

LISTENING (Biodiversity)

Listen to the recording and complete the tasks.

Task 1. Determine if the following statements are true or false:

1. Biodiversity can only be studied at the highest level of looking at all the species on Earth. **T / F**
2. Temperate regions have greater biodiversity than tropical ones. **T / F**
3. Biodiversity does not contribute to the economy. **T / F**
4. Plants do not play a role in providing oxygen for us to breathe. **T / F**
5. Human activities have accelerated the extinction rate of species. **T / F**

Task 2. Match the terms with their descriptions:

plant biology degradation biodiversity non-native species
tropical regions habitat loss

affects species and ecosystems	
greater biodiversity than temperate ones	
variety of living things in a place	
field of study for medical discoveries	
spread due to human activities	
decline in quality or condition	

Task 3. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the recording:

1. Biodiversity is the _____ of living things in a given place.
2. _____ regions have greater biodiversity than temperate ones.
3. Most medical discoveries were made because of research into plant and animal _____ and genetics.
4. Today, species are becoming extinct at an _____ and dangerous rate.
5. Habitat loss and habitat _____ are some activities that affect biodiversity.
6. _____ provides us with a range of foods and materials.
7. Biodiversity plays an important role in making life possible on _____.
8. Plants provide _____ for us to breathe.

9. _____ and pollution are examples of how human activities affect biodiversity.
10. Spread of non-native species and _____ change are also factors impacting biodiversity.

Task 4. Listen to a biologist talking about biodiversity and fill in the text with the words from the box.

climate • conservation • continental • country • latitude • mammals
• medicine • species • territory • treasure

Costa Rica's 1. _____ is merely 0.03% of the earth's surface, but it is considered to be a 2. _____ with more biodiversity than many other areas in the world. This country is home to about 4% of the 3. _____ on Earth. Environmental factors are responsible for this great diversity. In addition to the tropical 4. _____ of the country and its particular position among two big 5. _____ masses and two vast oceans, the combination of geology and 6. _____ produce different life zones. Costa Rica's flora is part of local traditions or popular 7. _____. Animals, from fish which inhabit both the fresh and salt waters of the country to 8. _____ such as jaguars and whales, leave a strong impression on all those who are lucky enough to encounter them. Birds, reptiles, amphibians and the multitude of insects also surprise people and tourists who visit this country. Furthermore, the 9. _____ policies developed during the 1970's have contributed to this precious 10. _____.