

Biodiversity =

The number and variety of organisms found within a specified geographic region.

The variability among living organisms on the earth, including the variability within and between species and within and between ecosystems.

Loss of biodiversity will damage economies

We are causing so much damage to our planet that it will soon (1) _____ the global economy. This bleak warning is according to a new United Nations report called the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO). The paper says there are many important ecosystems on our planet that are (2) _____ danger. These “tipping points” in our natural world are where man’s negative (3) _____ on nature will start costing national economies. Examples of these are the (4) _____ of coral reefs, the destruction of huge areas of forest, or major pollution of rivers. UN spokesman Ahmed Djoglaf said: "The news is not good. We continue to lose biodiversity (5) _____ a rate never before seen in (6) _____ - extinction rates may be up to 1,000 times higher than the historical...rate."

Scientists are worried that governments will not do enough to try to reduce the damage to the tipping points. World leaders will soon meet in Nairobi to discuss (7) _____ to tackle global biodiversity loss. They hope they can then create an international (8) _____ that will be adopted at a convention on biological diversity in October in Japan. The GBO report outlines how serious the threat is. It says huge numbers of species are (9) _____ extinction if we continue to pollute the environment. Over a quarter of corals may soon disappear. This will have a huge impact on (10) _____ life and many fish species will also disappear. (11) _____ will be fighting over much smaller stocks of fish. This problem will be made worse (12) _____ the increasing pollution of the world’s rivers.



1) Choose the correct word from the table and place them in the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) effective | (b) affects | (c) effect | (d) affect |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) of | (d) from |
| 3. | (a) impact | (b) compact | (c) pact | (d) packed |
| 4. | (a) dead | (b) dies | (c) deaths | (d) deceased |
| 5. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) at | (d) to |
| 6. | (a) historical | (b) history | (c) historian | (d) histories |
| 7. | (a) measures | (b) measured | (c) measurements | (d) measuring |
| 8. | (a) homework | (b) handiwork | (c) clockwork | (d) framework |
| 9. | (a) necking | (b) facing | (c) heading | (d) nosing |
| 10. | (a) maritime | (b) naval | (c) fishy | (d) marine |
| 11. | (a) oceans | (b) species | (c) countries | (d) whales |
| 12. | (a) with | (b) at | (c) of | (d) in |

2) Spell the jumbled words from the text correctly

- a. important ceemossty _____
- b. biological deiirstvy _____
- c. increasing illnooptu _____
- d. global cemnooy _____
- e. extinction aerst _____

3) Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. causing | a. gloomy |
| 2. bleak | b. coming up against |
| 3. impact | c. cut |
| 4. huge | d. supplies |
| 5. extinction | e. effect |
| 6. reduce | f. chosen |
| 7. tackle | g. dying out |
| 8. adopted | h. address |
| 9. facing | i. creating |
| 10. stocks | j. enormous |



4) True or False. After reading the article, decide with a partner whether the following statements are true or false.

- a. A new United Nations report says loss of biodiversity costs economies. T / F
- b. The report gives us tips on points to help nature. T / F
- c. The report says all coral reefs have already died. T / F
- d. The rate of biodiversity loss is 1,000 times higher than ever before. T / F
- e. Scientists are confident governments will tackle the damage. T / F
- f. World leaders will adopt a new biodiversity framework in October. T / F
- g. The report says more than 25% of corals might soon become extinct. T / F
- h. The article predicts pollution will cause fish to start fighting each other. T / F

