**Assessment Task for Reading**

**Topic: Humanity and Wildlife – Friend or Foe?**

This assessment task focuses on developing senior secondary students’ reading skills.

This set of materials contains the following:

* **The reading text**
* **A set of questions**
* **Suggested answers**
* **Annotated text**

**STUDENT’S COPY**

**Reading Text**

Humanity and Wildlife – Friend or Foe?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5  10  15  20  25  30  35  40  45  50  55  60 | [1] Can human beings and wildlife live in harmony or are they destined to be enemies? This is a problem which determines the next chapter of our planet, and which is growing in Africa – a continent inhabited by many of the world’s large mammals.  [2] As Africa’s population grows, human development and activities are expanding relentlessly, with grasslands being converted into farmland, and rangelands being divided by roads and railways. Human beings and wildlife are beginning to compete for all kinds of resources – water, land and food. What makes the problem even worse is the fact that a vast number of animals like elephants and rhinos are decimated by poachers, who slaughter them for their valuable body parts such as ivory and horn. Originating elsewhere in the world, the demand for these wildlife products is ever-increasing. The resultant human-wildlife conflict has been growing over the past few years, with blood being spilled and casualties on both sides.  [3] In Kenya, gruesome stories about people shooting or poisoning elephants abound. Not surprisingly, they become increasingly defensive and villagers were reported to have been trampled to death. The relationship between humans and wildlife does not have to be this way. With the efforts of human beings, we can find a better solution to manage and cultivate the relationship between human and wildlife.  [4] Here is my story. It was late afternoon in Kenya’s Sambura National Reserve. I was on a cruiser with a group of scientists, a vet and a wildlife management team from Save the Elephants, an organisation founded by the world-renowned scientist Iain Douglas-Hamilton. We were preparing for a mission to dart and collar an elephant.  [5] The operation itself was not easy. Before the darting could occur, the team had to distract the rest of the elephant family with vehicles – elephants have a very strong bond with their family members and they tend to stay together to protect one another. The vet then administered drugs via a dart to immobilise the target. After just a few minutes, the drugs took effect and it fell to its knees. The team quickly ensured that it could breathe and that its body temperature was normal, and then placed a collar securely around its neck.  [6] This was a radio collar, which determines the elephant’s location and transmits GPS data to Save the Elephants headquarters via a satellite link. Real-time monitoring of the elephant’s whereabouts allows scientists to mitigate some of the major threats it is facing.  [7] Based on a programmed algorithm, alerts are sent to wildlife management teams whenever incidents occur. When an elephant becomes unnaturally immobile, it is a clear signal that the elephant is in trouble with an injury or a poaching activity. Poaching is an extremely serious threat faced by elephants and many other species in Africa, and the growing demand for wildlife products in Asia is directly responsible for this menace. In response, more resources have to be spent on anti-poaching efforts. For example, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya is currently spending two million US dollars protecting their rhinos from poaching, but such costs are simply unsustainable for non-profit organisations to bear in the long run. A more feasible solution is demand reduction – we cannot afford any more delays in banning the trade which fuel poaching activities.  [8] The radio collars can also alert management teams when elephants trespass on human settlements. Over the past years, extensive human development has transformed a great deal of elephants’ natural habitat into farmland. It is impossible for elephants to understand the tasty crops are “not for them”, and these giant creatures can devour a farmer’s produce in just one night. But with the knowledge of where elephants are at a particular moment in time, a signal is issued to farmers when elephants are approaching their farmland, making it easier to prevent human-wildlife conflict.  [9] These collars have been in use for some time now, allowing scientists to build up a database of elephants’ behaviour gained from the tracking gadget. As Africa becomes more and more heavily populated, **it** will be the key to preserving their habitat and promoting their well-being. Scientists are also coming up with more practical ways to encourage humans to live alongside wildlife in harmony. For example, because of the fact that elephants are innately scared of bees, beehives are placed on the fence around farms to keep elephants away, and to provide an alternative source of income for farmers. Another example is working with local communities to develop conservancies, which use the profits from tourism activities to fund the required medical services, education and security patrols to fight off bandits. In return, these communities work to preserve wildlife and make the area more attractive to tourists.  [10] Conservationists are making progress in balancing the needs of humans and those of wildlife. Particularly in Kenya, they have implemented these solutions with great success. But sustaining the momentum is an uphill struggle. **They** still have a long way to go, but are setting a good example to us all. |
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**END OF READING TEXT**

**Questions**

**Read the text** ***Humanity and Wildlife – Friend or Foe?* and answer questions 1-15. Blacken the circle when appropriate.**

1. The “problem” in line 2 …
2. exists because of a lack of harmony in human society.
3. has an impact on our future.
4. is getting more serious in Africa.
5. cannot be resolved because human beings and wildlife are destined to be enemies.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ |

A. i) only

B. ii) and iii)

C. iii) only

D. ill) and iv)

1. Complete the summary of paragraph 2 by writing ONE word in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (6 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Causes of Human-wildlife Conflict** | **Examples** |
| Human development and activities are expanding rapidly. | Converting (i) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into farmland |
| The (ii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for resources is keen. | An example of the resources: (iii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Animals are killed to satisfy the demand for products made out of their body parts from (iv) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parts of the world. | An example of the animals: (v)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  An example of the animal body parts:  (vi) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

1. According to paragraph 2, which of the following best describes the consequence of the “human-wildlife conflict”?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ |

1. inevitable
2. social
3. short-term
4. tragic
5. According to paragraph 3, why do elephants in Kenya become more defensive?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Based on the information in paragraph 5, write ONE word to fill in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (5 marks)

Elephants have very strong relationships and always stay together. Therefore, the first step in the operation was to (i) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them with vehicles so it became easier to dart the target. The dart contained drugs which took effect in a (ii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of minutes. After the target was (iii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the team quickly checked its (iv) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and temperature, and (v) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a collar around its neck.

1. What information does the “radio collar” (line 29) provide?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How do the scientists know that the elephants are in trouble? Fill in ONE word in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (2 marks)

If an elephant is observed to be unnaturally immobile, it may be (i) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or (ii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Complete the diagram below, which provides some facts about poaching in Africa. You should use **no more than 10 words** in each box. (3 marks)

Definition

(i) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cause

(ii )\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Poaching

How to Control

(iii) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. According to paragraph 8, what drives elephants to find food on farmland?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Find a word in paragraph 8 which means: (2 marks)
2. enter a place without permission \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. moving near \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why does the writer consider it more practical to place beehives on the fence around farms? Give one reason to support your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Who/What do the following pronouns refer to?
2. it (line 51) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. They (line 62) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. According to paragraphs 7-9, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (4 marks)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Poaching has the most serious impact on elephants. | |  |
|  | One of the problems faced by non-profit organisations in fighting poaching is the cost incurred. |  |
|  | Scientists can warn elephants of the dangers ahead through the use of the radio collars. |  |
|  | Providing medical services for tourists is a source of income for farmers. |  |

1. What does the “good example” (line 63) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. This text is …

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ |

1. a story.
2. a proposal.
3. a feature article.
4. a speech.

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**Suggested Answers to the Reading Task**

1. The “problem” in line 2 …
2. exists because of a lack of harmony in human society.
3. has an impact on our future.
4. is getting more serious in Africa.
5. cannot be resolved because human beings and wildlife are destined to be enemies.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⚫ | ⭘ | ⭘ |

1. i) only
2. ii) and iii)
3. iii) only
4. ill) and iv)
5. Complete the summary of paragraph 2 by writing ONE word in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (4 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Causes of Human-wildlife Conflict** | **Examples** |
| Human development and activities are developing rapidly. | Converting (i) grasslands into farmland |
| The (ii) competition for resources is keen. | An example of the resources: (iii) water/land/food |
| Animals are killed to satisfy the demand for products made out of their body parts from (iv) other parts of the world. | An example of the animals: (v) elephants/rhinos  An example of the animal body parts: (vi) ivory/horn |

1. According to paragraph 2, which of the following best describes the consequence of the “human-wildlife conflict”?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⚫ |

1. inevitable
2. social
3. short-term
4. tragic
5. According to paragraph 3, why do elephants in Kenya become more defensive?

People shoot and poison elephants.

1. Based on the information in paragraph 5, write ONE word to fill in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (5 marks)

Elephants have very strong relationships and always stay together. Therefore, the first step in the operation was to (i) distract them with vehicles so it became easier to dart the target. The dart contained drugs which took effect in a (ii) couple of minutes. After the target was (iii) immobilised, the team quickly checked its (iv) breathing and temperature, and (v) secured/placed/put a collar around its neck.

1. What information does the “radio collar” (line 29) provide?

An elephant’s location/whereabouts

1. How do the scientists know that the elephants are in trouble? Fill in ONE word in each blank. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. (2 marks)

If an elephant is observed to be unnaturally immobile, it may be (i) injured or (ii) poached/killed/slaughtered.

1. Complete the diagram below, which provides some facts about poaching in Africa. You should use **no more than 10 words** in each box. (3 marks)

Definition

(i) Killing animals for their valuable body parts

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cause

(ii) The growing demand for wildlife products

Poaching

How to Control

(iii) Reducing demand for wildlife products/

Banning the trade of wildlife products

1. According to paragraph 8, what drives elephants to find food on farmland?

Extensive human development

1. Find a word in paragraph 8 which means: (2 marks)
2. enter a place without permission trespass
3. moving near approaching
4. Why does the writer consider it more practical to place beehives on the fence around farms? Give one reason to support your answer.

Any reasonable answers: e.g. This takes into consideration a special characteristic of elephants./ This can keep elephants away./ This helps generate income.

1. Who/What do the following pronouns refer to?
2. it (line 51) the database of elephants’ behaviour
3. They (line 62) conservationists
4. According to paragraphs 7-9, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (4 marks)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Poaching has the most serious impact on elephants. | | NG |
|  | One of the problems faced by non-profit organisations in fighting poaching is the cost incurred. | T |
|  | Scientists can warn elephants of the dangers ahead through the use of the radio collars. | F |
|  | Providing medical services for tourists is a source of income for farmers. | F |

1. What does the “good example” (line 63) refer to?

Balancing the needs of humans and those of wildlife

1. This text is …

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  |  |
| ⭘ | ⭘ | ⚫ | ⭘ |

1. a story.
2. a proposal.
3. a feature article.
4. a speech.

**END OF SUGGESTED ANSWERS**

**Annotated Text**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5  10  15  20  25  30  35  40  45  50  55  60 | Humanity and Wildlife – Friend or Foe?  [1] Can human beings and wildlife live in harmony or are they destined to be enemies? This is a problem which determines the next chapter of our planet, and which is growing in Africa – a continent inhabited by many of the world’s large mammals.  [2] As Africa’s population grows, human development and activities are expanding relentlessly, with grasslands being converted into farmland, and rangelands being divided by roads and railways. Human beings and wildlife are beginning to compete for all kinds of resources – water, land and food. What makes the problem even worse is the fact that a vast number of animals like elephants and rhinos are decimated by poachers, who slaughter them for their valuable body parts such as ivory and horn. Originating elsewhere in the world, the demand for these wildlife products is ever-increasing. The resultant human-wildlife conflict has been growing over the past few years, with blood being spilled and casualties on both sides.  [3] In Kenya, gruesome stories about people shooting or poisoning elephants abound. Not surprisingly, they become increasingly defensive and villagers were reported to have been trampled to death. The relationship between humans and wildlife does not have to be this way. With the efforts of human beings, we can find a better solution to manage and cultivate the relationship between human and wildlife.  [4] Here is my story. It was late afternoon in Kenya’s Sambura National Reserve. I was on a cruiser with a group of scientists, a vet and a wildlife management team from Save the Elephants, an organisation founded by the world-renowned scientist Iain Douglas-Hamilton. We were preparing for a mission to dart and collar an elephant.  [5] The operation itself was not easy. Before the darting could occur, the team had to distract the rest of the elephant family with vehicles – elephants have a very strong bond with their family members and they tend to stay together to protect one another. The vet then administered drugs via a dart to immobilise the target. After just a few minutes, the drugs took effect and it fell to its knees. The team quickly ensured that it could breathe and that its body temperature was normal, and then placed a collar securely around its neck.  [6] This was a radio collar, which determines the elephant’s location and transmits GPS data to Save the Elephants headquarters via a satellite link. Real-time monitoring of the elephant’s whereabouts allows scientists to mitigate some of the major threats it is facing.  [7] Based on a programmed algorithm, alerts are sent to wildlife management teams whenever incidents occur. When an elephant becomes unnaturally immobile, it is a clear signal that the elephant is in trouble with an injury or a poaching activity. Poaching is an extremely serious threat faced by elephants and many other species in Africa, and the growing demand for wildlife products in Asia is directly responsible for this menace. In response, more resources have to be spent on anti-poaching efforts. For example, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya is currently spending two million US dollars protecting their rhinos from poaching, but such costs are simply unsustainable for non-profit organisations to bear in the long run. A more feasible solution is demand reduction – we cannot afford any more delays in banning the trade which fuel poaching activities.  Q8(iii)  [8] The radio collars can also alert management teams when elephants trespass on human settlements. Over the past years, extensive human development has transformed a great deal of elephants’ natural habitat into farmland. It is impossible for elephants to understand the tasty crops are “not for them”, and these giant creatures can devour a farmer’s produce in just one night. But with the knowledge of where elephants are at a particular moment in time, a signal is issued to farmers when elephants are approaching their farmland, making it easier to prevent human-wildlife conflict.  [9] These collars have been in use for some time now, allowing scientists to build up a database of elephants’ behaviour gained from the tracking gadget. As Africa becomes more and more heavily populated, **it** will be the key to preserving their habitat and promoting their well-being. Scientists are also coming up with more practical ways to encourage humans to live alongside wildlife in harmony. For example, because of the fact that elephants are innately scared of bees, beehives are placed on the fence around farms to keep elephants away, and to provide an alternative source of income for farmers. Another example is working with local communities to develop conservancies, which use the profits from tourism activities to fund the required medical services, education and security patrols to fight off bandits. In return, these communities work to preserve wildlife and make the area more attractive to tourists.  [10] Conservationists are making progress in balancing the needs of humans and those of wildlife. Particularly in Kenya, they have implemented these solutions with great success. But sustaining the momentum is an uphill struggle. **They** still have a long way to go, but are setting a good example to us all. | Q1  Q2(i)  Q2(ii)  Q2(iii)  Q2(v),Q8(i)  Q2(iv),(vi)    Q3  Q4  Q5(i)  Q5(iii)&(ii)  Q5(iv)  Q5(v)  Q6  Q7(i)&(ii)  Q13(i)  Q8(ii)  Q13(ii)  Q10(i),Q13(iii)  Q9  Q13(iii),Q10(ii)  Q12(i)  Q11  Q13(iv)  Q12(ii),Q14 |

**END OF ANNOTATED TEXT**