

Live Lesson Notes

Protecting Wild Animals

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What you will learn

1. Useful Links
2. Vocabulary
3. Toolbox
4. Visualisation / Meditation
5. Idioms

Some useful Links

Watch and read this **full lesson on Protecting Wildlife** here
<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-wild-animals-protect-environment-wildlife>

Find out more about **animals in danger of extinction**
https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/directory?direction=desc&sort=extinction_status

Tool to **simplify reading** texts
<https://rewordify.com/>

My listening passage is based on a text adapted from the BBC
<http://www.bbc.com/earth/story/20150715-why-save-an-endangered-species>

Improve your Pronunciation for IELTS with this app - ELSA
<http://bit.ly/ElsaxEnglishSpeakingSuccess>

An exclusive offer for my students from ELSA:
<https://elsaspeak.com/inf/englishspeakingssuccess/>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.
<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!
<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Follow me on **social media**
<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>
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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

What's the grammatical mistake?

When talking about animals, many students make the following mistake:

Polar bear is in danger 😞

What it should be, is one of the following:

Polar bearS ARE in danger 😊

THE polar bear is in danger 😊

When talking about animals in general we should use either the singular with 'THE' or use the plural.

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Protecting Wildlife

Here is some useful vocabulary you should know to help you talk confidently about this topic

To be **extinct** = *to no longer exist*

The dodo was a flightless bird, but it is now extinct

The following expressions mean something may become extinct in future:

To be **in danger of extinction**

To be **endangered**

To be **critically endangered**

To be **a threatened species**

To be **a vulnerable species**

The following words mean to kill an animal

To poach = to kill an animal *illegally*

To hunt = to chase and kill an animal (*can be legal*)

To slaughter = to kill livestock usually for food

Vocabulary connected to the Environment

Ecosystem (n.) = *a natural environment, where everything is connected.*

A **balanced ecosystem**

To be **out of balance**

Killing animals can put the ecosystem out of balance

Habitat (n.) = *living space of animals*

The **natural habitat**

Species (n. singular and plural)

Population (n.)

The population of turtles is decreasing

To live

in the wild (in nature)

in the wilderness

in the jungle

in the rainforest

in the desert

in the sea

In the tundra

IELTS Listening: The importance of protecting wild animals

Listen to the passage in the video and answer this question

- 1) Is the speaker for or against saving endangered animals?

Answer: He is against saving wild animals.

- 2) Listen again and fill in the gaps with one word only.

1. It is far too _____ to save endangered animals
2. The money is _____ spent saving humans
3. We are not _____ on Pandas, so there is no need to save them
4. When animals _____ it is just nature at work
5. We shouldn't _____ nature from taking its course

Answers: Note, you must write only one word, but there is more than one possible answer in some cases.

1. It is far too **costly / expensive** to save endangered animals
2. The money is **better** spent saving humans
3. We are not **dependent / reliant** on Pandas, so there is no need to save them
4. When animals **disappear** it is just nature at work
5. We shouldn't **stop / prevent** nature from taking its course

Listening Tape script:

Should we protect wild animals?

The first reason **not to bother with** protecting some endangered species is the astronomical **cost**. Surely, there are **better ways** to spend those millions of pounds, such as education, hospitals, starvation and the like.

What's more, some species like the wolf are a danger to humans, as well as the **livestock** we keep. Why should we save them? As for the cute panda, it's not like we **depend on** them, surely it's just a waste of money trying to rescue them **from the brink of extinction**. (*The edge of extinction*)

Let's not forget as well, **mass extinctions** happen as a part of nature. Remember the dinosaurs? If the **disappearance** of certain species is a part of nature, why should we interfere?

My Listening Passage was based on a text adapted from the BBC
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How we can protect endangered animals

Build sanctuaries or zoos

Set up conservations centres

Stop poaching and hunting

Reduce deforestation

Raise awareness of the issue (on social media)

Help the endangered animals to breed (=to reproduce)

Provide food and shelter

Don't interfere with / in their habitats

Support a charity like WWF

Stop buying products that come from hunted animals

Find out more about ways to protect threatened animals here:

<https://www.endangered.org/15-ways-to-help-protect-endangered-species/>

Tool box

<https://rewordify.com/>

A great tool to help your reading and build vocabulary.

It takes a complicated text and makes it simple!

Great for both teachers and students.

Speaking Meditation and Visualisation

[Click here to experience this meditation / visualisation](#)

Idioms to talk about wild animals

Like a bull in a china shop = *clumsy*

To have the memory of a fish = *short memory*

I feel like a fish out of water = *don't feel comfortable*

That's another kettle of fish = *something completely different*

I drink like a fish = *too much (alcohol)*

To **wreak havoc** = *cause big problems (chaos)*

Poaching is wreaking havoc with the ecosystem

I **don't stand a chance** = *have no possibility / it's very difficult*

These animals don't stand a chance, unless we protect them

To **be on the brink of** = *on the edge of / not the verge of*

Pandas are **on the brink of extinction**

The elephant in the room = *the obvious thing that nobody is talking about*