

ENGLISH 12. UNIT 6. READING

Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank space in the following passage.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an international (1) ____ governmental organization for the (2) ____, research, and restoration of the environment. The organization was (3) ____ as a charitable trust on September 11, 1961, in Morges, Switzerland, under the name **World Wildlife Fund**. It was an initiative of Julian Huxley and Max Nicholson.

It is the world's largest independent conservation organization with over 5 million (4) ____ worldwide, working in more (5) ____ 90 countries, supporting 100 conservation and environmental projects around the world. It is a charity, with approximately 9% of its funding coming from voluntary (6) ____ by private individuals and businesses.

The group says its mission is "to halt and reverse the (7) ____ of our environment". Currently, much of its work focuses on the conservation of three biomes that contain most of the world's biodiversity: forests, freshwater ecosystems, and oceans and coasts. Among other issues, it is also concerned (8) ____ endangered species, pollution, and climate change. The organization run more than 20 field projects worldwide. In the last few years, the organization set up offices and operations around the world.

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|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. A. non | B. not | C. no | D. nor |
| 2. A. challenge | B. keeping | C. conservation | D. awareness |
| 3. A. produced | B. discovered | C. used | D. formed |
| 4. A. supporters | B. residents | C. inhabitants | D. citizens |
| 5. A. as | B. than | C. to | D. as to |
| 6. A. deposits | B. donations | C. refunds | D. loans |
| 7. A. destroy | B. destructive | C. destruction | D. destroyed |
| 8. A. on | B. by | C. with | D. upon |

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 1 to 10.

Plants and animals will find it difficult to escape from or adjust to the effect of global warming. Scientists have already observed shifts in the lifecycles of many plants and animals, such as flowers blooming earlier and birds hatching earlier in the spring. Many species have begun shifting where they live or their annual migration patterns due to warmer temperatures.

With further warming, animals will tend to migrate toward the poles and up mountainsides toward higher elevations. Plants will also attempt to shift their ranges, seeking new areas as old habitats grow too warm. In many places, however, human development will prevent these shifts. Species that find cities or farmland blocking their way north or south may become extinct. Species living in unique ecosystems, such as **those** found in polar and mountainous regions, are especially at risk because migration to new habitats is not possible. For example, polar bears and marine mammals in the Arctic are already threatened by **dwindling sea ice** but have nowhere farther to go.

Projecting species extinction due to global warming is extremely difficult. Some scientists have estimated that 20 to 50 percent of species could be committed to extinction with 2 to 3 Celsius degrees of further warming. The rate of warming, not just the magnitude, is extremely important for plants and animals. Some species and even entire ecosystems, such as certain types of forest, may not be able to adjust quickly enough and may disappear.

Ocean ecosystems, especially **fragile** ones like coral reefs, will also be affected by global warming. Warmer ocean temperatures can cause coral to "bleach", a state which if prolonged will lead to the death of the coral. Scientists estimate that even 1 Celsius degree of additional warming could lead to widespread bleaching and death of coral reefs around the world. Also increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere enters the ocean and increases the acidity of ocean waters. This acidification further stresses ocean ecosystems.

- The word "**fragile**" in paragraph 4 most probably means ____.
A. very large B. easily damaged C. rather strong D. pretty hard
- The bleaching of coral reefs as mentioned in paragraph 4 indicates ____.
A. the water absorption of coral reefs. B. the quick growth of marine mammals.
C. the blooming phase of sea weeds. D. the slow death of coral reefs.

3. The level of acidity in the ocean is increased by _____.
 - A. the rising amount of carbon dioxide entering the oceans
 - B. the decrease of acidity of the pole
 - C. the extinction of species in coastal areas
 - D. the loss of acidity in the atmosphere around the oceans
4. What does the passage mainly discuss?
 - A. Influence of climate changes on human lifestyle
 - B. Effects of global warming on animals and plants
 - C. Global warming and possible solutions
 - D. Global warming and species
5. Scientists have observed that warmer temperatures in the spring cause flowers to _____.
 - A. die instantly
 - B. bloom earlier
 - C. become lighter
 - D. lose color
6. According to paragraph 2, when their habitats grow warmer, animals tend to move _____.
 - A. south-eastwards and down mountainsides toward lower elevations
 - B. north-westwards and up mountainsides toward higher elevations
 - C. toward the North Pole and down mountainsides toward lower elevations
 - D. toward the poles and up mountainsides toward higher elevations
7. The pronoun "**those**" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.
 - A. species
 - B. ecosystems
 - C. habitats
 - D. areas
8. The phrase "**dwindling sea ice**" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.
 - A. the frozen water in the Arctic.
 - B. the violent Arctic Ocean.
 - C. the melting ice in the Arctic.
 - D. the cold ice in the Arctic.
9. It is mentioned in the passage that if the global temperature rose by 2 or 3 Celsius degrees _____.
 - A. half of the earth's surface would be flooded
 - B. the sea level would rise by 20
 - C. water supply would decrease by 50
 - D. 20 to 50 percent of species could become extinct
10. According to the passage, if some species are not able to adjust quickly to warmer temperatures, _____.
 - A. they may be endangered
 - B. they can begin to develop
 - C. they will certainly need water.
 - D. they move to tropical forests.