

Name:

Class:



UNIT 10: ECOTOURISM

ECOTOURISM: TRAVELING WHILE PROTECTING NATURE

Ecotourism is a type of travel that focuses on exploring natural environments while protecting them. Unlike regular tourism, which can sometimes harm the environment, ecotourism encourages visitors to respect nature, wildlife, and local communities.

One of the main goals of ecotourism is conservation. Many ecotourism destinations are national parks, rainforests, or coral reefs. Tourists who visit these places learn about the importance of protecting them. For example, in Costa Rica, ecotourists can explore the Monteverde Cloud Forest while following strict guidelines to avoid disturbing the ecosystem.

Another important aspect of ecotourism is supporting local communities. Instead of staying in large hotels, ecotourists often choose eco-lodges or homestays run by local people. This helps create jobs and encourages sustainable development. In Thailand, for instance, some villages offer homestays where visitors can experience traditional culture while helping the local economy.

Ecotourism also teaches people to travel responsibly. Tourists are encouraged to minimize waste, use eco-friendly transportation, and avoid activities that harm animals. For example, responsible travelers do not ride elephants in Southeast Asia because the practice often involves cruelty.

Although ecotourism is a great way to enjoy nature, it still requires careful planning. If too many tourists visit fragile environments, they can cause damage. That is why responsible travel and proper management are essential.

By choosing ecotourism, people can enjoy beautiful landscapes, learn about different cultures, and help protect the planet for future generations.

Task 1: Match the words with definitions .

Ecotourism

Using resources in a way that does not damage the environment and can continue for a long time.

Conservation

A way of traveling that focuses on protecting nature and helping local communities.

Ecosystem

A community of plants, animals, and their environment working together.

Sustainable

The protection and preservation of natural resources and wildlife.

Responsible

Acting in a careful and thoughtful way to avoid causing harm.

Task 2 : Decide if the statements are true or false

1- Ecotourism encourages activities that harm the environment and wildlife.

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F

2- Many ecotourism destinations include national parks, rainforests, and coral reefs.

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F

3- Ecotourists usually stay in large hotels instead of small eco-lodges or homestays.

T

F

4- Responsible travelers avoid activities like riding elephants because it can be harmful to the animals.

T

F

5- If too many tourists visit fragile environments, they can cause damage.

T

F

Task 3: Choose the best answer for each question.

1.What is the main goal of ecotourism?

- A. To build large hotels in natural areas
- B. To protect nature and support local communities
- C. To attract as many tourists as possible
- D. To provide luxury travel experiences

2.Which of the following is an example of an ecotourism destination?

- A. A crowded shopping mall
- B. A rainforest with guided eco-tours
- C. A large amusement park
- D. A five-star city hotel

3.How does ecotourism benefit local communities?

- A. By providing jobs and supporting sustainable businesses
- B. By encouraging tourists to stay in big resorts
- C. By allowing tourists to take natural resources home
- D. By keeping visitors away from local areas

4.Why do responsible travelers avoid activities like elephant riding?

- A. Because it is too expensive
- B. Because it often involves cruelty to animals
- C. Because it is not exciting enough
- D. Because elephants are not interesting animals

5.What is one potential problem of ecotourism?

- A. It always harms the environment
- B. It is not popular among tourists
- C. Too many visitors can damage fragile ecosystems
- D. It does not help local communities