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Level 5

Ecotourism a danger to wildlife

14th October, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151014-ecotourism-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151014-ecotourism-5.html>

Ecotourism is booming and many tour operators say this is helpful to nature. Every year, millions of people visit protected, natural areas to observe rare species. However, a new report casts doubt on this form of tourism. The report, published in the journal 'Trends in Ecology and Evolution,' suggests that ecotourism damages more than helps nature. Researchers believe tourists disrupt animals in their natural habitat. They pointed to a recent event in Costa Rica where turtles had problems laying their eggs because of the many tourists who had gathered on the beach to watch them.

The report says that ecotourism is making animals bolder. A human presence makes animals tamer and less cautious about other animals. This could put them at risk of being attacked by their natural predators, so more of them will be killed. The report said that when animals interact with humans, "they may let down their guard". The report also said it was essential, "to develop a more comprehensive understanding of how different species in different situations respond to human visitation, and under what precise conditions human exposure might put them at risk".

Sources: <http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/17403/20151011/eco-tourism-unexpected-threat-nature.htm>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/nature/ecotourism-harms-wildlife-because-it-domesticates-animals-says-research-a6688396.html>
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/oct/10/ecotourism-now-endangering-wildlife-8-billion-peop/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151014-ecotourism-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Ecotourism is a booming | a. of tourists |
| 2. tour | b. doubt on |
| 3. pristine | c. nesting habits |
| 4. casts | d. habitat |
| 5. ecotourism is more damaging | e. business |
| 6. animals in their natural | f. than helpful |
| 7. the hordes | g. operators |
| 8. watch the turtles' | h. natural areas |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. this could endanger | a. predators |
| 2. A regular human presence might | b. was essential |
| 3. put them at risk | c. the animals |
| 4. encounter real | d. understanding |
| 5. they may let down | e. exposure |
| 6. The report said it | f. their guard |
| 7. develop a more comprehensive | g. make animals tamer |
| 8. human | h. of being attacked |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151014-ecotourism-5.html>

Ecotourism is booming (1) _____ operators say this is helpful to nature. Every year, millions of people visit protected, natural areas to (2) _____. However, a new report casts doubt on this form of tourism. The report, published (3) _____ 'Trends in Ecology and Evolution,' suggests that ecotourism damages more than helps nature. Researchers (4) _____ animals in their natural habitat. They pointed (5) _____ in Costa Rica where turtles had problems laying their eggs because of the many tourists who had gathered (6) _____ watch them.

The (7) _____ ecotourism is making animals bolder. A human presence makes animals tamer (8) _____ about other animals. This could put (9) _____ being attacked by their natural predators, so more of them will be killed. The report said that when animals interact with humans, "they may let (10) _____". The report also said it was essential, "to develop a more comprehensive understanding of how (11) _____ different situations respond to human visitation, and under what precise conditions human exposure might (12) _____".

ECOTOURISM SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151014-ecotourism-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ecotourism in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

