

# SPECIES IN DANGER



- a. What precautions have been taken to save the endangered animals and plants so far in the world? What can be done more?  
 b. Read the text and fill in the table. An example is given for you.

FACT FILE			
Grizzly Bear Facts	African Elephant Facts	Mediterranean Monk Seal Facts	American Alligator Facts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the most dangerous mammal in North America</li> <li>- creamy yellow on the back, brownish legs</li> <li>- more so quickly</li> <li>- threatened with extinction</li> </ul>			



The grizzly bear has the **reputation** of being the most dangerous mammal in North America. The tundra grizzly is creamy yellow on the back with brownish legs and under parts. Grizzlies avoid contact with humans. They can move so quickly that even horses find it difficult to escape from a rushing grizzly. This powerful animal once **inhabited** almost all of Western North America but with the arrival of Europeans on a new continent, their numbers decreased. Now they are restricted chiefly to the Canadian Rockies and Alaska. Unfortunately, they are under the threat of extinction.

The African elephant is the largest living land animal and weighs up to 5,400 kg. It inhabits the savannah, **brush**, forest, river, valleys and semi-desert regions of Africa, south of the Sahara Desert. As vegetarians, they require much food, sometimes **consuming** more than 225 kg of plants a day. Their trunks are used for smelling, touching and drinking, greeting or throwing dust for dust baths. Their tusks are used in the manufacture of piano keys, billiard balls and other objects. Hunters have **slaughtered** thousands of these magnificent animals, so they're a threatened species now.

Once common along the Mediterranean and Black Sea coasts, the Mediterranean monk seal now probably numbers fewer than 1,000 and continues to decline. They are among the endangered species. Although legally protected, they have been killed for many centuries by fishermen because they damage the nets and eat the fish. In more recent times, the growth of tourism and human disturbances led to their loss in great numbers.

The American alligator, reptile of the coastal marshes and inland waters of the South-eastern United States are considered to be endangered species. In the 1960s, their numbers reduced severely because of overhunting. There are now import and export restrictions controlling trade in alligators and their skins. Although **poaching** is a threat, they are recovering in the wild. There are also thousands of them in zoos, where they **breed** successfully.

**c. Guess the words from the text which mean the same as;**

1. land covered by small trees .....
2. fame, the state of being well-known .....
3. to eat .....
4. to occupy, to live in .....
5. to kill animals in big numbers .....
6. to hunt without permission .....
7. to keep animals or plants in order to produce babies .....

**d. Can you name some of the animals or plants in danger of extinction in Turkey? Are there any laws to protect them?**



**a. Complete the sentences using Future Perfect and the verb given in parentheses. Passive is also possible.**

1. By the time people get aware of the fact that they don't have the right to exploit nature, ..... (they / ruin / completely).
2. By the time people stop chopping down trees, ..... (all the forests / deforest).
3. By the time cosmetic companies stop testing their products on animals, ..... (they / wipe out).
4. .... (fish / become) extinct by the time precautions are taken.
5. More and more species are becoming extinct. By the time you do this exercise, ..... (one more species / disappear).
6. .... (the locals / organize) a demonstration by the time the government passes the law on animal trade.
7. I hope ..... (more sanctuaries / create and preserve) for rare animals by the next century.

**b. Make sentences by using the adverbial in the parentheses and Future Perfect Tense.**

when	before	by the time
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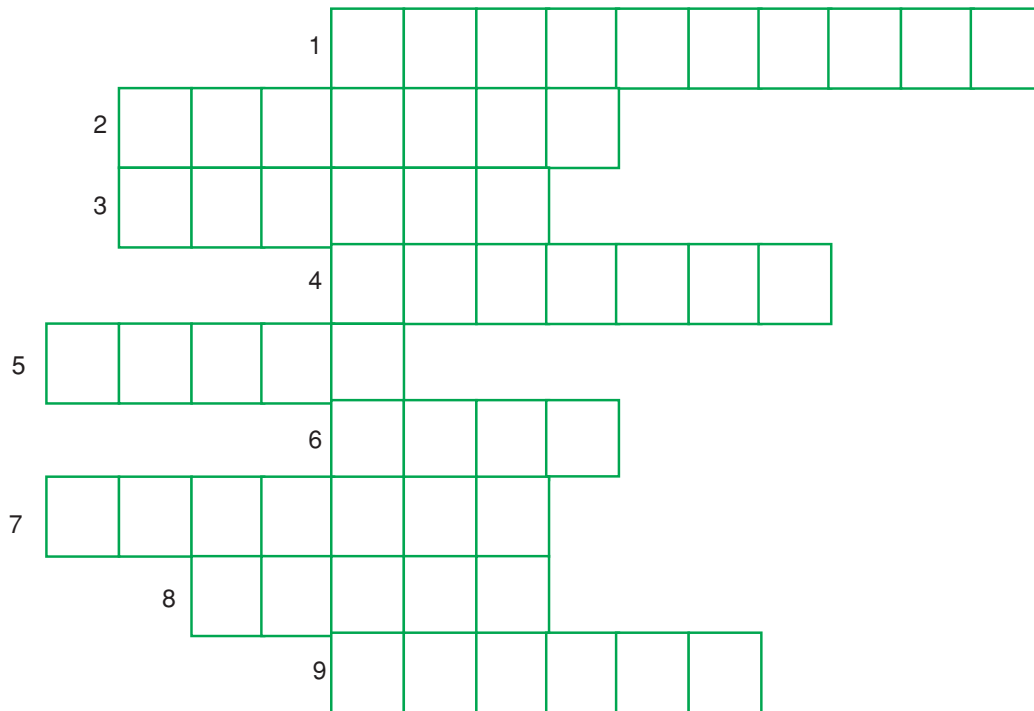
1. we / reach / the year 2050 / one million plant and animal species / be extinct (by the time)
2. most of the endangered species / already die / people / be aware of the importance of the environment (before)
3. the species in danger / save / the government / take all the precautions to prevent overhunting (when)

**c. Fill in the blanks with Present Perfect, Present Perfect Continuous or Future Perfect. Passive is also possible.**

1. A hundred years ago, there were 100,000 tigers in the wild. Now there are less than 7,000. Two types of tiger, the Bali and the Caspian tiger ..... (already / become) extinct. The South China tiger ..... (struggle) to survive.
2. The Mekong giant catfish is one of the world's largest freshwater fishes. Numbers ..... (drop) by 80 per cent in just 13 years because of humans. If that carries on, they ..... (disappear) by 2050.
3. Extinct means that a species ..... (not see) in the wild for 50 years.
4. We ..... (lose) 1 in 10 animals and plants by the end of this century.



a. Complete the puzzle using the information below.



1. in danger of becoming extinct
2. a group of animals or plants within a family
3. to have no members left alive
4. to continue to live or exist
5. elephants are hunted to make this
6. the outer covering of the body of a person or an animal
7. the natural environment of a plant or an animal
8. to keep animals or plants for producing young animals
9. animals that give birth to babies and feed their young on milk from the breast

b. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

reserve - conservationist - breeding - ecosystem - survive

1. "\_\_\_\_\_ " defines all the living things in a particular area and the way they affect each other and the environment.
2. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who works to protect animals, plants and the natural environment.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is putting animals to settle to produce babies.
4. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is a protected area for animals and plants.
5. If you \_\_\_\_\_ , you continue to live or exist usually in spite of danger or difficulty.

**D**

- a. In which ways do human beings and animals affect each other?**  
**b. Listen and tick the reasons why Sue doesn't like zoos. Because ...**

- 1. the animals are in cages.
- 2. they receive extensive medical care.
- 3. they are protected from dangerous animals.
- 4. they are not in their natural habitat.
- 5. they look sad and lonely.

**c. Choose the correct answer.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. In zoos the animals are given medical care ...<br>a) by experts.<br>b) by trainers.<br>c) by specially trained vets.<br>d) by doctors.   | 4. Animals feel lonely in zoos because ...<br>a) they are not in their natural habitat.<br>b) there aren't enough vets.<br>c) they want to have more visitors.<br>d) they want to be surrounded by people. |
| 2. In zoos the animals are not free but they're ...<br>a) protected from hunters.<br>b) happier.<br>c) in danger of being slaughtered.<br>d) in their natural habitat.  | 5. Although they're not happy in zoos,<br>a) they don't feel bored.<br>b) they are satisfied with the conditions.<br>c) they are given the food they like.<br>d) They are out of reach of hunters.         |
| 3. The animals in zoos never die of starvation because ...<br>a) they can eat whatever they want.<br>b) they're provided with plenty of food and water.<br>c) they drink a lot of water.<br>d) they eat whenever they want. |  |

**d. Match the words with their meanings.**

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|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. captive    | a) threatened      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. provide    | b) hunger          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. starvation | c) supply          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. slaughter  | d) caged           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. endangered | e) kill ruthlessly |

**E**

**LEAVE NATURE AS IT IS**

Every participant in an ecosystem has an important role and if one becomes more dominant than the others, there may be some problems in the ecosystem. For instance, DDT, which is an insecticide, was used to protect crops from insects during the World War II. Since it is a powerful poison, it killed so many insects wherever it was applied. Now it is banned in most countries. What possible threats has it made to nature? Make a list of these possible dangers.

- 1. ....
- 2. ....
- 3. ....