

Reading Passage 09

In the popular imagination, the Serengeti ecosystem is an ancient African landscape of sweeping golden plains, unchanged for eons. Towering giraffes move gracefully in step. Elephant herds wade through waves of grasses. Lions chase down spiral-horned antelope in gory hunts. Zigzagging lines of wildebeests and zebras are perpetually on the move. And the people who live in the Serengeti, the Maasai and others, if they are acknowledged at all, are generally portrayed as exotic figures clinging stubbornly to archaic pastoral traditions. These representations bear some likeness to the actual place, but they fail to capture the complexity of a vast ecosystem that ranges from northern Tanzania to southwestern Kenya and is home to thousands of plant and animal species. Even the name, Serengeti—believed to come from the Maa word for “endless plain”—is deceptive. The Serengeti is many landscapes, including savanna, woodland, and riverine forests. It is a place like no other on the planet, with the last thriving populations of some animals. And it is a place where humans have lived in balance with animals since the beginnings of our species. But some of the animals that we have come to know so much about—and many others that remain mysteries—are at risk of disappearing as we humans increasingly lay claim to their habitats and heat the climate.

Source: National Geographic 2021/12, Page 46

1. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

- A) Inhabitants of Serengeti are thought to be mysterious characters, who firmly stick to old ritualistic practices.
- B) Many of the young and weak wildebeests are run over as the herds chaotically plunge into the river.
- C) In the dry season rivers in Serengeti still provide water, but the grasses in the north are poorer in nutrients.
- D) Maasai people, the biggest tribe, have adopted the necessities of modern life unlike other group of people in Serengeti.
- E) The Serengeti ecosystem is the only African landscape of sweeping golden plains, unchanged for ages.

2. According to the passage, the usual depictions of Serengeti ----.

- A) can portray the actual life there using various tools like elaborate metaphors
- B) used to be so intriguing that even local people believed those representations
- C) neglect the intricacies of the diverse environment, which harbours countless species
- D) reflect the delicate balance of life that is well-preserved from outside influences
- E) put emphasis on the nature rather than the animals and historic Maasai people

3. We understand from the passage that Serengeti ----.

- A) is being progressively cherished by people and thriving species
- B) has been shaped by ancient landscapes and never-ending pain
- C) has no natural leader, but trails that guide animals like a group
- D) is driven by hunger and a primal urge to move forward
- E) is a region whose delicate balance of nature faces increasing threats

4. What could be the best title of the passage?

- A) Fight for Survival in Serengeti
- B) The Unlikely Kin: Wildebeests and the Maasai People
- C) Serengeti: An Intricate Web of Life
- D) A Vicious Circle in Serengeti
- E) Voice of the Serengeti Forest

Match the words with their synonyms.

1. sweeping (adj.)

- A) partial
- B) restricted
- C) specific
- D) broad

2. eons (n.)

- A) ages
- B) weeks
- C) minutes
- D) days

3. gracefully (adv.)

- A) insipidly
- B) beautifully
- C) grotesquely
- D) hideously

4. chase (v.)

- A) escape
- B) retreat
- C) pursuit
- D) withdraw

5. gory (adj.)

- A) robust
- B) vigorous
- C) lethargic
- D) bloody

6. perpetually (adv.)

- A) constantly
- B) carelessly
- C) erratically
- D) frantically

7. acknowledge (v.)

- A) deny
- B) accept
- C) invalidate
- D) contradict

8. complexity (n.)

- A) tranquillity
- B) satisfaction
- C) composure
- D) intricacy

9. deceptive (adj.)

- A) trustworthy
- B) genuine
- C) misleading
- D) accurate

10. thriving (adj.)

- A) declining
- B) unpractical
- C) shrinking
- D) growing

Choose the best option.

1. Zigzagging ---- of wildebeests and zebras

- A) cords
- B) lines
- C) ropes
- D) wires

2. ---- the move

- A) on
- B) at
- C) till
- D) into

3. generally portrayed ---- exotic figures

- A) in
- B) as
- C) to
- D) over

4. clinging stubbornly ---- archaic pastoral traditions

- A) to
- B) at
- C) in
- D) on

5. These representations ---- some likeness to the actual place

- A) use
- B) refuse
- C) lay
- D) bear

6. a vast ecosystem that ranges ---- northern Tanzania ---- southwestern Kenya

- A) to/off
- B) from/to
- C) at/into
- D) through/in

7. The Serengeti is many landscapes, ----- savanna, woodland

- A) including
- B) contrary to
- C) in pursuit of
- D) unlike

8. humans have lived ---- balance with animals

- A) on
- B) to
- C) at
- D) in

9. are at ---- of disappearing

- A) exposure
- B) luck
- C) protection
- D) risk

10. lay ---- to their habitats

- A) claim
- B) hold
- C) demand
- D) need

Okuma Parçası 09

Popüler bir tahayyülde, Serengeti ekosistemi, yüzyıllardır değişmeyen, çok geniş altın ovalardan oluşan eski bir Afrika manzarasıdır. Uzun boylu zürafalar adım adım zarif bir şekilde hareket eder. Fil sürüleri çimen dalgaları arasında ağır ağır ilerler. Aslanlar, kanlı avlarda spiral boynuzlu antilopları kovalar. Afrika antilopları ve zebralar zikzak çizerek sürekli hareket halindedir. Ve Serengeti'deki Masai ve diğer insanlar, eğer farklarına varılırsa, genellikle arkaik pastoral geleneklere inatla yapışan egzotik figürler olarak tasvir edilir. Bu benzetmeler gerçek yerle bir miktar benzerlik taşıyor, ancak kuzey Tanzania'dan güneybatı Kenya'ya kadar uzanan ve binlerce bitki ve hayvan türüne ev sahipliği yapan geniş bir ekosistemin karmaşıklığını yakalamakta başarısızdır. Maa dilinde "sonsuz ova" anlamına gelen kelimesinden geldiğine inanılan Serengeti adı bile aldatıcıdır. Serengeti, savan, ormanlık alan ve ırmakçıl ormanları dâhil olmak üzere birçok manzaradan oluşur. Bazı hayvanların son büyüyen popülasyonları ile gezegende benzeri olmayan bir yerdir. Ve türümüzün başlangıcından beri insanların hayvanlarla denge içinde yaşadığı bir yerdir. Ancak, bazıları hakkında çok şey öğrendiğimiz ve bazılarının gizemlerini koruduğu hayvan türleri biz insanların giderek daha fazla yaşam alanlarına sahip çıkmasıyla ve havanın ısınmasını sağlamasıyla yok olma riskiyle karşı karşıyadır.

Match the words with their synonyms.

1. D 2. A 3. B 4. C 5. D 6. A
7. B 8. D 9. C 10. D

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1. A 2. C 3. E 4. C

Choose the best option.

1. B 2. A 3. B 4. A 5. D 6. B
7. A 8. D 9. D 10. A