people and may be frightened. (49) , if you see a baby animal without its mother, do not take it home with you because the mother's absence does not necessarily mean she has left her baby for good. To sum up, before you rush out to feed wild animals you come across, you have to make sure (50) they really need your help or not.

*(Text adapted from:* [*https://goo.gl/zybP62*](https://goo.gl/zybP62)*)*

42.A. have become B. has become

C.Have been becoming D. have became

43. A. the B. a C. an D. non

44.A. On the contrary B. On the one hand

C. Despite the fact D. For example

45.A. to disappear B. from disappearing

C. of disappearance D. with disappearing

46. A. under B. at C. in D. on

47.A. pay attention to B. keep a distance from

C. consist of D. get rid of

48.A. are used to B. are not used to C. used to D. do not use to

49. A. to sum up B. so C. Second D. At the end

50.A. which B. where C. whether D. whatever