

Earth is losing wildlife

Earth is losing wildlife at a faster rate than at (1) _____ time in history. This is according to the new "Living Planet Report" from the World Wildlife Fund. The report says the global wildlife population (2) _____ by 60 per cent between 1970 and 2014. The WWF warned that: "Earth is losing biodiversity at a rate (3) _____ only during mass extinctions."

Researchers state that most of the decline (4) _____ our animal population is because of "exploding human consumption". There are more and more humans on this planet. We are eating more, overfishing, cutting down trees for beef production, (5) _____ more, and using more energy and natural resources. This has resulted in a (6) _____ loss of habitat for animals.

The report says that only a (7) _____ of the world's land has been untouched by humans. This means human activity has greatly affected animals on three-quarters of Earth's (8) _____. They say the loss of animal life is worst in South and Central America. These (9) _____ saw an 89 per cent loss in the population of vertebrates in the past four decades.

The WWF wrote: "The astonishing decline in wildlife population is a depressing reminder and perhaps the ultimate indicator (10) _____ the pressure we put on the planet." It warned: "We can be the generation that had its chance and failed to act; that let Earth (11) _____ away."

1. Which of these words go in the above text?

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|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. (a) any | (b) most | (c) all | (d) ever |
| 2. (a) shirk | (b) shank | (c) shrank | (d) shack |
| 3. (a) done | (b) been | (c) seen | (d) done |
| 4. (a) by | (b) at | (c) on | (d) in |
| 5. (a) reducing | (b) serving | (c) consuming | (d) alarming |
| 6. (a) enormous | (b) massive | (c) high | (d) tried |
| 7. (a) quart | (b) quarter | (c) quad | (d) quantum |
| 8. (a) top | (b) surface | (c) veneer | (d) outside |
| 9. (a) forest | (b) climate | (c) regions | (d) maps |
| 10. (a) to | (b) by | (c) at | (d) of |
| 11. (a) slap | (b) slope | (c) slurp | (d) slip |

4.TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if 1-8 below are true (T) or false (F).

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| 1. Earth has never lost so many species so fast as the past 40 years. | T / F |
| 2. The WWF said all species will become extinct in 60 years. | T / F |
| 3. Researchers said human consumption was behind the loss of wildlife. | T / F |

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|---|-------|
| 4. Researchers said the production of beef led to wildlife loss. | T / F |
| 5. Only a tenth of the world has been untouched by humans. | T / F |
| 6. Researchers said they found 4,000 dead mammals. | T / F |
| 7. In South America, 89% of animals have been lost. | T / F |
| 8. The WWF said this generation had a chance to act and save Earth. | T / F |

POLAR BEARS

Choose the correct word for the blanks in the text !

Polar bears are the carnivores in the world that live on land. They are found in the Arctic and their preferred is on top of the Arctic ice. Here , they seals for food, and mate. Polar bears are very good swimmers , they paddle with their front and hold their hind legs flat to help them change . Sadly, polar bears are becoming seriously for a number of reasons.



Oil companies are into the area, bringing a growing of oil pollution. At the same time, the Arctic ice is

melting, global warming. Polar bears feed on the ice , so if it , they will . A third danger comes from over-hunting. Thankfully, conservation are now working to parts of the Arctic and the that lives there. The Great Arctic Reserve, for example, is now a sanctuary for a variety of , such as seals, wild reindeer and foxes.