

University of Puerto Rico at Humacao

Unit 6: Saving the Wild

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Think and Discuss

1. Which of the world's animals are disappearing? Why are they disappearing?

There are several species of animals in danger of extinction in the world. Some examples of these are the Puerto Rican parrot, the chimpanzee, the turtles among others. They disappear for different reasons, some due to low birth rates and high mortality rates and others due to the consequences of environmental pollution. It's sad but it's what the whole world is experiencing.

2. What can people do to help save animals in danger?

To save endangered animals, people can take better care of the environment in which we live, not threaten the lives of these creatures. We must be more aware of not being a risk factor for them.

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Explore the Theme

A.

1. Human activities that can be dangerous for animals are the buildings where they live and look for their food. In addition, humans can do certain things that can affect ambient temperatures, making it more difficult for animals to survive.
2. The most endangered animal in the illustration is the blue-throated macaw.
3. The IUNC uses information on how many animals live in the wild. They also look at how the population changes over time.

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Reading 1

Preparing to Read

A.

1. Safe is the opposite of in **danger**.
2. Rise is the opposite of **fall**.
3. Cool is the opposite of **warm**.
4. Over is the opposite of **under**.

B.

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1. Puerto Rico | Haiti | Dominican Republic |
| 2. Seal | Penguin | Walrus |
| 3. Costs | Pollution | Building |

C. The turtle population is declining. I understand that this arises due to the pollution that exists in our oceans. In addition, the bad practice of humans in their visits to the beach and the temperature changes they face.

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Understanding the Reading

A.

1. E
2. C
3. A
4. D
5. B

B.

1. B
2. C
3. A

C.

1. Temperatures
2. Beach areas
3. Eggs
4. Eggs
5. Males

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Developing Reading Skills

A.

Giant pandas **became endangered (result)** because **people began to farm in their habitats (reason)**. Farming **destroyed the pandas' main food source (result)**. However, the Chinese government **created areas for the pandas to live in (reason)**, so now **they have a better chance of surviving (result)**.

1. The pandas were endangered by people's crops in their habitats.
2. Now the pandas have a better chance of surviving since the Chinese government created a specific area for them.

Some people kill sea turtles for food. However, since **the ocean has dangerous chemicals in it (reason)**, the **turtles' bodies have these chemicals in them (result)**, too. **People can get sick from eating turtles (result)** because of the **chemicals in the meat (reason)**.

1. People get sick from eating turtles because of the chemicals in the meat.
2. Turtle bodies become contaminated because they pick up chemicals from the ocean.

B.

1. Paragraph A:
The population of sea turtles is getting smaller due to human activities and climate changes.
2. Paragraph E: The number of sea turtles in Florida is increasing due to the conservation work that is carried out there.

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Video

Before Viewing

- A. Looking at the image on page 99 and on page 100, I could say that I know nothing about these animals. I would say that I can describe them as squirrel-like creatures that have gorilla-like legs. They are certainly peculiar, and their color is something like orange and in other cases a creamy color.
- B.
1. I was surprised by this information about lemurs. I thought that their size didn't vary too much, and I realized that I don't know about them because they are in too much danger. That is why it is not so easy to meet or see them on a regular basis.
 2. I think that lemurs are in danger because of their peculiar physique. I understand that they are animals that may seem curious and are not usually found in such a simple way.

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C.

1. Gain weight
2. Make sure
3. Take care of
4. Relatives

While Viewing

- A.
1. It has the largest collection of lemurs outside Madagascar.
 2. It takes care of lemur babies.
- B.
1. b
 2. a
 3. b

After Viewing

- A. When Chris Smith says that “When you look into a lemur’s eyes, you can tell that they’re looking back” he refers to the depth of his eyes. A peculiarity of these animals is probably the shape and size of their eyes that seem to be alert all the time and I understand that this what Chris is referring to.
- B. I would like to help lemurs because I understand that it is one of the most affected species and that it needs our help the most. It is true that turtles do too, but if we compare the number of remining individuals of each species, we see that lemurs are even more at risk of disappearing.

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Reading 2

Preparing to read

- A.
1. Nature
 2. Unfortunately
 3. Disappear
 4. Care about
 5. Save
 6. Latest
 7. Shocked
 8. Fortunately

B.

1. The animals that matter most to me are puppies. They are loyal animals that do not deserve to be abandoned. They give too much love and are great friends, I care about them more because I know they don't value them the way they should and it's unfair. In addition to being too beautiful and affectionate, just what we need in the saddest moments.
2. I really don't know of any animal that has disappeared forever.

C.

1. B

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Understanding the Reading

A.

1. Sartore was shocked when he read about Marta because of so many passenger pigeons that existed, probably more than other species, Marta was the last survivor. He didn't understand how we humans had allowed something like this to happen.
2. Sartore thinks that photography can help save endangered species because photography tells the stories of these animals that are in danger of disappearing unless we do something about it first.

B.

1. b
2. d
3. c
4. a
5. e

C.

1. record
2. issues
3. creature

D.

1.

Duke Lemur Center	Joel Sartore
- Care directly for the species	- Calls to care for the species
- They have their own space to preserve the species.	- Through photography, he makes known endangered species.
- They care for and keep babies growing well to increase the number of individuals.	- Hope people react to this sad situation.

2. Which approach do you think is more useful in terms of saving animals?

I think Duke Lemur Center's approach is more useful because they work directly with the animals they want to impact, that is, they protect them themselves. In the case of Joel Sartore, he encourages them to protect them, but not everyone resorts to the call made to them, while the Duke Lemur Center acts for themselves and preserves the species. Any attempt to improve the living conditions of animals is special and beneficial, but in my case, I consider that the Duke Lemur Center is more effective.

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Writing

Exploring Written English

A.

1. Reason Result
2. Result Reason
3. Result Reason
4. Reason Result
5. Result Reason

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B.

1. So
2. So
3. Because
4. So
5. Because

C.

1. I want to save money, so I take the bus to school every day.
2. We recycle plastic because we don't want to pollute the oceans.
3. Our city planted trees because we want to have cleaner air.
4. I want to save electricity, so I turn off the lights when I leave a room.
5. We use both sides of the paper because we want to save trees.

Editing Practice

1. Some animals cannot cope with climate change, so we need to help them.
2. Sartore publishes animal photos because he wants to help endangered species.
3. Fuentes wrote a book about sea turtles because she wanted people to learn about them.
4. The number of male sea turtles is falling because climate change is affecting turtle eggs.

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D.

1. Joel Sartore is making people more aware of endangered species with his photos.
2. The Duke Lemur Center is helping to raise baby lemurs.
3. Lemurs are endangered because people are destroying forest habitats.
4. Polar bears are losing their habitats because the polar ice is melting.
5. The Florida panther is a critically endangered species. However, conservationists are working hard to protect its forest habitats.

Editing Practice

1. In some places, sea turtle populations are going up.
2. Sea turtle habitats are in danger because temperatures are rising.
3. Mariana Fuentes is helping to protect sea turtles.
4. Humans are destroying many animal's habitats.

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Writing task

In the world there are many species of animals that are unfortunately in danger of extinction. Puerto Rico, our country, is no exception. Countless species have been heard that little by little have been lowering their number of individuals but the one that has been mentioned the most has probably been the Puerto Rican parrot. This species is in danger of extinction due to deforestation, high mortality rates and low reproduction. Although these have been the main ones, there are other factors that have affected the numbers of individuals for this species. Some of them are hurricanes, hunting, crop production among others. Currently it is estimated that 32 to 36 individuals remain in existence.

The parrot usually lives in low elevation forests, currently and because these were destroyed, they had to take refuge in El Yunque. Their habitats have been affected by the deforestation they have faced so they had to resort to other options. These parrots are not important for our country because it is endemic, so it is not found anywhere else in the world. Therefore, they are kept in captivity where humans can help keep the species alive. They are kept in aviaries where the chicks are raised in wild nests, thus trying to increase their population. The aim is to reintroduce the species in the area where they were originally found to provide them with a better quality of life and see those birth numbers rise.

Unit Review

1. To present a reason I can use the word because and to present a result the word so.
2. One result of climate change is rising sea levels which flood beach areas and destroy turtle nests and eggs.
3.
 - Reading 1:
 - Cool
 - In danger
 - Safe
 - Warm
 - Effect
 - Over
 - Temperature
 - Fall
 - Rise
 - Under

Reading 2:

- Care about
- Latest
- Shocked
- Disappear
- Nature
- Unfortunately
- Fortunately
- Save