

Whose Place Is It Anyway

A. Answer in brief.

What has happened to the golden moles, pine martens, polecats, hippos and cheetahs?

Ans: The golden mole's habitat has been harmed by mining activity while the pine marten, polecat and cheetah are almost extinct. Illegal hunters are wiping out the hippos.

B. Answer in detail.

According to the poet, in what ways have human activity brought harm to the life of other living things on our planet?

Ans: Uncontrolled development can be of harm to all other living things. The poet builds a hard-hitting case with his long list of creatures – across land and sea, across continents, from tiny insects to huge hippos – that are endangered by people's thoughtless or criminal activities. Mining activities have destroyed habitats of animals; illegal hunters have poached animals resulting in extinction or near extinction. Inconsiderate use of natural resources has led to global warming and melting of icecaps to the killing of polar bears.

C. Choose the correct answer.

What is the poem, 'Whose place is it Anyway' about?

- The effect of uncontrolled development to all other living things in this world
- A call for people to come together, restore the environment and save our planet
- An awareness that people are responsible for endangered species

Ans: b

D. Read the lines and answer the questions.

Will snakes find their lairs as habitat turns to road?

Does a parking lot come first or the Puerto Rican toad?

Will koalas in their hollows survive the ruthless logging?

Shall we bother to find out or is that just too much slogging?

- What happens to the homes of snakes, toads and koalas?
- What is the ruthless logging referred to here?
- Why does the poet wonder whether there is any point in estimating the huge damage done?

Ans: a. Indiscriminate building of roads and parking lots have led to clearing of forests.

This has resulted in destroying the natural habitat of snakes, frogs and koalas.

- The ruthless logging is the thoughtless manner in which trees are felled down.
- The poet wonders whether there is any point in taking an estimate of the damage done to the animal and plant kingdom because people have thoughtlessly and ruthlessly been destroying nature for their own selfish, uncontrollable needs.

E. Answer in brief. (Think and Answer)

- How is the sea life affected by human activities?

Ans: The waters have become so polluted that they are harmful to manta rays, newts and other sea creatures. Sharks are in danger because fishing trawls will capture them.

2. What is the tone of the poem?

Ans: The poem's tone in the beginning is informative and relentless, like a grim warning. It turns despondent and defeated in the middle, but ends on a note of ardent faith and hope with the lines: *So let's work together and restore their rightful place.*

F. Answer in detail. (Think and Answer)

What is the message the poet conveys in the poem, 'Whose Place Is It Anyway?'

Ans: The poet questions why people do not understand that they share this planet with all other living things. He asks why we cannot respect and value the role all creatures play in maintaining nature's balance. He urges people to prevent this eradication of fellow-inhabitants. He asks everyone to work together, to respect and restore everything's place in the environment.