Environmental Issues and the Natural World

UNIT 11

The Natural World

Use the words from the box below to fill in the gaps in sentences 1 - 26. You will not need to change the form of the words. Use each word once only.

feral	placental	conservation	predation	identity	stock
range	apex	stray	alpha	resurgent	cull
sheds	solitary	territory	breach	tropics	status
eradication	prey	insulation	heat	adverse	
indigenous	gestation	nesting	run	ban	

1. The Canadian government's authorisation of the seal-pup **a.**_____ annually is extremely controversial and brings the wrath of conservationists down on it.
2. During the annual Alaskan salmon **b.**_____ , such is the abundance of spawning fish that the local bear population enjoys a veritable feast. However, overfishing has depleted the **c.**_____ of wild salmon considerably.
3. The disappearance of sea ice has forced polar bears into swimming increasingly long distances in search of suitable **d.**_____ .
4. The international **e.**_____ imposed on whale hunting is not adhered to by several countries, including Norway and Japan.
5. The increasing popularity of so-called eco-tourism is having a(n) **f.**_____ effect on once isolated areas like Galapagos.
6. If global warming continues apace, diseases now confined to the **g.**_____ , such as malaria, will quite possibly make their way as far north as the United Kingdom.
7. Although the population of wolves in Spain is stabilising thanks to **h.**_____ efforts, there is still a long way to go before long-term recovery is guaranteed.
8. The **i.**_____ population of red squirrels in parts of Scotland is a sign that efforts to control the population of greys have been somewhat successful.
9. Shark attacks along the Australian coastline are usually a case of mistaken **j.**_____ .
10. The **k.**_____ period of the red deer lasts typically 240 to 262 days.
11. Male wildebeest are willing if necessary to fight to the death over a female in **l.**_____ .
12. Unlike its cousin the lion, the leopard is a **m.**_____ beast which will only seek out the company of others of its species during the mating season.
13. Watching a whale **n.**_____ the surface is a spectacle that is hard to forget.
14. The lion is an **o.**_____ predator; the only serious threat to it comes from man.
15. The **p.**_____ male of a band of gorillas will typically have a distinctive area of silver-coloured fur on its back.
16. **q.**_____ mammals dominate much of the rest of the world in much the same way as marsupials are abundant in Australia.
17. Over thousands of years, much of New Zealand's **r.**_____ population of birds evolved to become flightless on account of there being no significant threat of **s.**_____ on the ground. Unfortunately, when the possum was introduced from Australia, such species had little or no defence and became easy prey for the foreign invader.
18. The population of grey wolves in Yellowstone is thriving and scientists suggest the species no longer needs its protected **t.**_____ .
19. The **u.**_____ of the Polynesian rat from the small offshore islands of New Zealand has seen the indigenous bird population stage a remarkable recovery.
20. Conservation efforts are ongoing on the Ionian island of Zakynthos to safeguard the future of the loggerhead sea turtle. Volunteers patrol the beaches that act as its nesting ground throughout the **v.**_____ season.
21. The Arctic fox **w.**_____ its winter coat at the onset of spring.
22. Blubber is a very effective form of **x.**_____ against the freezing cold temperatures seals often encounter in the ocean.
23. The wolves had a huge **y.**_____ and travelled more than 50km per day.
24. The pride males regularly marked their **z.**_____ to warn off rivals.
25. The city has a problem with **a1.**_____ dogs and needs to look at neutering the male population to prevent the problem getting worse.
26. The **b1.**_____ horses that roam the Snowy Mountains of Australia are known as the Brumbies.

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