

A  Listen to an interview with Alan. Then read the statements and decide if they are True or False.

- 1 Alan had plans to go on vacation with one friend from school. T/F
- 2 Alan chose to volunteer at the project in Costa Rica. T/F
- 3 Alan only worked with the whale sharks after June. T/F
- 4 Alan didn't think that the experience was completely disappointing. T/F
- 5 Some of Alan's vacations were not as pleasant as this one. T/F

_____ / 10 (2 points each)

B Match the words to the definitions.

EXAMPLE preserve

H

A to watch and check something or someone carefully over a period of time

1 atmosphere

—

B the outside part or layer of something

2 surface

—

C to finish something so there is none left

3 species

—

D valuable or important natural substances, such as water or gold

4 resources

—

E to send a spacecraft into space or a ship into water

5 monitor

—

F the act of traveling to or searching a place in order to learn about it

6 use up

—

G a group of living organisms that are similar

7 launch

—

H to keep something in a certain state, as it is

8 exploration

—

I the mixture of gases that surrounds a planet; the air

_____ / 8 (1 points each)

C Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

creature endangered habitat origin plant life pond territory volcano

EXAMPLE Some wild animals defend their territory by walking around and watching other animals that may be a danger to them.

- 1 Animals living in the wild usually drink water from the nearest _____.
- 2 Most of the tourists come here to climb to the top of the _____ and look inside it.
- 3 Giant pandas are one of the most _____ species on the planet and need to be protected.
- 4 The temperate forest is the natural _____ of the Siberian tiger.
- 5 When we think of _____, we usually think of dry land. But there is also a lot in rivers, lakes, and oceans.
- 6 Some scientists believe that the _____ of all life was in the ocean.
- 7 The blue whale is the largest _____ on the planet.

_____ / 7 (1 point each)

D Choose the correct answer.

EXAMPLE Personally, I find space exploration more interesting than / to ocean exploration.

- 1 I prefer to read about marine biology to / rather than space exploration.
- 2 They understand less / fewer about chemistry than about physics.
- 3 There are more / less rats here than in any other area of the city.
- 4 My family tends to prefer dogs to / than cats.
- 5 It's harder to make a reservation on Saturday to / than during the week.
- 6 I don't think it's warm enough / warmer than to swim today. Let's wait until the weather is better.
- 7 Since we started using electric cars, there is much less / fewer pollution than a few years ago.
- 8 When I'm on vacation, I like to go sightseeing to / rather than lying on the beach.

_____ / 8 (1 point each)

E Choose the correct answer.

EXAMPLE Argentina is one of the ___ I have ever visited.

A best places that **B** most fascinating country **C** extremely great nations

1 We believe this is the ___ way to protect the sea life here.
A least perfect **B** totally good **C** worst

2 The people who work here said that these snakes are ___ of all.
A a little rare **B** the least dangerous **C** less common snakes

3 In the summer, the water in this lake is ___.
A really warm **B** the most awful **C** absolutely nice

4 The vacation was ___! I'd definitely like to go there again.
A completely interesting **B** very fantastic **C** absolutely wonderful

5 They told us that ___ endangered species are found in Ecuador.
A some of the most **B** the very **C** least

6 This was the ___ we found here.
A most exotic plant **B** less beautiful flower than **C** totally single tree that

7 We didn't realize that the bear was ___ until we saw the two little bear cubs following her.
A a little huge **B** female **C** utterly cute

_____ / 7 (1 point each)

F Read the online posts. Then complete the sentences with numbers based on information from the text.

Some people are content to live in places with extreme temperatures; some prefer milder weather. What is the weather like where you live? Are you happy with it? Or would you prefer to live somewhere else?

Nina Gomez | 2 hours ago

Most people seem to want to live in a hot climate, but I can tell you that there are many disadvantages. I live in a tropical region, which means that the average temperature all year round is above 70F and that it's usually pretty hot and humid. This is why I'm much happier when I travel to areas where the temperatures are lower and the climate is drier. You can get so much more done in such places!

Sally A | 3 hours ago

I live in Montreal and the weather here varies along the year – temperatures can go down to -14C in January but reach 26C in July. For me, that is perfect, because I enjoy the variety and, above all, the different seasons. My favorite is fall because of the colors and the feeling of change in the air. I also think that seasons affect how we feel, and for me there is something about fall that makes me feel more alive.

Mark Beck | 4 hours ago

Where I live, the winters can be absolutely horrible! And I simply hate cold weather! I find that, during the winter months, I don't do very much. I basically stay at home and spend a lot of money on heating. While, in the summer, I spend more time outside, see more people, play more sports – feel healthier and happier. If it were possible, I'd live in a place with no winter and where the temperature never goes down to freezing!

Mathias Olsen | 5 hours ago

Well, sometimes the weather we choose is not a matter of preference, but of necessity. After all, the weather can influence what we wear, what we eat, and even our health. Last year, I found out I had Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). In Norway, where there is very little sunlight in the winter, this type of depression can affect about 15% of the population. I felt tired a lot and had difficulty concentrating, so I decided that the best solution was to move to a sunnier place.

- 1 The percentage of Norwegian people with the problem described in the text is _____.
- 2 In the summer, according to the text, the temperature in Montreal can go up to _____.
- 3 _____ out of the four people who posted comments seemed happy with the local climate.
- 4 _____ of the people decided to make a life change because of the weather.
- 5 One of the people enjoys visiting places where the temperature is lower than _____.

_____ / 10 (2 points each)