

Adaptation and Habitat

Read the passage. Complete the four exercise sections on pages 2-4.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Every living thing needs a suitable place to live. This place, called a habitat, provides
2 food, water, shelter, and space. Habitats include forests, deserts, oceans, and even
3 small garden ponds. Each habitat has different conditions, so the organisms living
4 there need features that help them survive. These features are known as
5 adaptations. For example, desert plants often face long periods without rain. Some
6 have thick stems that store water, while others have small leaves that reduce water
7 loss. These adaptations help them survive, but they do not mean that the plants can
8 live without water forever. Animals also have adaptations that suit their habitats.
9 Polar bears have thick fur and a layer of fat that help keep them warm. Their wide
10 paws help them walk on snow and swim through water. In contrast, many animals in
11 hot deserts avoid the strongest heat by resting during the day and becoming active
12 at night. Adaptations can therefore involve both physical features and behaviour.
13 However, a feature that is useful in one habitat may be less helpful in another. Thick
14 fur protects an animal from cold weather, but it can make staying cool more difficult
15 in a hot environment. Habitats can also change because of fires, farming, pollution,
16 or rising temperatures. When conditions change, some animals move to other areas,
17 while others adjust their behaviour. Yet not every species can respond successfully.
18 Inherited adaptations develop across generations, and rapid environmental changes
19 may happen too quickly for populations to adapt. Protecting habitats gives living
20 things a better chance of survival. People can help by reducing pollution, restoring
21 damaged environments, and leaving space for wildlife. Understanding the
22 connection between adaptation and habitat reminds us that survival depends on
23 both an organism's features and the conditions around it. A suitable habitat remains
24 essential, even for highly adapted species.

1-2. Vocabulary search

Find the answers in the passage. Record the line numbers.

1. Find synonyms

Find ONE WORD in the passage with a similar meaning to each word below.

1. appropriate (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

2. characteristics (plural noun)

Word: _____ Line: _____

3. decrease (verb)

Word: _____ Line: _____

4. energetic; not resting (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

5. beneficial (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

6. modify (verb)

Word: _____ Line: _____

7. fast (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

8. necessary (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

2. Find antonyms

Find ONE WORD in the passage with the opposite meaning to each word below.

1. thin (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

2. large (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

3. narrow (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

4. cold (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

5. day (noun)

Word: _____ Line: _____

6. similar (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

7. slowly (adverb)

Word: _____ Line: _____

8. worse (adjective)

Word: _____ Line: _____

3. Sentence completion

Use words from the passage to complete the sentences.

Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage for each answer.

1. A habitat provides food, water, _____ and space.
2. Some desert plants keep water in their thick _____.
3. Small leaves help certain plants reduce _____.
4. Polar bears stay warm with thick fur and a _____ of fat.
5. Wide _____ help polar bears walk on snow and swim.
6. Many desert animals escape the strongest heat by becoming active at _____.
7. Adaptations may involve physical features as well as _____.
8. Inherited adaptations develop across _____.
9. People can help wildlife by restoring damaged _____.
10. Survival depends on an organism's features and the _____ around it.

4. True / False / Not Given

Read the statements and choose one answer for each.

Write TRUE if the statement agrees with the passage.

Write FALSE if the statement contradicts the passage.

Write NOT GIVEN if the passage does not provide enough information.

1. A small garden pond can be a habitat.

Answer: _____

2. Desert plants with water-storing stems can survive forever without water.

Answer: _____

3. Polar bears use their wide paws for movement on snow and in water.

Answer: _____

4. Polar bears spend more time swimming than walking.

Answer: _____

5. Many animals in hot deserts rest during the day to avoid extreme heat.

Answer: _____

6. Adaptations involve physical features only.

Answer: _____

7. A feature that helps in one habitat is always equally useful in another.

Answer: _____

8. Farming causes more habitat damage than fires do.

Answer: _____

9. Environmental changes can occur too rapidly for populations to adapt.

Answer: _____

10. Restoring a damaged habitat usually takes less than five years.

Answer: _____