

TA9. U10. Planet Earth – Reading 1

Text 1: "The Importance of Ecological Balance"

Planet Earth is a unique and fascinating place that supports a wide variety of life forms. Every living organism, from the smallest insect to the largest mammal, plays an essential role in maintaining the ecological balance. This balance is the result of complex interactions within ecosystems, where each species affects the others. For example, the food chain in grasslands is a delicate network of predators, herbivores, and plants that depend on each other for survival.

However, human activities such as deforestation, pollution, and climate change are harming these delicate ecosystems. The use of pesticides and fertilisers can harm wildlife and disrupt the natural balance. In nature reserves, conservation efforts aim to preserve these habitats and protect endangered species from extinction. Protecting the landforms, grasslands, and forests is vital for the well-being of our planet.

The Earth's climate change, mainly caused by human activities, threatens the stability of the planet. Rising temperatures, changing weather patterns, and melting polar ice caps are just a few of the consequences of climate change. It is essential that we appreciate the role of the environment and make efforts to reduce our harmful impact on nature.

1. What does the ecological balance refer to?
 - a) The climate
 - b) The interactions between living organisms
 - c) The weather patterns
 - d) The food chain
2. Which of the following can harm the ecological balance?
 - a) Observing wildlife
 - b) Pollution
 - c) Preserving nature reserves
 - d) None of the above
3. What is one of the key actions in nature reserves?
 - a) Fertilising plants
 - b) Conserving habitats
 - c) Using pesticides
 - d) Reducing climate change
4. What is a vital factor for the planet's well-being?
 - a) Preserving grasslands
 - b) Increased use of pesticides

- c) Harmful pollution
 - d) Deforestation
5. How do human activities affect the planet?
- a) They improve the ecological balance
 - b) They protect the food chain
 - c) They disrupt the ecological balance
 - d) They make the landforms stronger
6. What is climate change primarily caused by?
- a) Natural factors
 - b) Human activities
 - c) Landform changes
 - d) The movement of outer space
7. Which of the following is an example of a landform?
- a) Climate change
 - b) Forests
 - c) Mountains
 - d) Pesticides
8. What is a significant effect of climate change?
- a) Stable weather patterns
 - b) Reduced pollution
 - c) Healthy ecosystems
 - d) Rising temperatures
9. What does "vital" mean in the context of the text?
- a) Unimportant
 - b) Optional
 - c) Inconsistent
 - d) Vital for survival
10. What role does a food chain play in the environment?
- a) To keep animals from dying
 - b) To create the landforms
 - c) To provide a balance between predators and prey
 - d) To reduce pollution

Text 2: "The Role of Preservation in Our Planet"

The preservation of Earth's natural habitats is essential for maintaining biodiversity and ensuring the survival of many species. Nature reserves play a critical role in protecting endangered animals

and plants from the threats of climate change and human activities. By preserving these habitats, we can protect the delicate food chain and ensure that ecological balance is maintained.

Every part of the environment is connected. For instance, the droppings of animals can help fertilise the soil, promoting plant growth, which in turn supports herbivores and, ultimately, predators. Grasslands are home to a wide range of species, and preserving them is crucial for maintaining biodiversity.

Unfortunately, human actions like deforestation, pollution, and the use of harmful pesticides have a negative effect on the planet. These activities disrupt the natural balance, leading to the loss of habitats and species extinction. The poles are particularly vulnerable to the effects of global warming, as rising temperatures are causing ice to melt at an alarming rate.

To protect our planet, it is vital that we take action to reduce harmful practices and preserve the natural environment. Observing the damage caused by pollution and climate change should encourage us to act before it's too late. By protecting the Earth's habitats, we help ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.

1. What is the role of nature reserves?
 - a) To promote the use of pesticides
 - b) To protect endangered species
 - c) To increase deforestation
 - d) To reduce human activities
2. What effect do animal droppings have on the environment?
 - a) They harm the environment
 - b) They fertilise the soil
 - c) They increase pollution
 - d) They reduce biodiversity
3. Why are grasslands important?
 - a) They are a place for large buildings
 - b) They contain high levels of pollution
 - c) They are immune to climate change
 - d) They support biodiversity
4. What is one of the main causes of species extinction?
 - a) Preservation efforts
 - b) Climate change
 - c) Observing wildlife
 - d) Pollution and deforestation
5. What does "ecological balance" mean?

- a) A stable weather pattern
 - b) The interaction between species in an ecosystem
 - c) The preservation of outer space
 - d) The growth of vegetation
6. Which area is particularly affected by global warming?
- a) Equator
 - b) Grasslands
 - c) Poles
 - d) Deserts
7. What is the primary consequence of melting ice caps at the poles?
- a) Increased food chain stability
 - b) Rising sea levels
 - c) Healthier ecosystems
 - d) More fertile land
8. What should be done to reduce the negative impact on the environment?
- a) Increase the use of pesticides
 - b) Preserve natural habitats
 - c) Cut down more trees
 - d) Ignore the effects of climate change
9. What is the main focus of the text?
- a) The importance of space exploration
 - b) The role of human-made machines
 - c) The importance of preserving natural habitats
 - d) The effects of climate change on outer space
10. How do human activities affect the ecological balance?
- a) They promote biodiversity
 - b) They help preserve habitats
 - c) They disrupt the natural balance
 - d) They have no effect