

Environmental Issues in the Developing World

(a) Use one word from the box to fill each gap, 1 - 18. You should not need to change the form of the correct word. Use each word once only.

capital	disregard	face	lucrative	tusks	premium
trigger	scorn	rung	habitats	plains	poaching
scream	executioner	trophy	limbs	trinkets	verge

It is hardly surprising, in light of their desperation, that the peoples of the developing world who are on the very bottom 1. _____ of the ladder have little time for the conservationists and environmentalists who 2. _____ bloody murder at what they perceive to be a total 3. _____ for the environment in some parts of the "Third World". And while they - the nature campaigners, that is - have, on the 4. _____ of it, a very valid point - after all, serious, and, in some cases, irrevocable, harm has been done to many precious 5. _____ and the rare creatures that inhabit same - we must understand that the rules of supply and demand are in play here in the developing world just as much as anywhere else. For example, on the African 6. _____, where 7. _____ is still rife, and in the mountain forests where rogue hunters patrol, ask yourself this; would they bother if there wasn't a market for their kill? Believe me, for every bull elephant slaughtered for its ivory 8. _____, there is a rich, greedy, fat-cat collector ready to pay a 9. _____ to acquire this 'find' - in fact, there are probably ten of them. Similarly, for every mountain gorilla murdered, whose dismembered 10. _____ appear in tourist outlets as so-called 'ornaments' - ashtrays and jewellery boxes, if you don't mind - there has to be a willing buyer; an admirer of these grotesque 11. _____. And there are plenty of them it turns out. It's the same principle with rare animal furs and skins; who do you think buys the crocodilian handbag? I doubt the local tribespeople could afford the price tag, don't you? It is an absolute tragedy that endangered species of animals are being hunted to the 12. _____ of extinction, of this there can be no doubt. But we must try to understand the reasons why this is happening. The reality is that poaching will continue while it is a 13. _____ occupation and while the prospects of finding other forms of employment are very poor. Developing nations need our help, not our 14. _____. Save that for the few unscrupulous 15. _____ hunters still out there; rich, spoilt, despicable Western brats who get a kick out of taking aim at some of the world's most precious and endangered species; it is a good thing for them that we live in a civilised world where the death penalty has, by and large, been removed from the list of possible punishments our courts can hand down. That said, since they have made themselves judge, jury and 16. _____ for the innocent creatures they have slain, perhaps nothing less than a 17. _____ sentence would be good enough for these 18. _____ happy delinquents.

(b) In the context of the above text (a), find a phrase that means the following:

1. spend more than the market value _____
2. on first examination/as it first appears _____
3. damage/hurt from which there is no possibility of recovery _____
4. about to die out completely _____
5. a person who kills game purely for their own entertainment _____
6. enjoys using their weapon a lot _____
7. in charge of every decision made in an unfair process _____
8. complain bitterly and forcefully _____
9. at the lowest level of pay or status _____

(c) Use the words in the box, which are also found in Text (a), to fill the gaps in the text below. Refer to Text (a) to get a sense of meaning in context if necessary. Use each word once only. Pluralise if necessary.

scorn	rife	delinquent	slain
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1. He poured _____ on the idea that employing poachers as park wardens might actually help alleviate the problem, and yet it seems the initiative has worked very well. Given an alternative form of employment, the poachers have excelled in their new, legitimate work, and are now doing a lot of good.
2. They buried the _____ in a large pit; the stench of rotting corpses was foul.
3. Corruption is _____ in the current administration and young people are beginning to lose faith in their elected representatives and the political system as a consequence.
4. These _____ are good for nothing; they are in and out of jail almost as a hobby.