

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# UNIT 10: ECOTOURISM

Read the text below and answer the questions.

## **ECOTOURISM: A SUSTAINABLE WAY TO TRAVEL**

Ecotourism is a form of responsible travel that focuses on preserving nature and supporting local communities. Unlike mass tourism, which can harm the environment, ecotourism encourages travelers to explore natural areas while minimizing their impact on the surroundings.

One of the key benefits of ecotourism is environmental conservation. Many ecotourism sites, such as national parks and wildlife reserves, use visitor fees to fund conservation projects. This helps protect endangered species, maintain ecosystems, and reduce pollution.

Another important aspect of ecotourism is cultural respect. Travelers often visit rural or indigenous communities, where they can learn about local traditions, crafts, and ways of life. By supporting local businesses and buying handmade products, tourists contribute to the economic growth of these communities.

Ecotourism also provides unique experiences. Activities like hiking, birdwatching, snorkeling, and exploring rainforests allow visitors to connect with nature in a meaningful way. These experiences promote awareness about environmental issues and encourage people to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives.

However, ecotourism must be practiced responsibly. Tourists should follow guidelines such as staying on marked trails, avoiding plastic waste, and respecting wildlife. Without proper management, even ecotourism can lead to environmental damage.

In conclusion, ecotourism is a great way to experience the beauty of nature while protecting it for future generations. By traveling responsibly, we can enjoy the wonders of the natural world without harming it.

### 1. Matching the words with the correct definitions.

1. ecotourism 2. conservation 3. ecosystem

4. sustainable 5. biodiversity

- a. A community of living organisms interacting with their environment.
- b. A type of travel that focuses on protecting nature and supporting local communities.
- c. The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat or the world.
- d. The protection and preservation of the environment and wildlife
- e. Using resources in a way that does not harm the environment or deplete them.

2. Read the statements again and decide if they are True or False.

1. Ecotourism aims to protect the environment and support local communities.
2. Mass tourism is more environmentally friendly than ecotourism.
3. Ecotourism activities include hiking, birdwatching, and exploring rainforests.
4. Tourists should ignore local cultural traditions when visiting ecotourism sites.
5. If not managed properly, ecotourism can still harm the environment.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- 4.
- 5.



**3. Select the best answer from the options below.**

**1. What is the main goal of ecotourism?**

- A. To promote mass tourism
- B. To preserve nature and support local communities
- C. To make travel more expensive
- D. To increase pollution in natural areas

**2. How do ecotourism sites help protect the environment?**

- A. By allowing unlimited visitors
- B. By using visitor fees for conservation projects
- C. By restricting all human activities
- D. By replacing nature with modern buildings

**3. Which of the following is an example of an ecotourism activity?**

- A. Shopping in a big city
- B. Visiting amusement parks
- C. Hiking in a national park
- D. Staying in a five-star hotel



**3. Select the best answer from the options below.**

**4. Why is cultural respect important in ecotourism?**

- A. Because tourists must follow strict rules
- B. Because it allows tourists to change local traditions
- C. Because it helps local communities and preserves their traditions
- D. Because it is required by all travel agencies

**5. What is a potential negative effect of ecotourism?**

- A. It can still harm the environment if not managed properly
- B. It always destroys wildlife
- C. It discourages sustainable travel
- D. It has no effect on nature

