

Name: _____

Class: _____

UNIT 10: ECOTOURISM

Traveling with a Purpose

Ecotourism is a form of travel that focuses on visiting natural areas while protecting the environment and supporting local communities. Unlike traditional tourism, which can sometimes harm nature, ecotourism encourages responsible travel and conservation. It allows people to explore beautiful destinations while minimizing their impact on the planet.

One of the main goals of ecotourism is to protect wildlife and ecosystems. Many popular tourist spots, such as rainforests, coral reefs, and national parks, are home to unique plants and animals. When visitors travel responsibly, they help preserve these habitats. For example, eco-friendly lodges use renewable energy and reduce waste, making them better for the environment than traditional hotels.

Ecotourism also benefits local communities. Instead of large corporations taking profits, eco-friendly travel supports small businesses and local guides. This provides jobs and improves the economy of rural areas. Many ecotourism programs also educate visitors about different cultures and traditions, helping to create a deeper appreciation for the world's diversity.

However, ecotourism must be done correctly. If too many visitors go to a fragile environment, it can still cause damage. That is why ecotourists should always follow local rules, avoid disturbing wildlife, and choose sustainable activities like hiking, birdwatching, or snorkeling without harming coral reefs.

In conclusion, ecotourism is a great way to explore the world while protecting nature and helping communities. By making responsible choices, travelers can enjoy breathtaking landscapes, experience different cultures, and ensure that future generations can do the same. So, the next time you plan a trip, consider ecotourism—it's a way to travel with a purpose!

Task 1: Read each statement carefully and decide if it is True (T) or False (F).

1- Ecotourism focuses on protecting nature and communities.	T	F
2- Traditional tourism is better for the environment than ecotourism.	T	F
3- Ecotourists visit places like rainforests, coral reefs, and national parks.	T	F
4- Eco-friendly lodges increase pollution and waste.	T	F
5- Local businesses and guides benefit financially from ecotourism.	T	F

Task 2: Choose the best answer.

What do ecotourism programs teach visitors?

- How to pollute responsibly
- How to ignore local cultures
- Cultures and traditions
- Ways to waste resources

Why must ecotourism be done carefully?

- To prevent environmental damage
- To attract more tourists
- To make travel more expensive
- To avoid meeting local people

What activities are considered sustainable?

- Cutting down trees
- Hunting endangered animals
- Hiking, birdwatching, snorkeling
- Driving off-road vehicles in forests

What should ecotourists avoid disturbing?

- Local restaurants
- Wildlife and natural habitats
- Shopping malls
- Tour buses

What is the purpose of ecotourism?

- Responsible and sustainable travel
- Increasing pollution in cities
- Destroying natural areas
- Making travel less enjoyable

Task 3: Match each word with its correct definition.

1. ecotourism	A) Protecting nature and resources.
2. wildlife	C) Animals and plants living in nature.
3. sustainable	
4. conservation	D) A place where animals or plants live.
5. habitat	E) Using resources wisely for the future.
6. biodiversity	
7. eco-friendly	G) Not harmful to the environment.

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