

MODEL QUESTION 23

Unit: 12, lesson: 3

Though they are one of the most beloved animal species on Earth, pandas aren't safe from the devastating effects of climate change. According to a new study, projected temperature increases in China over the next century will likely seriously hinder bamboo, almost the sole source of food for endangered pandas. Ninety-nine per cent of a panda's diet is bamboo and an adult panda needs around 38 kilograms of bamboo every day. Only if bamboo can move to new habitats at higher elevations will pandas stand a chance of survival, the researchers said. However, if conservation programs wait too long, human inhabitants and activities could claim all of the new habitats capable of supporting bamboo in a warming world. "It is tough, but I think there's still hope, if we take action now," said research team member Jianguo Liu ... "If we wait, then we could be too late." The researchers used various climate-change models to project the future for three bamboo species relied on by pandas in the Qinling Mountain region of China, which represents about a quarter of the total remaining panda habitat. These models varied in their specific predictions, but each forecasted some level of temperature rise within the coming century. The results suggest that if the bamboo is restricted to its current distribution area, between 80 and 100 percent of it will disappear by the end of the 21st century, because it won't be able to grow under the increased temperatures. If, however, bamboo can move into new, cooler areas (which will reach the same temperatures as current bamboo habitats due to warming), then there is hope. However, all depend on the extent to which humans can curtail climate change by limiting greenhouse-gas emissions in the future. Many pandas in the wild currently live in nature reserves protected from human encroachment. However, almost all of the land encompassed by those reserves will be unsuitable for the bamboo if the temperatures rise as predicted. But if conservationists plan ahead now to move those reserves in line with changing bamboo habitats, then it may be possible to preserve the land the pandas will need. And climate change is not the only challenge facing giant pandas, one of the most endangered species in the world, researchers say. Human activities have already severely limited the animals' habitats, and their dependence on a single source of food, one that is not that nutrient - or energy - rich, doesn't help. In addition to their native habitats in China, pandas live around the world in zoos and breeding centers. But Liu doesn't predict a bright future for the bears if they lose their wild habitats. "To really protect pandas, you cannot just stick [them] into a breeding center or a zoo," he said, noting that the animals' genetic diversity would suffer, among other issues. "That's not a long-term solution

1. Choose the right word which is the closest meaning in the context that has been used in the text.

- a) The word **devastating** refers to text _____
i) pleasing ii) catastrophic iii) dissatisfactory iv) annoying
- b) The word **conservation** refers to text _____
i) preservation ii) freeze up iii) protection iv) reservation
- c) The word **encroachment** refers to text _____
i) crossing ii) proliferation iii) inducement iv) intrusion
- d) The word **predict** refers to text _____
i) forecast ii) suspect iii) expect iv) suggest
- e) The survival of the Pandas will be ensured if we _____.
i) take action ii) can keep temperature normal iii) increase the production of bamboos
iv) shift the pandas to safer place



- f) Human beings could claim all the new habitats capable of supporting bamboo _____
- i) if researchers is stopped on them ii) if preservation programmes are delayed much
iii) if the pandas attack human beings iv) if finding is carried on continuously
- g) '.....it will disappear by the end of the 21st century ' refers to _____
- i) Pandas will persist on eating vegetables in future ii) pandas will live long in the world
iii) pandas will be extinct due to increased temperatures
iv) pandas will be free the devour of global warming
- h) About a quarter of the total remaining pandas live in _____
- i) cold countries ii) China iii) India iv) hot countries
- i) Bamboo should be taken to _____
- i) hot countries ii) cooler areas iii) African countries iv) countries having dense forests
- j) Bamboo cannot grow under _____
- i) increased temperatures countries ii) decreased temperatures
iii) humid temperatures iv) cool temperatures

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- a. Why have the pandas forests disappeared?
b. How much does an adult panda eat a day?
c. When might the Qinling Mountains bamboo disappear?
d. How would you define the scientist Jianguo Liu's attitude? Is he an/a optimist/pessimist? Why do you think so?
e. What is the role bamboos play for existence of Pandas?

A vast mangrove forest shared by Bangladesh and India that is home to possibly 500 Bengal tigers is being rapidly destroyed by erosion, rising sea levels and storm surges, according to a major study by researchers at the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and others. The Sundarbans forest took the brunt of super cyclone Sidr in 2007, but new satellite studies show that 71% of the forested coastline is retreating by as much as 200 metres a year. If erosion continues at this pace, already threatened tiger populations living in the forests will be put further at risk. Natalie Pettoelli, one of the report's authors, said: "Coastline retreat is evident everywhere. A continuing rate of retreat would see these parts of the mangrove disappear within 50 years. On the Indian side of the Sundarbans, the island which extends most into the Bay of Bengal has receded by an average of 150 metres a year, with a maximum of just over 200 metres; this would see the disappearance of the island in about 20 years. The Sundarbans is known for vanishing islands but the scientists said the current retreat of the mangrove forests on the southern coastline is not normal. "The causes for increasing coastline retreat, other than direct anthropogenic ones, include increased frequency of storm surges and other extreme natural events, rises in sea-level and increased salinity which increases the vulnerability of mangroves," said Pettoelli. "Our results indicate a rapidly retreating coastline that cannot be accounted for by the regular dynamics of the Sundarbans. Degradation is happening fast, weakening this natural shield for India and Bangladesh. "As human development thrives, and global temperature continues to rise, natural protection from tidal waves and cyclones is being degraded at alarming rates. This will inevitably lead to species loss in this richly biodiverse part of the world, if nothing is done to stop it. "The Sundarbans is a critical tiger habitat; one of only a handful of remaining forests big enough to hold several hundred tigers. To lose the Sundarbans would be to move a step closer to the extinction of these majestic animals," said ZSL tiger expert Sarah Christie.

3. Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes of the flow chart showing the causes of the destruction of Royal Bengal Tiger in the Sundarbans and its effect. (No. 1 has been done for you)



Or,

What/who	Event/occurrence	How/when/why	Where
(i) _____ shared by Bangladesh and India	that is home to possibly 500 Bengal tigers is undergoing rapid destruction	(ii) _____	
The Sunderbans forest	(iii) _____	(iv) _____	
(v) _____	is retreating	by as much as 200 metres	(vi) _____
Erosion continuing at this pace	vii) _____ further at risk		
(viii) _____	will make the mangrove disappear	(ix) _____	
Indian mangrove forest	(x) _____	in about 20 years	

Hakaluki haor is known as a good grazing land in winter. People from villages around the Haor and also from distant areas send their herds for grazing. During this time, herders make temporary shelters near the beels and graze their animals for a period of 4-5 months. The Haor had very dense swamp forests in the past, but deforestation and a lack of conservation practices have virtually destroyed this unique forest in the last two decades. Two small patches of swamp forests still exist in the area of which one is in Chatla beel and the other near the village of Kalikrishnapur. With the exception of these two swamp forest patches, the vegetation surrounding Hakaluki haor is unique. It includes both swamp forest as well as mixed evergreen rain forest. Thatching material is the most useful natural wetland product of the area. The haor system provides a wide range of economic and non-economic benefits to the local people as well as to the people of Bangladesh. These include fish production, rice production, cattle and buffalo rearing, duck rearing, collection of reeds and grasses, and collection of aquatic and other plants. The haor system also protects the lower floodplains from flash floods occurring in the months of April-May, maintains the supply of fish in other lower water bodies and provides habitat for migratory and local waterfowls. The unique haor system contributes to the beauty of the landscape both during the monsoon and the dry season. In monsoon, its unique scenic beauty makes it a huge natural bowl of water and in the dry season it becomes a vast green grassland with pockets of beels serving as resting places for migratory birds. This unique natural system can be a major attraction for tourists.

4. Make a summary of the text (not more than 100 words)