

Conservation Biology: Protecting Our Planet's Treasures

Conservation Biology · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Which term describes the variety of life on Earth, including all plants, animals, fungi, and microorganisms, as well as the ecosystems they inhabit?

- A) Habitat fragmentation
- B) Species richness
- C) Biodiversity
- D) Ecological niche

2. What is a major threat to many species that results from the breaking up of large, continuous habitats into smaller, isolated patches?

- A) Invasive species
- B) Habitat fragmentation
- C) Pollution
- D) Climate change

3. An animal that is at a very high risk of becoming extinct in the wild is classified as:

- A) Least Concern
- B) Near Threatened
- C) Vulnerable
- D) Critically Endangered

4. The process where a species permanently disappears from Earth is called:

- A) Endemism
- B) Evolution
- C) Extinction
- D) Adaptation

5. Which Australian marsupial is critically endangered due to habitat loss and introduced predators like foxes and cats?

- A) Koala
- B) Kangaroo
- C) Quokka
- D) Leadbeater's Possum

6. What is the primary role of a conservation scientist when studying a species that is declining?

- A) To breed more individuals in captivity
- B) To create new habitats for the species
- C) To understand the threats and find solutions
- D) To move the species to a different country

7. A species that has been introduced to an area where it doesn't naturally occur and causes harm to the environment or native species is called an:

- A) Endemic species
- B) Keystone species
- C) Indicator species
- D) Invasive species

8. What is the term for the place or type of environment where a particular species lives and finds its food, water, shelter, and reproduces?

- A) Ecosystem
- B) Biodiversity hotspot
- C) Habitat
- D) Niche

9. The Great Barrier Reef, a vast coral reef system, faces threats like coral bleaching caused by rising ocean temperatures. This is an example of:

- A) Habitat restoration
- B) Climate change impact
- C) Overexploitation
- D) Pollution reduction

10. What is a 'biodiversity hotspot'?

- A) An area with very few species
- B) An area that is very cold and icy
- C) A region with a high number of endemic species that is under threat
- D) A place where humans have removed all native plants

11. Zoos and aquariums can play a role in conservation by:

- A) Allowing visitors to take animals home
- B) Breeding endangered species for release back into the wild
- C) Using animals for entertainment only
- D) Introducing new diseases to wild populations

12. Which of the following is a major cause of habitat loss for many rainforest animals?

- A) Deforestation for farming and logging
- B) Increased rainfall
- C) The growth of native plants
- D) A decrease in pollution

13. What does the term 'keystone species' refer to?

- A) A species that is very common
- B) A species that has no impact on its ecosystem
- C) A species that has a disproportionately large effect on its environment relative to its abundance
- D) A species that only eats plants

14. Conservation efforts often focus on protecting 'critical habitats'. What makes a habitat 'critical'?

- A) It is very large and can support many species
- B) It is essential for the survival of a species, especially for breeding or migration
- C) It is easily accessible to humans for tourism
- D) It has a high number of invasive species

15. The process of reintroducing native species into areas where they have been lost is known as:

- A) Habitat destruction
- B) Habitat restoration
- C) Species introduction
- D) Urbanization

16. The illegal hunting or capturing of wild animals is called:

- A) Sustainable harvesting
- B) Ecotourism
- C) Poaching
- D) Conservation farming

17. Why is it important to conserve amphibians like frogs and salamanders?

- A) They are not important to the environment
- B) They are sensitive to pollution and can act as indicator species for ecosystem health
- C) They only live in very common habitats
- D) They are known to spread diseases to humans

18. What is a 'gene bank' in conservation biology?

- A) A place where animals are kept for zoos
- B) A location that stores seeds or genetic material from plants and animals to preserve genetic diversity
- C) A reserve for endangered species to breed freely
- D) A museum for extinct animal skeletons