

TA9. U10. Planet Earth – Reading 2

Text 1: "Planet Earth and Our Responsibility"

Planet Earth, with its rich ecosystems and diverse habitats, is home to countless species of plants and animals. Maintaining ecological balance is essential for the survival of all life forms. Every living organism, from microscopic bacteria to large mammals, plays a crucial role in the food chain. For example, in grasslands, herbivores depend on plants for food, while predators rely on herbivores for survival.

However, human activities such as deforestation, pollution, and excessive use of pesticides are severely harming our planet. These actions disturb the ecological balance, leading to habitat loss and the endangerment of species. Climate change, driven by human-induced factors, is a major threat to the environment. Rising temperatures and shifting weather patterns are affecting habitats across the globe.

Nature reserves, vital areas of protected land, help preserve endangered species and maintain biodiversity. The preservation of forests, oceans, and grasslands is crucial for sustaining the health of ecosystems. By appreciating the importance of these natural spaces and taking steps to reduce our environmental impact, we can preserve the beauty and functionality of our planet for future generations.

1. What is essential for the survival of all life forms on Earth?
 - a) Habitat loss
 - b) Ecological balance
 - c) Urbanization
 - d) Pollution
2. Which activity is harmful to the ecological balance?
 - a) Preserving nature reserves
 - b) Reducing the use of pesticides
 - c) Deforestation
 - d) Observing wildlife
3. What does climate change primarily affect?
 - a) The solar system
 - b) The food chain
 - c) Weather patterns and habitats
 - d) The size of the poles
4. Why are nature reserves important?
 - a) They destroy ecosystems
 - b) They help maintain biodiversity
 - c) They increase habitat loss
 - d) They cause habitat destruction
5. What role do predators play in the food chain?
 - a) They provide food for herbivores
 - b) They rely on plants for food
 - c) They maintain the balance of herbivore populations
 - d) They preserve endangered species
6. Which of the following is an example of a landform?
 - a) Pesticide
 - b) Habitat
 - c) Ocean
 - d) Forest
7. What is the effect of excessive use of pesticides?
 - a) It helps plants grow better
 - b) It disrupts the ecological balance

- c) It increases biodiversity
 - d) It has no effect on the environment
8. Which of the following is crucial for sustaining the health of ecosystems?
- a) Deforestation
 - b) Preserving natural spaces
 - c) Increased use of pesticides
 - d) Climate change
9. What does the term "vital" mean in the context of the text?
- a) Optional
 - b) Unimportant
 - c) Harmful
 - d) Essential for survival
10. Which of the following is an example of a food chain?
- a) The relationship between plants and herbivores
 - b) The relationship between water bodies and pollution
 - c) The effects of climate change
 - d) The movement of the Earth

Text 2: "The Impact of Climate Change on Earth"

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues affecting our planet today. The Earth's climate is warming at an unprecedented rate, and this is having significant effects on ecosystems worldwide. Rising global temperatures are melting polar ice caps, leading to rising sea levels. This, in turn, poses a threat to coastal habitats and biodiversity.

The increase in extreme weather events, such as floods, droughts, and wildfires, is also linked to climate change. These events disrupt the natural habitats of many species, forcing them to either adapt or face extinction. The balance of the food chain is threatened as species lose their habitats, which leads to a decrease in biodiversity.

Preserving habitats and species is essential in the fight against climate change. Nature reserves play a key role in protecting endangered species and maintaining biodiversity. Additionally, the use of sustainable farming practices, such as reducing the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers, can help maintain ecological balance and protect our planet.

The actions we take today, from reducing carbon emissions to preserving natural environments, will have a lasting impact on the health of our planet. It is crucial that we make these efforts to ensure a sustainable future for all life on Earth.

1. What is one of the primary causes of rising sea levels?
- a) Habitat destruction
 - b) Melting polar ice caps
 - c) Increased biodiversity
 - d) Decreasing temperatures
2. How does climate change affect biodiversity?
- a) It promotes species adaptation
 - b) It creates new habitats
 - c) It forces species to adapt or face extinction
 - d) It has no effect on species
3. Which of the following is a consequence of climate change?
- a) Stable ecosystems
 - b) Increased biodiversity
 - c) Extreme weather events
 - d) Preservation of habitats
4. What role do nature reserves play in combating climate change?
- a) They harm ecosystems
 - b) They protect endangered species

- c) They increase habitat loss
 - d) They cause climate change
5. What can sustainable farming practices help to preserve?
- a) Ecological balance
 - b) The use of pesticides
 - c) Landform changes
 - d) Deforestation
6. Which of the following is essential for reducing the effects of climate change?
- a) Reducing carbon emissions
 - b) Increasing the use of fertilizers
 - c) Destroying natural habitats
 - d) Promoting urbanization
7. What is the effect of floods, droughts, and wildfires on ecosystems?
- a) They protect biodiversity
 - b) They increase food chains
 - c) They disrupt natural habitats
 - d) They stabilize ecosystems
8. What does "vital" mean in the context of the text?
- a) Harmful
 - b) Optional
 - c) Unimportant
 - d) Crucial for survival
9. What is one way to protect the planet from climate change?
- a) Increasing pollution
 - b) Using more pesticides
 - c) Cutting down more forests
 - d) Preserving natural environments
10. How does climate change affect the food chain?
- a) It helps species thrive
 - b) It disrupts the balance of the food chain
 - c) It creates new species
 - d) It has no impact