

9.9 Endangered Species

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

KEY WORDS endangered species 濒危物种

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **endangered species**.

You must be able to:

- describe causes of endangerment (**HIPPO**)
- explain conservation strategies
- link small populations to extinction risk

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later — follow the steps and you can do the Practice and Exam-style questions yourself.

■ Causes of endangerment (**HIPPO**)

- **Habitat** loss (biggest cause).
- **Invasive** species.
- **Pollution**.
- **Population** (human) growth.
- **Overexploitation** (hunting, fishing).

■ Small populations are at risk

A small population has **low genetic diversity** and is vulnerable to disease, inbreeding, and random events, raising **extinction risk**.

■ Conservation strategies

- **Protected areas** and habitat restoration.
- **Laws** (e.g. Endangered Species Act, CITES banning trade).
- **Captive breeding** and reintroduction.
- **Wildlife corridors**.

■ A worked link

A species losing its habitat to farmland has fewer, smaller, isolated populations, which lose genetic diversity and become more likely to go extinct.

2 Practice

Now apply the methods above.

2.1 What is the biggest cause of species endangerment? [1]

2.2 State one conservation strategy. [1]

2.3 Why is a small population at higher extinction risk? [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 In the HIPPO acronym, the first “P” stands for [1]

A	B
C	D

A predators

B pollution

C photosynthesis

D phosphorus

3.2 A species is endangered by habitat loss and hunting.

(a) Name two conservation strategies that could help. [2]

(b) Explain why its small remaining population is vulnerable. [2]

3.3 Explain how international agreements like CITES help protect endangered species. [2]