

Grammar Checkpoint

I Present Perfect Simple and Present Perfect Continuous

A Underline the correct answers.

- 1 The zoologists (haven't been finishing / haven't finished) their research yet.
- 2 Scientific testing (has determined / has been determining) that the oldest dinosaur fossils are hundreds of millions of years old.
- 3 Sue (has been studying / has studied) endangered species for eight years.
- 4 I (have written / have been writing) my article on 'Endangered, Vulnerable and Threatened Animals' all evening! I didn't know it would take so long.
- 5 'In some areas of the Pacific Northwest, the fungus (has eliminated / eliminated) whitebark pines entirely,' the botanist says.
- 6 The world is watching China's dogged attempt to keep giant pandas on the map – which in some ways (has been / was) an unprecedented success.
- 7 The sudden disappearance of the dinosaurs (baffled / has baffled) scientists for many years.
- 8 Its rainforests (have been cleared / have cleared) for timber and sugar plantations.
- 9 How long (was / has) Larry (been working / working) in this science lab?
- 10 Five species are now extinct and 15 (have been lost / have lost) from over half their range.
- 11 Those two cats (have sat / have been sitting) on that branch for the last hour.
- 12 It was announced in Newcastle this morning that the British Oil Corporation (has discovered / has been discovering) oil under the sea near the Welsh coast.
- 13 The dolphin population (has decimated / has been decimated) by tuna fishing.

II Articles

B Complete the sentences with *a*, *an*, *the* or *-*.

- 1 _____ British drink far too much tea.
- 2 I'm going to _____ British museum this morning.
- 3 Have you ever seen _____ orangutan?
- 4 The lion is _____ king of _____ beasts.
- 5 _____ Thames flows into _____ North Sea.
- 6 Greenery is _____ main aspect of our effort to improve _____ air quality and reduce _____ pollution.

- 7 _____ Christopher Columbus was one of _____ first people to cross _____ Atlantic Ocean.
- 8 _____ BBC reported that _____ two poachers have since been recaptured.
- 9 Richard, _____ vet at _____ Eastcott Veterinary Clinic, was shocked to hear Sadie had given birth to another 11 puppies.
- 10 _____ highest mountain in _____ world sits on _____ Himalayan Range.
- 11 Giant Panda is _____ endangered species because there are less than _____ thousand left living in _____ wild.
- 12 _____ leaves of _____ eucalyptus tree are _____ koala's main source of food.

C Complete the text with *a*, *an*, *the* or *-*.

(1)_____ elephant population was severely depleted during the 20th century, largely due to the massive ivory trade. While some populations are now stable and growing, poaching and habitat destruction continue to threaten (2)_____ species. (3)_____ elephant is (4)_____ largest mammal that lives on (5)_____ land. It is grey in (6)_____ colour. (7)_____ first thing (8)_____ person would notice about the elephant is its long trunk and large ears. The elephant uses its trunk, very much like (9)_____ way we would use (10)_____ hand to pick up (11)_____ object. It is (12)_____ intelligent creature and can be taught to do (13)_____ great variety of things. Led by (14)_____ matriarch, elephants are organised into complex social structures of (15)_____ females and (16)_____ calves, while male elephants tend to live in (17)_____ isolation.

