

## Earth is losing wildlife

Earth is losing wildlife at a faster rate than at (1) \_\_\_\_\_ time in history. This is according to the new "Living Planet Report" from the World Wildlife Fund. The report says the global wildlife population (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by 60 per cent between 1970 and 2014. The WWF warned that: "Earth is losing biodiversity at a rate (3) \_\_\_\_\_ only during mass extinctions."

Researchers state that most of the decline (4) \_\_\_\_\_ our animal population is because of "exploding human consumption". There are more and more humans on this planet. We are eating more, overfishing, cutting down trees for beef production, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ more, and using more energy and natural resources. This has resulted in a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ loss of habitat for animals.

The report says that only a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the world's land has been untouched by humans. This means human activity has greatly affected animals on three-quarters of Earth's (8) \_\_\_\_\_. They say the loss of animal life is worst in South and Central America. These (9) \_\_\_\_\_ saw an 89 per cent loss in the population of vertebrates in the past four decades.

The WWF wrote: "The astonishing decline in wildlife population is a depressing reminder and perhaps the ultimate indicator (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the pressure we put on the planet." It warned: "We can be the generation that had its chance and failed to act; that let Earth (11) \_\_\_\_\_ away."

### 1. Which of these words go in the above text?

- |                 |             |               |              |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. (a) any      | (b) most    | (c) all       | (d) ever     |
| 2. (a) shirk    | (b) shank   | (c) shrank    | (d) shack    |
| 3. (a) done     | (b) been    | (c) seen      | (d) done     |
| 4. (a) by       | (b) at      | (c) on        | (d) in       |
| 5. (a) reducing | (b) serving | (c) consuming | (d) alarming |
| 6. (a) enormous | (b) massive | (c) high      | (d) tried    |
| 7. (a) quart    | (b) quarter | (c) quad      | (d) quantum  |
| 8. (a) top      | (b) surface | (c) veneer    | (d) outside  |
| 9. (a) forest   | (b) climate | (c) regions   | (d) maps     |
| 10. (a) to      | (b) by      | (c) at        | (d) of       |
| 11. (a) slap    | (b) slope   | (c) slurp     | (d) slip     |

### 4.TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if 1-8 below are true (T) or false (F).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. Earth has never lost so many species so fast as the past 40 years.  | T / F |
| 2. The WWF said all species will become extinct in 60 years.           | T / F |
| 3. Researchers said human consumption was behind the loss of wildlife. | T / F |

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 4. Researchers said the production of beef led to wildlife loss.    | T / F |
| 5. Only a tenth of the world has been untouched by humans.          | T / F |
| 6. Researchers said they found 4,000 dead mammals.                  | T / F |
| 7. In South America, 89% of animals have been lost.                 | T / F |
| 8. The WWF said this generation had a chance to act and save Earth. | T / F |

## POLAR BEARS

Choose the correct word for the blanks in the text !

Polar bears are the  carnivores in the world that live on land. They are found in the Arctic and their preferred  is on top of the Arctic ice. Here , they  seals for food, and mate. Polar bears are very good swimmers , they paddle with their front  and hold their hind legs flat to help them change . Sadly, polar bears are becoming seriously  for a number of reasons.



Oil companies are  into the area, bringing a growing  of oil pollution. At the same time, the Arctic ice is

melting,  global warming. Polar bears feed on the ice , so if it , they will . A third danger comes from over-hunting. Thankfully, conservation  are now working to  parts of the Arctic and the  that lives there. The Great Arctic Reserve, for example, is now a sanctuary for a variety of , such as seals, wild reindeer and foxes.