

Nam: Good morning. I'd like to introduce Dr Steve Logan – an environmental expert with a lot of experience in _____ conservation. He'll talk about the _____ of ecosystems at our environmental club's meeting. Please welcome, Dr Logan.

Mr Logan: Thank you, Nam. As you know, an ecosystem includes living and non-living things, and each of them plays an important role. A healthy ecosystem brings many benefits, such as cleaning our air and water, providing food and controlling _____. But human activities are damaging our planet's biodiversity. Half of our _____ have disappeared and it's believed that 90% of the world coral reefs will die by 2050 due to warming oceans and pollution. We've cut down one third of the world's forests to make space for farming or houses. As a result, many animals and plants have lost their _____, and many species are disappearing.

Nam: So people are destroying the _____ of local ecosystems, aren't they? But this in turn will affect human life.

Mr Logan: That's right. One day we may not have fresh air to breathe or water to use. This may happen if we damage the fine balance among all living and non-living things in the ecosystems. As species disappear, the _____ may break down. We may run out of food, suffer from health problems and face more natural disasters. So what can we do to restore the earth's ecosystems?