

R2a. Can show an understanding of the meaning of vocabulary in different contexts

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Read the text and answer the questions below. Use the spaces provided to write your answers or put a tick in the correct box.

Bornean Orangutans

The Bornean orangutan is now critically endangered. Their populations are in decline thanks to rapid deforestation and devastation of their habitats, as well as illegal hunting.

Bornean orangutans are unique to the island of Borneo. The word orangutan translates to ‘man of the forest’ in the Malay language. Orangutans reside in the rain forest and their bodies are well-designed for climbing trees, with extended arms and powerful hands and feet for gripping the branches.

Orangutans are the only great ape to travel predominantly through trees, spending nearly their entire existence in trees, swinging through the canopies and constructing nests for sleep. Orangutans are *arboreal*, as large predators (such as tigers and leopards) patrol the forest floor.

Fruit, such as lychees, mangoes and figs, makes up sixty per cent of an orangutan’s diet. Orangutans also eat leaves and shoots, insects, soil, tree bark and occasionally eggs and small vertebrates.



1. ‘... thanks to rapid deforestation and **devastation** of their habitats ...’

What is the meaning of the word *devastation* in this sentence?

Tick **one**

shock

heartache

destruction

misery

2. '... with **extended** arms and powerful hands ...'

Explain the meaning of the word *extended* in this sentence.

3. '... the only great ape to travel **predominantly** through trees ...'

What is the meaning of the word *predominantly* in this sentence?

Tick **one**

always

mainly

sometimes

rarely

4. 'Orangutans are **arboreal** as large predators (such as tigers and leopards) patrol the forest floor.'

Use the context of this sentence to work out what *arboreal* means.

Tick **one**

only eat plants

food for lions and tigers

expert climbers

live in trees

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Answers:

1. destruction
2. long
3. mainly
4. live in trees