

Section 4: Threats to Biodiversity

Study Guide B

KEY CONCEPT

The impact of a growing human population threatens biodiversity.

VOCABULARY

habitat fragmentation	introduced species
-----------------------	--------------------

MAIN IDEA: Preserving biodiversity is important to the future of the biosphere.

1. What is biodiversity?

2. Why is it important to preserve biodiversity?

3. Where are the highest levels of biodiversity on our planet?
Explain why this is so.

MAIN IDEA: Loss of habitat eliminates species.

4. List three ways in which humans cause habitat fragmentation.

MAIN IDEA: Introduced species can disrupt stable relationships in an ecosystem.

5. What is an introduced species?

Study Guide B *continued*

6. Complete the chart below with examples of introduced species and describe how they are disrupting the ecosystem in which they live.

Species	Impact on Ecosystem
Burmese python (Everglades)	
Kudzu (United States)	
Mice (Australia)	

Vocabulary Check

7. A *fragment* is defined as “a small part broken off or detached.” How does this definition relate to the meaning of habitat fragmentation?

Be Creative

8. Think of an area where you live that is an example of habitat fragmentation. Design a poster that both illustrates the problem and proposes a solution.