

Animals and Nature in World History

World History · Practice Test · 10 Questions

1. Which bird species, famously documented by Dutch sailors in the 17th century, became extinct on the island of Mauritius due to hunting and introduced predators?

- A) Dodo
- B) Great Auk
- C) Moa
- D) Passenger Pigeon

2. What catastrophic environmental event in 536 AD, caused by a massive volcanic eruption, led to global cooling and crop failures for several years?

- A) The Year Without a Summer
- B) The Late Antique Little Ice Age
- C) The Toba Supervolcano
- D) The Dust Veil

3. During the 1930s, what human-induced environmental disaster in the United States and Canada was caused by severe drought and poor farming practices?

- A) The Great Flood
- B) The Dust Bowl
- C) The Everglades Drainage
- D) The Coal Smoke Disaster

4. Which animal was intentionally introduced to Australia in 1859 by Thomas Austin for hunting, subsequently causing significant ecological damage?

- A) Red Fox
- B) Feral Camel
- C) European Rabbit
- D) Cane Toad

5. What ancient civilization is credited with the domestication of the Bactrian camel, which became essential for traversing the Silk Road?

- A) The Mesopotamians
- B) The Bactrians
- C) The Romans
- D) The Egyptians

6. In 19th-century London, what major public health crisis was linked to the contamination of the River Thames, leading to the construction of a modern sewer system?

- A) The Great Stink
- B) The Industrial Plague
- C) The Fog of 1850
- D) The Cholera Outbreak of 1832

7. What domesticated animal, native to the Andean mountains, was historically vital to the Inca Empire for transport and wool?

- A) Alpaca
- B) Llama
- C) Guanaco
- D) Vicuna

8. Which 1962 book by Rachel Carson is often credited with launching the modern environmental movement by exposing the dangers of pesticides like DDT?

- A) The Lorax
- B) Silent Spring
- C) A Sand County Almanac
- D) Walden

9. What species of large mammal was hunted to near extinction by European settlers and the U.S. government in the 19th century to undermine Indigenous Plains cultures?

- A) Bison
- B) Moose
- C) Elk
- D) Grizzly Bear

10. What natural phenomenon, described by early Polynesian voyagers, involves the periodic warming of ocean temperatures in the Pacific that impacts global weather patterns?

- A) Monsoon
- B) El Niño
- C) Trade Winds
- D) Jet Stream