

Four animals

Task 1

Read about endangered animals. Underline the unknown words.



Mediterranean monk seals are endangered mammals. They find refuge in the caves near the coast. The main threat for these animals is habitat loss because of the rise of tourism. Also, seals get killed by fishermen because they steal their fish. Scientists say that countries must have nature reserves where they will be protected as they can't live in captivity.



The duck-billed platypus is strange animal that lives in Australia. It has a beak like a duck but it's actually a mammal. In fact, it is the only mammal that lays eggs. This carnivore mostly eats fish and frogs. The platypus is half the size of a house cat. Their natural enemies are lizards, snakes and owls. They are protected by law as their habitats are endangered.



The bluefin tuna is probably the most valuable fish in the world. In Japan it is used in making sushi. Their number is smaller by 82 per cent nowadays. It is highly threatened and there are organisations that fight against overfishing this species of tuna in the Atlantic.



The koala mostly lives in the south east of Australia. Its odd name means 'not drink' in the language of the Aborigines. It eats eucalyptus leaves and sleeps a lot. Koalas are not bears, but marsupials. They carry pouches like kangaroos and are threatened by people only.

Task 2

Match the words from the text with their paraphrases.



- a when harm and damage are done
- b a person who does research in one of the sciences
- c that are in smaller or bigger danger of dying out
- d a bag formed from skin in some animals
- e a place where animals are kept in closed area
- f the native (indigenous) people of Australia
- g Japanese food with boiled rice and raw fish
- h worth a lot and very important to have
- i a body part of a fish which helps movement
- j an animal that eats meat (unlike herbivores)
- k where animals and plants usually live in nature
- I animals that give birth to live babies

Task 3

Complete the sentences with: who, that, which, where, whose

- a) Omnivores are animals _____ eat meat and plants.
- b) Poachers are people _____ hunt animals illegally.
- c) Greenpeace activists are people _____ goal is to fight for nature.
- d) Bluefin tuna is a fish _____ is endangered by sushi lovers.
- e) Australia is an isolated continent _____ many strange animals live.





Answer key: Task 2: l, k, j, e, c, b, i, d, f, a, h, g Task 3: that/which, who, whose, that/which, where



