

ECOTOURISM (UNIT 10)



Read the story below and then answer the comprehension questions on the next page.

In recent years, ecotourism has become a popular way to travel while protecting the environment. Unlike mass tourism, which often leads to pollution and destruction of natural habitats, ecotourism focuses on preserving nature and supporting local communities. It allows people to explore beautiful landscapes, learn about different cultures, and contribute to conservation efforts.

Ecotourism takes place in a variety of locations, including rainforests, coral reefs, and wildlife reserves. Travelers can engage in activities such as hiking, birdwatching, snorkeling, and visiting national parks. One of the main goals of ecotourism is to minimize the negative impact of tourism on the environment. This means reducing waste, using eco-friendly accommodations, and respecting local traditions. Many ecotourism destinations encourage visitors to follow the "leave no trace" principle, which means not disturbing the natural surroundings.

In addition to protecting nature, ecotourism also benefits local people. Many ecotourism projects are managed by indigenous communities, allowing them to earn a living while preserving their traditions. Visitors often stay in small, locally owned lodges and buy handmade crafts, which helps support the economy. By choosing ecotourism, travelers ensure that their money goes directly to the people who protect and maintain the environment.

However, ecotourism is not without challenges. Some destinations become too popular, leading to overcrowding and environmental damage. Additionally, not all businesses that claim to be eco-friendly truly follow sustainable practices. To be responsible travelers, tourists must research their destinations and choose reputable organizations that prioritize sustainability.

Ecotourism is a powerful way to explore the world while making a positive impact. By traveling responsibly, people can enjoy breathtaking places while ensuring that future generations can do the same.

True or False?

Tick the correct answer.

True False

Ecotourism helps local people by providing income and preserving traditions.



Tourists buy handmade crafts to harm the local economy



Overcrowding and environmental damage are challenges of ecotourism.



Tourists should research destinations to choose sustainable organizations.



Ecotourism does not help protect nature for the future.





Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer for the question following the reading passage.

1 What is the main focus of ecotourism?

- Building large hotels
- Protecting nature and communities
- Increasing tourism profits
- Expanding cities into forests
- Encouraging mass tourism

2 How does mass tourism harm the environment?

- Creating jobs for locals
- Increasing cultural awareness
- Pollution and habitat destruction
- Protecting wildlife
- Reducing waste

3 Where does ecotourism usually take place?

- Factories and industrial areas
- Shopping malls
- Rainforests, coral reefs, reserves
- Busy city streets
- Large amusement parks

4 Name two activities in ecotourism.

- Hiking and snorkeling
- Watching TV and gaming
- Driving and shopping
- Fishing and logging
- Building and mining

5 What is the “leave no trace” principle?

- Collecting souvenirs from nature
- Not disturbing natural surroundings
- Feeding wild animals
- Cutting down trees
- Leaving waste in nature

Matching Time!

Draw a line to match each definitions to each written words.

Nature

Groups of people living together

Communities

The surroundings, including land, air, and water

Pollution

A harmful change in the environment

Impact

To not take or disturb something

Coral reefs

Underwater structures made of coral

Snorkeling

The effect or influence of something

Leave

Customs or beliefs passed through generations

Local

Exploring underwater while breathing through a tube

Traditions

Relating to a nearby area or region

Environmental

Plants, animals, and landscapes of the Earth