

LEVEL.3. LISTENING

Use the words in the boxes to complete the text.

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| diverse | ecosystem | estimate | population | quantities |
| reduce | restore | species | stable | survive |

Masai Mara is a very famous reserve forest in Kenya, Africa. It gets its name from a river called Mara which supports a unique 1. _____ containing of animals and plants. There are several 2. _____ of animals like wildebeest, cheetahs, lions and leopards. One very special animal there is the rhinoceros, thousands of which lived there before 1960. After 1960 their 3. _____ fell very fast because of poaching. In 1979, their number was 4. _____ to 15. Scientists 5. _____ that today there are about 30 rhinos in Masai Mara. Thousands of tourists visit this area every year to see the 6. _____ animals like gazelles, leopards and elephants. There are also large crocodiles which can 7. _____ without food for several months. However, they eat large 8. _____ of meat after killing animals like zebra and wildebeest when they cross the river during the annual migration. They help to keep the number of grass eating animals 9. _____. In the past people used to hunt animals like lions because they killed cattle and as a result, there are only very few left. The government of Kenya is trying to 10. _____ their numbers by preventing hunting and poaching.

(Biju C Thomas)