

For Teachers: Please have the students read the sentences one at a time and correct their pronunciation of each sentence then have them repeat after you. Wait until after they read the sentence (use the number in place of the missing word) to have the students choose the correct answer to fill in the blank. When the students finish the article, move on to the further questions.

日本語訳なしタイプ B もございます。スクロールダウンするとございますので好きな方をご利用下さい。

2[B] – The Sixth Mass Extinction

絶滅 (ぜつめつ)

Version3 G1 10-2

1. In these days of environmental awareness, we are subjected to a constant onslaught of shocking news detailing the impact of human activity on the planet. As it turns out, things may be even worse than we think. Many scientists believe that Earth is currently experiencing what has become known as the “sixth mass extinction.” All the past mass extinctions have resulted from species’ inability to adapt to drastic environmental changes brought about by physical events such as volcanic eruptions. The current extinction, however (29). The changes happening now are biotic, rather than physical, in origin; Richard Leaky said back in 1995, “(The sixth extinction) is happening now, and we, the human race, are its cause.”

Further Questions*Ask student to answer the question on their own at first. If the student can't answer correctly, have him look at the last page and read the “example answer” for the question. Have the student try to memorize the answer, if it's too long or difficult, you should divide the sentence into 2 or 3 parts to make it easier to remember. Once they have memorized the answer, the teacher should ask the question one last time so that the student can practice answering. Also if you find any mistakes, please mark the page and let me know ASAP.

2. 1) What do many scientists believe the Earth is currently experiencing?
 3. 多くの科学者は、地球には今何が起きていると考えていますか。
 4. 2) How is the sixth mass extinction different from previous ones?
 5. 六番目の大量絶滅は以前のものとはどう違うのですか。
 6. 1) *It is currently experiencing what has become known as the “sixth mass extinction.”*
 7. 2) *It is biotic, rather than physical, in origin.*

8. The vast changes brought about by the fifth mass extinction—which occurred about 65 million years ago, causing the demise of the dinosaurs—indicate the scale of the consequences we face. Scientists across a wide range of disciplines have echoed Leakey’s warning, emphasizing the necessity for quick and decisive action by world governments. Well over a decade has passed, and such a response (30). Thomas Brooks of Conversation International believes that while the sixth mass extinction can no longer be reversed, it may be slowed through alternative efforts. If these are to be implemented, they must focus on critical areas where humankind has the greatest negative impact on biodiversity: the destruction of natural habitats, the introduction of invasive species. And the pollution of the atmosphere.

Further Questions

9. **3)** What vast change was brought about by the fifth mass extinction?
ごばんめ たいりょうぜつめつ
 10. 五番目の大量絶滅でもたらされた大きな変化とは何ですか。
おお おお へんか なん
 11. **4)** Does Thomas Brooks believe the sixth mass extinction can be reversed?
ろくばんめ たいりょうぜつめつ か
 12. Thomas Brooks は、六番目の大量絶滅は変えられるものだと考えていますか。
 13. **5)** What must be focused on if the sixth mass extinction is to be slowed?
ろくばんめ たいりょうぜつめつ そくど おそ
 14. 六番目の大量絶滅の速度が遅くなったら、何に重点的に取り組むべきですか。
-
15. **3)** *It caused the demise of the dinosaurs.*
 16. **4)** *No. He believes that while the sixth mass extinction can no longer be reversed, it may be slowed.*
 17. **5)** *We must focus on critical areas where humankind has the greatest negative impact on biodiversity.*

18. Humans' indifference to the loss of so many of our fellow creatures may be in part due to a belief that we (**31**). However, Niles Eldredge of the American Museum of Natural History notes that although life has found a way of recovering after previous major extinctions, it has only done so "after whatever caused the extinction has 消(き)える dissipated." We would do well to 心(こころ)にとめる heed Eldredge's message: we can continue to destroy our environment and, inevitably, ourselves, or "modify" our behavior towards the global ecosystem of which we are still very much a part."

Further Questions

19. **6)** What may be in part responsible for humans' indifference to the loss of so many of our fellow creatures?
われわれ どうるい どうぶつ いのち うしな
 20. 我々と同類の動物たちの命がたくさん失われていることに人類が無関心であるのは、何に関与していると言えますか。
 21. **7)** When did life find a way of recovering after previous major extinctions?
ぜんかい おお たいりょうぜつめつ あと せいぶつ かいふく ほうほう
 22. 前回の大きな大量絶滅の後に、生物は回復する方法をいつ見つけましたか。
 23. **8)** What will happen if we do not modify our behavior towards the global ecosystem?
ちきゅう せいたいけい たい われわれ たいど あらた
 24. 地球の生態系に対して我々が態度を改めなければ、何が起こりますか。
-
25. **6)** *It may be in part due to the belief that we as a species are not threatened.*
 26. **7)** *It has done so after whatever caused the extinction has dissipated.*
 27. **8)** *We will continue to destroy the environment and, inevitably, ourselves.*

*Choose the correct answer from these choices.

28. **(29)** 先例(せんれい) 1 without precedent
 29. 2 is likely to be more rapid
 30. 3 may bring unexpected benefits
 31. 4 may be much less severe
32. **(30)** 1 is looking more possible
 33. 2 would have a greater effect today
 34. 3 has failed to emerge

35. 4 would now pose too many risks
36. (31) 1 are in no way to blame
37. 2 do not really know the cause
38. 3 can only make matters worse
39. 4 as a species are not threatened

Answers for “Further Questions”

40. 1) What do many scientists believe the Earth is currently experiencing?
41. *It is currently experiencing what has become known as the “sixth mass extinction.”*
42. 2) How is the sixth mass extinction different from previous ones?
43. *It is biotic, rather than physical, in origin.*
44. 3) What vast change was brought about by the fifth mass extinction?
45. *It caused the demise of the dinosaurs.*
46. 4) Does Thomas Brooks believe the sixth mass extinction can be reversed?
47. *No. He believes that while the sixth mass extinction can no longer be reversed, it may be slowed.*
48. 5) What must be focused on if the sixth mass extinction is to be slowed?
49. *We must focus on critical areas where humankind has the greatest negative impact on biodiversity.*
50. 6) What may be in part responsible for humans’ indifference to the loss of so many of our fellow creatures?
51. *It may be in part due to the belief that we as a species are not threatened.*
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56. 解答: (29) 1 (30) 3 (31) 4

Type B 日本語訳なし

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Further Questions

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***Choose the correct answer from these choices.**

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