



Name _____

Date _____

ENDANGERED ANIMALS

When is the last time you saw a Bengal tiger? Was it in a zoo or other animal park? Though these animals are confined and locked up, they may also be safer than their counterparts in the wild. The Bengal tiger lives in places of central India. This group of tigers is the last of thousands that used to live there hundreds of years ago. The Bengal tiger is now endangered.

What has happened to the Bengal tiger? The tigers have been hunted and poached until they are now endangered. The Indian government has passed laws to protect these animals. People are not allowed to enter the 23 tiger reserves across India. The reserves are home to approximately 3,000 tigers. Because of these new laws, many of these tigers have survived illegal hunting and poaching.

Many of the natives that live near these tiger reserves are concerned and angry. They understand the importance of saving these tigers, but in the meantime, these people are going without food and other resources they used to get in the tiger reserves. The natives insist that they are not a threat to the tigers. Can these two groups really live together without endangering the tiger? And if people are let back into the reserves, how can the government ensure that their intentions are pure? All of these concerns and issues need to be addressed.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the author's opinion about saving endangered animals?
 - a. The author feels that more money should be spent to save these animals.
 - b. Government should enforce more laws to protect these animals.
 - c. Endangered animals are a fact a life in a world of evolution.
 - d. Education and laws can play a major role in saving endangered animals.
2. What is the meaning of the word *counterparts* as used in the passage?

a. concerned	c. others that are the same
b. captive	d. captivating
3. What is meant by the statement "All of these concerns and issues need to be addressed"?
 - a. The author wants to ensure that each point of the issue is included.
 - b. The author is trying to appeal to the audience to get more involved.
 - c. The author is showing that he/she has little faith in the government to address all the issues to help the Bengal tiger.
 - d. More funds and research needs to be done before humans are allowed in the tiger reserve.