

ELA/Literacy
Released Item 2018

Grade 5
Research Simulation Task
Giant Pandas
2208

Today you will research giant pandas. You will read the article “Giant Pandas.” Then you will read the article “Helping Giant Pandas” and a passage from the article “Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species.” As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about giant pandas so you can write an essay.

Read the article “Giant Pandas.” Then answer the questions.

Giant Pandas

Life Out in the Wild

- 1** An adult giant panda spends much of its day resting, seeking food, and eating. Unlike other bears from temperate climates, giant pandas do not hibernate. Until recently, scientists thought giant pandas spent most of their lives alone. They believed that males and females met only during the breeding season.
- 2** Recent studies paint a different picture. Small groups of giant pandas share a large territory and sometimes meet outside the breeding season. Much remains to be learned about the secret lives of these animals. Every new discovery helps scientists in their battle to save this species.

Giving Birth in Captivity

- 3** Giant pandas are also born in captivity. Captive breeding centers were started because giant pandas are so endangered. The giant pandas’ naturally slow breeding rate prevents a population from recovering quickly from illegal hunting, habitat loss, and other human-related causes of death. The captive breeding centers provide a protected place for giant pandas to breed and for baby pandas to grow up. One of the most famous centers for breeding baby pandas is the Wolong Nature Reserve.

What to do with Twins

- 4** When pandas are born in captivity, they often have twins. Panda mothers will only care for one baby at a time. This means the keepers at the breeding center have to help care for the babies and keep them healthy. They feed

the babies milk and keep them warm in incubators. The mother panda still gets to take care of both babies, but she cares for them one at a time.

Growing Up in Captivity

- 5 In captivity, young giant pandas remain together and have a chance to play. In the wild, it would be very rare for a young giant panda to meet another cub. This is because mother pandas live alone rather than in groups with other pandas. When panda cubs play, they appear to have lots of fun. But they are also learning important skills. For example, researchers hide snacks in hanging plastic tubes to teach cubs how to search for food.



Mr. Huang Yan checks a two-week-old baby panda to make sure it is developing properly. The baby is beginning to show its black coloring.

Branching Out From Bamboo

- 6 Giant pandas are now becoming easier to raise in captivity. This is because their keepers have discovered what foods to feed them. Cubs get a bowl of special milk for breakfast and lunch until they are about two years old. The milk is made by boiling rice and adding vitamins. Between the age of seven and nine months, panda cubs begin to snack on tender bamboo shoots. Other foods captive giant pandas eat include sugar cane, carrots, apples, and sweet potatoes. They also eat “panda bread” made from a mixture of ground bamboo, grains, and assorted vitamins and minerals.

Living Up to Their Name

- 7 Giant panda cubs grow quickly. Every few days, the staff at the breeding center must weigh them to check on their development. That includes lifting them onto a scale. This isn't an easy job when the panda weighs almost as much as you do! No wonder they're called *giant* pandas!



Giant panda cubs in captivity are given a special milk porridge twice a day. Their keepers make sure they are getting plenty to eat and that they are growing well.

Pandas and People

- 8 In China, people and giant pandas have been living together for thousands of years. But China's human population has been steadily growing. It is now the largest in the world. More people means more land is needed for farming. It also means more forests are cut for wood to build and heat houses. Loss of habitat in lowland areas has forced pandas to live only in the mountains.

Habitat Loss

- 9 The most damaging result of development has been that it has divided the panda's habitat into little islands of forest. Today, many pandas are isolated in these small sections of forest, because they will cross into areas where humans live. The result is that the giant pandas cannot connect with one another to mate and have babies.

Make Room for Pandas

- 10** People are trying to help the giant panda survive by creating protected areas and breeding centers. China has 37 official areas for protecting the giant panda. All of these areas are in mountainous southwestern China. The Wolong Nature Reserve is one of the most famous.



The protected temperate forest of

Wolong Nature Reserve is a critical habitat for the survival of the endangered giant panda.

The Role of the Wolong Nature Reserve

- 11** Wolong is famous for its giant panda breeding center called the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda. Wolong's temperate forest is an extraordinary and beautiful place full of other rare mammals including the red panda, beautiful birds, insects, and plants found nowhere else in the world. The giant panda is an umbrella species. Protecting the

panda protects the habitat for many other wild plants and animals that are critical to the biodiversity of the forest.

“Giant Pandas” from Globio. Copyright © by Globio. Used by permission.

Photo 1: © Gerry Ellis/Minden Pictures

Photos 2 and 3: © Katherine Feng/Minden Pictures

Read the passage from the article “Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species.” Then answer the questions.

from “Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species”

by David George Gordon

Pandas at Risk

- 1 Scientists estimate that fewer than 2,000 giant pandas live in the mountains of central China. About another 200 pandas live in zoos and breeding stations, mostly in China. Giant pandas are among the most rare of the world’s living mammals.

Raising Babies

- 2 “Every newborn panda is important,” says Don Lindburg, leader of the giant panda research team at the San Diego Zoo. “After they have grown to adulthood, some of the captive-born bears could be released into the mountainous wilds,” he says. Those that mate and give birth to more cubs will help rebuild China’s perilously small population of wild pandas.
- 3 “Breeding giant pandas is no easy feat,” says Lindburg. Female giant pandas can produce cubs only once every two years. In the wild, an adult female may successfully raise five to eight cubs in her lifetime. By studying pandas in captivity, Lindburg and other scientists are discovering ways to improve the odds for the precious young pandas’ survival.
- 4 Giant pandas once wandered freely across China to its eastern coast and from the country’s mountaintops to the food-rich valleys below. But as more people made their homes in the valleys and began to farm the land, the naturally shy pandas lost a lot of their habitat and most of their food—the fresh stems, shoots, and leaves of wild bamboo plants.

Hope for the Future

- 5 Today conservation groups, scientists, zoo workers, and the Chinese government work to safeguard what remains of the pandas’ habitat. Many think that creating bamboo corridors—strips of undisturbed land through which pandas can comfortably wander and feed—are one hope for saving the

giant panda from extinction. These corridors would connect all of today's smaller panda reserves to create one larger habitat for all wild pandas.

From "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species" by David George Gordon, copyright © by David George Gordon. Used by permission of National Geographic Stock.

Anchor Set
A1 – A10
With Annotations

Over the years, giant pandas' natural habitats have been destroyed or cut down. This loss of panda territory has contributed to the decline of panda population, because the bears are losing their food resources, their homes, and dens where they can give birth. They can't even meet to breed! Without these necessary objects to survival, pandas may continue to die and be endangered.

Because of human reasons, giant panda's habitats have been cut down for fuel, wood, and other things. Amongst all the things humans are clearing, is the great food source pandas depend on: bamboo. Evidence that this is one of the major reasons why giant pandas are dying is that in article "Helping Giant Pandas", paragraph 3, it explains, "Bamboo is the most important plant in a panda's life, because that is what it eats! ... Sometimes their food supply is low because after the bamboo produces seeds, the entire plant dies. When that happens, pandas move to another area. But now, with humans taking up much of the pandas' habitat, pandas are often unable to move to another area and may starve." The bamboo is dying, and with the pandas' little habitat, it is running out of food resources. It may start to starve and the population will keep decreasing.

Humans artificially cutting down forests is also bad to the giant pandas' survival because it is taking out dens, where pandas can give birth. Pandas very rarely give birth, so when they do it is important they have a place to do it. But, now that they have a limited range of land, there are fewer dens for them to reproduce. Evidence that the pandas' birth is rare and we should protect the cubs is in a passage from "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species." In paragraph 3, Don Lindenburg, panda expert, says, "Breeding giant pandas is no easy feat." The article continues, "Female giant pandas can produce cubs only once every two years. In the wild, an adult female may successfully raise five to eight cubs in her lifetime. " That is very, very ultra rare. Births are slow. On the occasion, again, each panda mother should have a place to have a child. These special dens are becoming harder and harder to find.

Finally, giant pandas are endangered due to loss of habitats because they are isolated. Without being able to meet with males, female pandas cannot give birth. They are isolated because there are only little islands of forest for each giant panda family. To cross over to another island to meet a male, the female would have to go into human range, which can be dangerous. Evidence is in the article, "Giant Pandas." In paragraph 9, it says, "The most damaging result of development has been that it has divided the pandas' habitat into little islands of forest. Today, many pandas are isolated in these small sections of forest, because they will cross into areas where humans live. The result is that the giant pandas cannot connect with one another to mate and have babies." The panda population is very hard to grow, so the best we can do is keep the pandas *already* in the world. No breeding means no birth, meaning no more pandas.

In conclusion, giant pandas are very endangered, due to human deveopment, wanting to cut down their habitats for fuel, farming land, even illegal hunting, and other resources. The pandas, however, are losing these things while humans are gaining them. The major reasons of how loss of land has contributed to the decline of panda population is that they are isolated due to only small sections of forest land remainig, rare births of children, and loss of their major food resource: bamboo. If we can try and stop other humans from invading pandas' homelands, maybe we can save them. Most reasons are caused by loss of habitat, so can you help stop them? Will you try to save the giant panda population? Because if you do, **every action or even donation of money will make a difference to help the beloved bears of China.**

Annotation

Anchor Paper 1

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 4

This response provides an accurate analysis of how human needs for fuel, wood, and land have destroyed pandas' habitats, and links this destruction to the lack of food, space for breeding dens, and isolation from other pandas to the panda population decline. Clearly connecting details relating the loss of panda habitat, along with clear reasoning and relevant text support to explain the decline of the panda population results in consistent and effective development (*The bamboo is dying, and with the pandas' little habitat, it is running out of food resources. It may start to starve and the population will keep decreasing. . . . Pandas very rarely give birth, so when they do it is important they have a place to do it. But, now that they have a limited range of land, there are fewer dens for them to reproduce. . . . These special dens are becoming harder and harder to find. . . . Without being able to meet with males, female pandas cannot give birth. . . . No breeding means no birth, meaning no more pandas*). The introduction provides an effective overview of the ideas in the response, and the conclusion reiterates these ideas, lending cohesion to the response. Separating concepts from the introduction into body paragraphs and connecting ideas with transitional elements together provides effective organization. Language is used to effectively clarify ideas, with varied sentence structures and precise word choice (*they are isolated due to only small sections of forest land remaining, rare births of children, and loss of their major food resource: bamboo. If we can try and stop other humans from invading pandas' homelands, maybe we can save them*).

Giant pandas have been a very popular animal for many years. Their black and white fur and their cuddly features have made them one of the most popular animals. But what many people don't know is that giant pandas are extremely endangered. (There are only about 2,000 giant pandas left in the world!) In the passages *Giant Pandas*, *Helping Giant Pandas*, and an excerpt from the article *Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species*, the authors discuss this topic. Even though the giant panda has been losing its habitat, scientists and many others have been working to save the species.

A major reason that giant pandas have been on the decline is that their habitats are getting destroyed. Because this is happening, the giant panda species doesn't have a home, the mothers have no place to raise their cubs, and their main food source, **bamboo**, is being destroyed. In the passage *Giant Pandas*, paragraph 9, it states another outcome of panda habitats getting destroyed. "The most damaging result of development has been that it has divided the panda's habitat into little islands of forest. Today, many pandas are isolated in these small sections of forest, because they will cross into areas where humans live." This makes the mating process impossible.

Bamboo loss has been a major factor to the decline of giant pandas. For one, it is their main source of food. Also, in the passage *Helping Giant Pandas*, it states in paragraph 3 that "Giant pandas eat for or five kinds of bamboo that grow in their home range. In some areas, humans have cleared forests to grow one or two kinds of bamboo, but it is not the kind the pandas need to survive."

Areas for giant panda mating have also been rapidly disappearing. When pandas can't mate, the population is not growing. When the population isn't growing, it makes the species become even more endangered. In paragraph 4 of *Helping Giant Pandas*, it states that "Panda females use hollow tree stumps and stone caves as dens for raising their cubs. As forests are cleared for human uses, there are fewer dens available." A little fun fact is that the San Diego Zoo has been working with Chinese scientists to put some man-made dens in the wild.

Even though panda population wasn't looking so good in the last 50 years, many people are working to change that for the future. In the passage *Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species*, it mainly talks about the hopeful future that many people have for the pandas and things that they're doing to help. In paragraph 5, it states that "Today, conservation groups, scientists, zoo workers, and the Chinese government work to safeguard what remains of the pandas' habitat." It also states that many people think that bamboo corridors, which are strips of bamboo and safeguarded forest areas where pandas can freely wander and feed, are going to help contribute to the future of giant pandas. *The past doesn't always determine the future.*

Annotation

Anchor Paper 2

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 4

This response demonstrates full comprehension by providing an accurate analysis of people's destruction of panda habitats and how the loss of habitat, bamboo, and breeding dens has contributed to the decline of the panda population (*A major reason that giant pandas have been on the decline is that their habitats are getting destroyed. . . . Bamboo loss has been a major factor to the decline of giant pandas. . . . Areas for giant panda mating have also been rapidly disappearing*). Clear reasoning and relevant, text-based evidence from the articles provides effective development (*Because this is happening, the giant panda species doesn't have a home, the mothers have no place to raise their cubs, and their main food source, **bamboo**, is being destroyed. . . . This makes the mating process impossible. . . . it is their main source of food. . . . When pandas can't mate, the population is not growing. When the population isn't growing, it makes the species become even more endangered*). Organization is also effective, with an introduction that orients the reader to the plight of the giant pandas and a conclusion that looks to the future of these animals. In addition, the body paragraphs group ideas by cause of population decline. Transitions (*But, Even though, Because this is happening, For one, Also*) connect ideas throughout the response, further contributing to clear and coherent writing. Precise word choices and varied sentence structures (*Their black and white fur and their cuddly features have made them one of the most popular animals. But what many people don't know is that giant pandas are extremely endangered*) contribute to language that is effective in clarifying ideas.

Humans and giant pandas both need something out of the forests. The giant pandas need a home to live in, mate, eat, and have babies so their population could grow in the future life. The humans need wood for their homes and other needs. They also need space for future farming. The humans though are getting what they want but the pandas aren't. In the articles it states that more and more the giant panda's population decreased where as the human population had increased. The giant pandas do need our help since we only caused this. Scientists are trying to prevent the giant pandas from going extinct so we should the same.

In all three stories it states that giant pandas are becoming more and more extinct when their habitats are being destroyed. The humans are chopping down their habitats when the human population keeps growing. The wood is used for the every human's need like fuel and fire. Humans also need more space for farming which is another use of cutting down trees. It gives more room for farming. In every article it states that the human population is growing so more people means more land. It also means that more forests are cut down for wood to build and heat homes. This demonstrates that not many people care about the giant pandas that much.

The loss of habitat has contributed to the decline of the panda population because that decreases the population of the pandas since the pandas are losing their habitat and food for survival. Without food the pandas HAVE to search for more areas to live in. Now with all the humans chopping down trees the pandas have no place to build shelter or live in shelter like a hollow tree stump. The mother pandas won't have any place to give birth to a cub and they might even die before giving birth to a cub. Sure the humans are growing one or two kinds of bamboos but that isn't enough for the pandas. In all the articles it states that the giant pandas can't connect one another to mate and have cute baby cubs. This is caused by the little area pandas have. This shows that giant pandas are deeply in need of every human's help.

Giant pandas are very cute and everyone likes a panda. If we could try harder we might be able to take them off the endangered species list, especially the cubs. We should put ourselves in their shoes. The cubs are the future pandas which could help populate the pandas population sky high. I'm not saying that adult pandas don't also need help because they also need our help. They only take care of the babies and every panda counts. I hope that pandas and humans could somehow compromise in the future soon.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 3

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 3

This response demonstrates comprehension by providing an analysis of the relationship between the needs of China's growing human population and the destruction of panda habitats. Specifically, panda population has decreased from the loss of habitat and food to people (*as the human population had increased . . . giant pandas are becoming more and more extinct . . . The loss of habitat has contributed to the decline of the panda population because that decreases the population of the pandas since the pandas are losing their habitat and food for survival*). Mostly clear reasoning supported by relevant, text-based evidence provides mostly effective development (*The humans are chopping down their habitats when the human population keeps growing. . . more people means more land. It also means that more forests are cut down for wood to build . . . Without food the pandas HAVE to search for more areas to live in. . . pandas have no place to build shelter or live in shelter like a hollow tree stump*). However, some reasoning does not contribute to the development (*This demonstrates that not many people care about the giant pandas that much. . . This shows that giant pandas are deeply in need of every human's help*). The response is mostly organized, with ideas grouped by the reasons behind habitat destruction, and then by the effects this loss has impacted upon the giant panda population. However, the coherence is lessened in this response as the introduction and conclusion attempt to persuade the reader to support conservation efforts, rather than to address the prompt. Mostly precise language use contributes to the mostly clear and coherent writing and is mostly effective in clarifying ideas (*. . . the giant panda's population decreased where as the human population had increased. . . prevent the giant pandas from going extinct . . . compromise in the future*).

Many Giant Panda populations have been decreasing during the years. Research shows that the Giant Panda populations have been decreasing because many of the people in China have been filling up the panda's habitats causing less space for the pandas. The number of Giant Pandas has also decreased because of the loss of bamboo. People in China are trying to do everything they can to save these beautiful creatures. Giant pandas are amazing creatures and should be cared for.

China's population has been increasing, in fact China's population is the largest in the world. The more people that live in China, the more space they need. Unfortunately the space they need is the Giant Panda's habitat. In the article "Giant Pandas" it says "Loss of habitat in lowland areas has forced pandas to live only in the mountains". The larger the population of China is, the less space for breeding and playing they'll have.

The loss of habitat is not the only obstacle Giant Pandas have. These pandas are also missing important food for their survival. Since the pandas are losing land they are also losing the food, such as bamboo in those lands. In the article "Helping Giant Pandas" it says "But now, with humans taking up much of the panda's habitat, pandas are often unable to move to another area and may starve". Giant Pandas have bamboo in the new places they have to move to, but it's not the type they need to survive.

People in China are doing the best they can to help these adorable creatures from becoming extinct. In the article "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species" it shows how people want to help these poor creatures. The article says "Today conservation groups, scientists, zoo workers, and the Chinese Government work to safeguard what remains of the pandas' habitat". Pandas have been together with China for thousands of years. China wants to protect their marvelous and adorable Giant Panda.

Thanks to the help of the Chinese government and other people there are many centers to help pandas and keep them in captivity. In these places the pandas have much better lives. Even though they aren't in the wild they are still very healthy. With these centers pandas will probably increase their population and won't be in trouble of extinction. Giant Pandas will be able to live long lives.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 4

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 3

Mostly accurate analysis links growth of the Chinese population to the declining numbers of giant pandas. The response identifies main causes as the loss of breeding space and food from occupied areas (*. . . many of the people in china have been filling up the panda's habitats causing less space for the pandas. . . . The larger the population of China is, the least space for breeding. . . . they are also loosing the food, such as bamboo in those lands*). In each body paragraph, mostly clear reasoning supports text-based evidence from one of the articles (*The more people that live in China, the more space they need. Unfortunately the space they need is the Giant Panda's habitat. . . . Giant Pandas have bamboo in the new places they have to move to, but it's not the type they need to survive*). The development is mostly effective since these details are appropriate to task and purpose; however, the inclusion covering Chinese conservation efforts in the fourth paragraph strays from the prompt, detracting from coherence and preventing development from being consistently effective. Logically grouping ideas by text, along with an introduction and conclusion framing the response, and transitional devices (*In the article, The loss of habitat is not the only obstacle Giant Pandas have*) provides organization.

In the books "Giant Panda" "Helping Giant Pandas" and "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Edangered Species" they all tell you stuff that has happened to the Ginat Panda species. In "Giant Panda" some of the bad things that have heppened to Giant Panda's are... China's population has been growing whichmeans they need more land for houses and farming. The land they use is he land that the Giant Pandas live on. When people use there land they usually chop down they trees and the caves. When they do this they are hurting the Giant Pandas and thier habitats. Then the Giant Pandas go somewhere else and they have to find food. When this happens some of the Pandas can starve or get killed by humans.

In "Helping Giant Pandas" the auther states that Giant Pandas eat four or five kinds of bamboo that grow in thier home range. Sometimes thier food supply is low because after bamboo produces seeds, the entire plant dies. When that happens, pandas move to another area. But now, with humans taking up much of the pandas habitat, pandas are often unable to move to another area and may starve.

When a pandas habitat is destroyed they have to go somewhere else, but with humans using a lot of the land its hard for them to find a new home. A lot of the pandas may starve or may get hunted. Around the world people re trying to help the panda population.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 5

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 2

This response demonstrates basic comprehension by providing an analysis linking the needs of China's growing human population to panda population decline (*China's population has been growing which means they need more land for houses and farming. . . . some of the Pandas can starve*). Some reasoning from "Helping Giant Pandas" provide some development of the topic (*When people use there land they usually chop down they trees and the caves. . . . Giant Pandas go somewhere else and they have to find food*). Grouping ideas by passage, along with an introductory statement and conclusion framing the response, provides some organization. Transitions connecting ideas within and between paragraphs add some coherence. Concrete words and phrases express ideas with some clarity (*chop down, habitat is destroyed*).

There are many things that have happened to the giant pandas' natural habitat. One thing that has happened to the giant pandas' habitat is that humans have been making their homes in the valleys where the pandas' have been getting their food from. The article *Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species* said, "Giant pandas once wandered freely across China to its eastern coast and from the country's mountaintops to the food-rich valley below. But as more people make their homes in the valleys and began to farm the land, the naturally shy pandas lost a lot of their habitat and most of their food—the fresh stems, shoots, and leaves of wild bamboo plants." From that, you can tell that people making their homes in the pandas' habitat has caused them to lose most of their food, decreasing the population of pandas.

Another reason is that humans have been clearing the forests for their own uses, but panda females use hollow tree stumps and stone caves as dens. With people clearing the forests, there are less dens available. The passage *Helping Giant Pandas* read, "Panda females use hollow tree stumps and stone caves as dens for raising their cubs. As forests are cleared for human uses, there are fewer dens available." From my statements and the text's statements, you can tell that many pandas are living without a home for protection.

I have stated my reasons and hopefully have proven my point that mainly human actions are destroying the giant pandas natural habitat. Also that the loss of habitat has left pandas with little food and little shelter. All of this has contributed to the decline of the panda population. So let's help the pandas, not endanger them.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 6

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 2

The response demonstrates basic comprehension by providing a generally accurate analysis connecting the destruction of panda habitats to the causes of the panda population decline: lost food and shelter (. . . *humans have been making their homes in the valleys where the pandas' have been getting their food from. . . the loss of habitat has left pandas with little food and little shelter*). Some reasoning follows text-based evidence taken from two of the passages (. . . *people making their homes in the pandas' habitat has caused them to lose most of their food, decreasing the population of pandas. . . many pandas are living without a home for protection*), resulting in some development. An introduction and conclusion frame the response, and ideas are grouped around quotations from the response, providing some organization. Some transitions connect ideas within and between paragraphs (*One, From that, Another reason, but, From my, Also, All of this, So*). Some variety in sentence structure and mostly general word choice result in language that expresses ideas with some clarity (*There are many things that have happened to the giant pandas' natural habitat. One thing that has happened to the giant pandas' habitat is that humans have been making their homes in the valleys where the pandas' have been getting their food from*).

most of the problem is are the humans taking over all the space that the panda needs and taking all the there food to survive . in the text of helping giant pandas it says " humans taking up much of the pandas habitat pandas are often unable to move to other places and may starve." this proves to me that humans are the big problem taking all the pandas space and privacy. this is unfair to the pandas and is so cruel to them. we need to stop taking up all there space and leave them alone to at least live there life. we keep on ruining all there dens and taking all there space. we wouldnt like it if pandas ruined are privacy. we need to stop what were doing and respect our animals because there living things to. in the text of giant panda cubs give hope to endangered speices it says" evry newborn is important." from this its clear that means that means that if every newborn is important that there are not a lot of giant pandas because this animal is endangered and were just making it worse. we have to protect that. we should care for these big fellows. there alive to. we are jumping and ruining all ther property and we need to stop quick because these animals could go extinct fast. in the text of giant pandas it says " today many pandas are isolated in these small sections of the forest because they will cross human life. the result is that the giant pandas cannot connect with one another to mate and have babies." this shows me that we are stopping the pandas from making more pandas and its not fair to the pandas. we need to stop this or these animals will become extinct and never be seen again. giant pandas need there respect and prvacy and we are not giving them that. this needs to stop now. the author is trying to teach us that everyone needs there respect and privacy. there will be no more animals if we keep on doing this. these stoies should encourage you to respect and love all the animals and care for them. they are living to. think about what you are doing and always respect and love.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 7

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 1

This response demonstrates limited comprehension of ideas in the texts by providing not only a minimal analysis linking people to habitat loss and population decline, but also inaccurately associating the decline with a lack of privacy (*most of the problem is are the humans taking over all the space that the panda needs and taking al the there food to survive . . . humans are the big problem taking all the pandas space and privacy*). Limited reasoning and quotations provide minimal development (*. . . there are not a lot of giant pandas because this animal is endangered and were just making it worse. . . we are stopping the pandas from making more pandas*). However, the inclusion of persuasive content throughout the response distracts from the purpose (*. . . we need to stop taking up all there space . . . this needs to stop now. . . think about what you are doing*). While an introductory statement and a conclusion frame the response, the movement between ideas is not adequately supported, so that despite the use of transitions (*this proves, from this its clear, the result is that*), the response demonstrates limited clarity.

Giant Pandas have been losing their homes because of us. We cut down trees that pandas live in. We also cut down bamboo that pandas eat and then they starve. When pandas starve, they die. That's why they are becoming endangered. I think that it was a good idea to make corridors where the panda bears can roam freely without getting hurt.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 8

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 1

This response provides an analysis that states people removing trees and bamboo from pandas' habitats led to the decline of the panda population, demonstrating a limited comprehension of the ideas in the passages. This analysis is minimally developed with limited reasoning and text-based evidence (*Giant Pandas have been losing their homes because of us. . . . We also cut down bamboo that pandas eat and then they starve. When pandas starve, they die*). A few transitions connect ideas between sentences (*We also, When pandas starve, That's why*), but the coherence of this response is limited by the last sentence, which provides an opinion only loosely connected to the topic. Word choice is general, with little variety in sentences, resulting in language that expresses ideas with limited clarity.

In the 1st article they talk about how the new breeding center is helping pandas from coming extinct. In the 2nd article it helps to persuade people who live in China to make room for the pandas. In the 3rd article they are saying after the breeding center the future will be better than today.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 9

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 0

This response demonstrates no comprehension of the ideas in the texts, offering only minimal summaries of the articles instead of an analysis of what has happened to pandas' habitats or the contribution of habitat loss to the decline of the panda population. The small amount of textual information within the summaries is unrelated to the prompt. It is, therefore, inappropriate to the task. The response also lacks organization and coherence, providing a summary for each passage without effectively connecting ideas.

More people made their homes in the valleys and began to farm the land, the naturally shy pandas lost a lot of their habitat and most of their food the fresh stems, shoots and leaves of wild bamboo plants.

Annotation

Anchor Paper 10

Reading Comprehension and Written Expression

Score Point 0

This response is a direct copy of the text from the article "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species." Although the copied text addresses what has happened to the pandas' habitat, the response is undeveloped and inappropriate to the task since it contains no original writing. Consisting entirely of directly copied text, the response does not use language to express ideas with clarity.

Practice Set P101 - P105

No Annotations Included

The giant pandas are slowly returning. Due to the loss of mates, food, and habitat, the pandas were slowly disappearing.

From the article "Giant Pandas" they say that with such a loss of habitat, that "Today, many pandas are isolated to these small sections of the forest, because they won't cross into areas where humans live." Which all of the articles seem to agree, stops the connections between male and female pandas.

Quote from the article "Helping Giant Pandas": "Bamboo is the most important plant in a panda's life, because that is what it eats!" I too believe it is a very important plant for giant panda. The article also claims that people to grow two kinds

Continued

of bamboo, but not the kinds giant pandas eat. Humans also have taken so much of the giant pandas land, that food is quite scarce. Once a bamboo shoot gives off seeds, it dies. Then, the panda must find another section for bamboo. But the problem is, there aren't many more places to go!

The article "Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species" also mentions the great loss of habitat. It says that perhaps if they create bamboo corridors—strips of bamboo on undisturbed land, they could connect it to all of the smaller panda reservations. It would make it all one big habitat.

The existence of these bears

Continued

is very important to some people. They are China's "national treasure," and without the panda's natural habitat, food, or mates, who knows what might happen to them?

Giant Pandas are one of the worlds many endangered species. The reason that they are is habitat loss. In China there are many residents, and the population is still growing. Since China's population is growing there is need for more land. The land that is being cleared is the land that pandas live on. I think that they should let the pandas stay where they have always lived in peace. Pandas are pretty much harmless to people but people don't think about the animals that live on the land that they are clearing. I just hope that people can start thinking more about animals and thier habitat.

Pandas are beautiful creatures. That we should protect the best we can. In this essay I will make it my best effort to describe how we have effected the pandas how nature is hard on them and how little of them there is in this day in age. Maybe pandas will be "underdogs" or they could just be hanging on a cliff and slipped.

Pandas are endangered. Maybe its because of us, or just how they are? Peoples population is growing and we need more land for farms, houses, and more. Witch we take from them. We cut down forestes witch leaves them exposed. As it said in paragraph three in Giant Pandas it mentions **habitat loss** and **illegal hunting**.

This is making a greater impact on them then we probably even amagain. Its like someone comes home one day and your house is gone. That person would have no place to live!

So little pandas too! It says in paragraph one of Gaint Pandas Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species, "Scientists estimate that fewer than 2,000 pandas live in the mountains of central china." I couldnt even begin to think if there were less than 2,000 humans in China.

But maybe its not **all** our fault. It says in paragraph five in Helping Giant Pandas, "Pandas only give birth every two years." If that were for humans I dont know if we would still be alive! If we had people hunting us, no natural habitat, and it took two years to breed.

But maybe we just have to keep trying. To keep helping them breed. Or even to help them in the smallest ways but may make a big diffrence. All we know is that we just have to keep trying to help them and maybe they will come back.

The giant pandas food people made their homes in the valleys and began to farm the land, the naturally shy shoot, and leaves of wild bamboo plants. A lot of giant pandas had lost a lot of their habitat and most of their food.

In the three articles, Giant Pandas, by Globio, Helping Giant Pandas, by San Diego Zoo, and Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species, by David George Gordon, the reader is given the idea that the main contributing factor to the loss of habitat pandas face is human needs. The giant panda's population in China had originally been consisting of thousands of pandas, but now in the twenty-first century, there is estimated to be about 1600 pandas left in the wild, plus the 200 in captivity.

In the article, Helping Giant Pandas, San Diego Zoo tries to give ideas of how to help the pandas in the wild, as well as addressing the problems the human race poses to pandas. "As forests are cleared for human uses, there are fewer dens available." The newest solution to this problem of lack of dens is to make man-made dens and to put them out into the wild. However, the panda mothers do not often use these dens, and why has yet to be discovered.

Scientists have always believed that pandas were solitary creatures, meeting only in the breeding season. But newer research proves them wrong. "Small groups of giant pandas share a large territory and sometimes meet outside the breeding season," says the article Giant Pandas. This newer research has given scientists reason to think that humans cutting down forests is a big problem. "The most damaging result of development has been that it has divided the panda's habitat into little islands of forest, because they will cross into areas where humans live. The result is that the giant pandas cannot connect with one another to mate and have babies." This human development is what is causing the biggest problem for a panda's survival.

The author of Giant Pandas yet again makes his point when he talks about farming. He says that although farming is an ancient practice, in large quantities, it poses a large problem. "More people means more land is needed for farming. It also means more forests are cut for wood to build and heat houses. Loss of habitat in lowland areas has forced pandas to live only in the mountains." Although the mountains are less human-inhabited, of the 4-5 species of bamboo that giant pandas eat, only 1 or 2 species grow in the mountains where the pandas now live.

David Gordon, author of the article Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species, also focuses on the problems humans face to pandas, but from a different perspective: while the other two articles focus on loss of habitat, Gordon focuses on the food pandas have to eat. "But as more people made their homes in the valleys and began to farm the land, the naturally shy pandas lost a lot of their habitat and most of their food--the fresh stems, shoots, and leaves of wild bamboo plants." This lack of food, as well as the loss of habitat due to roads and towns, which are dangerous for pandas to go near, will lead to sickness and sometimes death. San Francisco Zoo adds to this idea in their article: "But now, with humans taking up much of the panda's habitat, pandas are often unable to move to another area and may starve." This starvation happens because after bamboo drops its seeds, it dies. Since the different bamboo species die at different times, this would not be a problem if the humans hadn't pushed the pandas into the inhospitable areas of the mountain, where the bamboo with different timing of seed-drops cannot grow.

In the three comparative-point articles, Giant Pandas, by Globio, Helping Giant Pandas, by San Diego Zoo, and Giant Panda Cubs Give Hope to an Endangered Species, by David George Gordon, the reader is given the idea that the main contributing factor to the loss of habitat pandas face is human needs. These needs include buildings, farmland, heating, and food. However, the resources that we partake of freely and always taking of are not ours--they are the Giant Panda's.

Practice Set

(Order of Scores: Reading Comprehension and Written Expression, Conventions)

Paper	Score
P101	3,3
P102	1,2
P103	2,2
P104	0,0
P105	4,3