

## LISTENING (Biodiversity)

*Listen to the recording and complete the tasks.*

### **Task 1. Determine if the following statements are true or false:**

1. Biodiversity can only be studied at the highest level of looking at all the species on Earth. **T / F**
2. Temperate regions have greater biodiversity than tropical ones. **T / F**
3. Biodiversity does not contribute to the economy. **T / F**
4. Plants do not play a role in providing oxygen for us to breathe. **T / F**
5. Human activities have accelerated the extinction rate of species. **T / F**

### **Task 2. Match the terms with their descriptions:**

*plant biology   degradation   biodiversity   non-native species*  
*tropical regions   habitat loss*

|                                          |  |
|------------------------------------------|--|
| affects species and ecosystems           |  |
| greater biodiversity than temperate ones |  |
| variety of living things in a place      |  |
| field of study for medical discoveries   |  |
| spread due to human activities           |  |
| decline in quality or condition          |  |

### **Task 3. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the recording:**

1. Biodiversity is the \_\_\_\_\_ of living things in a given place.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ regions have greater biodiversity than temperate ones.
3. Most medical discoveries were made because of research into plant and animal \_\_\_\_\_ and genetics.
4. Today, species are becoming extinct at an \_\_\_\_\_ and dangerous rate.
5. Habitat loss and habitat \_\_\_\_\_ are some activities that affect biodiversity.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ provides us with a range of foods and materials.
7. Biodiversity plays an important role in making life possible on \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Plants provide \_\_\_\_\_ for us to breathe.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ and pollution are examples of how human activities affect biodiversity.
10. Spread of non-native species and \_\_\_\_\_ change are also factors impacting biodiversity.

**Task 4. Listen to a biologist talking about biodiversity and fill in the text with the words from the box.**

climate • conservation • continental • country • latitude • mammals  
• medicine • species • territory • treasure

Costa Rica's 1. \_\_\_\_\_ is merely 0.03% of the earth's surface, but it is considered to be a 2. \_\_\_\_\_ with more biodiversity than many other areas in the world. This country is home to about 4% of the 3. \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth. Environmental factors are responsible for this great diversity. In addition to the tropical 4. \_\_\_\_\_ of the country and its particular position among two big 5. \_\_\_\_\_ masses and two vast oceans, the combination of geology and 6. \_\_\_\_\_ produce different life zones. Costa Rica's flora is part of local traditions or popular 7. \_\_\_\_\_. Animals, from fish which inhabit both the fresh and salt waters of the country to 8. \_\_\_\_\_ such as jaguars and whales, leave a strong impression on all those who are lucky enough to encounter them. Birds, reptiles, amphibians and the multitude of insects also surprise people and tourists who visit this country. Furthermore, the 9. \_\_\_\_\_ policies developed during the 1970's have contributed to this precious 10. \_\_\_\_\_.