# LISTENING DICTATION

## CAMBRIDGE 11 TEST 1

## SECTION 4

I've been looking at ocean biodiversity, that's the _____ that live in the world's oceans. About 20 years ago biologists developed the idea of what they called `biodiversity hotspots'. These are the areas which have the greatest _____ of species, so one example is Madagascar. These hotspots are _____ because they allow us to locate key areas for _____ at conservation. Biologists can identify hotspots on land, fairly easily, but until recently, _____ about species _____ and diversity in the oceans, and no one even knew if hotspots existed there.

Then a Canadian biologist called Boris Worm did some research in 2005 on data on ocean species that he got from the _____. Worm located five hotspots for large _____ _____ like sharks, and looked at what they _____. The main thing he'd expected to find was that they had very _____ of food, but to his surprise that was only true for four of the hotspots — the _____ hotspot was quite badly off in that regard. _____ was that in all cases, the water at the surface of the ocean had relatively high temperatures, even when it was cool at greater _____, so this seemed to be a factor in supporting a diverse range of these large predators. However, _____, because he also found that the water needed to have enough oxygen in it — so these two factors seemed _____ the high **metabolic** rate of these large fish.

A couple of years later, in 2007, a researcher called Lisa Ballance, who was working in California, also started looking for ocean hotspots, but not for fish — _____ _____ was marine mammals, _____ ____. And she found three places in the oceans which were hotspots, and _____ was that these hotspots were all located at **boundaries** between ocean **currents**, and this seems to be the sort of place that has lots of the plankton that some of these species **feed on**.

So now people who want to protect the species that are _____ need to get as much information as possible. For example, there's an _____ the Census of Marine Life. They've been surveying oceans all over the world, including the **Arctic**. One thing they found there _____ other researchers was that

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there were large numbers of species _____ — sometimes under a layer up to 20 metres thick. Some of these species had never been seen before. They've even found species of _____ living in these conditions. And other scientists working on the same project, but researching very _____ on the ocean floor, have found large numbers of species congregating around volcanoes, attracted to them by the _____ there.

However, biologists still don't know how serious the _____ is for each individual species. So a body called the Global Marine Species Assessment is now _____ of endangered species on land, so they consider things like the _____ — how many members of one species there are in a particular place — and then they look at their _____ in geographical terms, although this is quite difficult when you're looking at fish, because they're so _____, and then thirdly they _____ at which the decline of the species is happening.

So far only 1,500 species have been **assessed**, but they want to increase this figure to 20,000. For each one they assess, they _____ on that species to produce a map _____. Ultimately, they will be able to use these to figure out not only where most species are located but also where they are most threatened.

So finally, what can be done to **retain** the diversity of species in the world's oceans? Firstly, we need to set up more **reserves** in our oceans, _____ are protected. We have some, but not enough. In addition, to _____ species such as leatherback turtles, which live out in the high seas but have their _____ on the _____, we need to create **corridors** for _____, so they can get from one area to another safely. As well as this, action needs to be taken to lower the levels of fishing quotas to _____ of endangered species. And finally, there's the problem of 'by-catch'. This refers to the catching of _____ by fishing boats — they're returned to the sea, but they're often dead or dying. If these _____ used equipment which was more **selective**, so that only the fish _____, this problem could be overcome. OK. So does anyone have any ...

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