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Lesson Check: Maintaining Biodiversity

1) A wetland being drained so a housing development can be built is an example of _____.

- ○ **A)** habitat destruction
- ○ **B)** overexploitation
- ○ **C)** pollution
- ○ **D)** conservation

2) Describe how species such as purple loosestrife and kudzu can threaten biodiversity.

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3) Identify two ways in which reusing materials can protect biodiversity.

4) Describe the process of reforestation.

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5) Which of these is a chemical control used to help control invasive species?

- **A)** using fences
- **B)** using other species
- **C)** using herbicides
- **D)** using barriers

6) Reclamation is the process of restoring land disturbed by _____.

7) Climate change is a threat to biodiversity on Earth.

- True
- False

8) Habitat restoration can have a positive impact on biodiversity in an area.

- True
- False

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9) Some nonnative insect species have become pests in the United States. To control and manage these insect pests, several different types of control have been designed:

- Biological controls: A natural predator of the insect pest species is introduced into the areas that are most harmed by the insect pest.
- Cultural controls: People are educated in ways that help to minimize the impact of nonnative insect pest species. For example, farmers can change how they plant or water crops, or people who burn wood can be sure not to transport firewood that may contain the insect pests into new areas.
- Mechanical and physical controls: Mechanical and physical controls are used to kill insect pest species directly or to make where they live unsuitable for them. These controls include traps, such as box traps for flies, and physical barriers, such as screens.
- Chemical controls: Pesticides are chemicals that either kill the insect pests or lure them into containers where they die. These pesticides are usually liquids that may be broadly sprayed, used as bait, or sprayed in very small areas.

Select one of the controls listed above and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses with respect to maintaining biodiversity.

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10) Soil erosion is a natural process; however, soil is eroding at a faster rate due to human activity. Although good soil is a renewable resource, the creation of one inch of topsoil takes 100 to 1000 years. Erosion causes loss of nutrients and valuable microorganisms from the soil, which results in decreased species diversity within the affected ecosystem. Scientists have learned that protecting the soil from rain and wind is more important than preventing runoff.

Which activity is **most likely** to prevent or slow down soil erosion and help preserve biodiversity and the benefits that come from ecosystems?

- **A)** plowing a field and not replanting in order to allow the soil to rest for a year
- **B)** adding more cattle to a grassland region to help provide food for more people
- **C)** burning forests and fields to remove invasive plants that compete with native plant species
- **D)** planting many crop varieties in a field surrounded by native trees and shrubs in order to help feed more people

11) Which of the following is NOT one of the five major threats to biodiversity?

- **A)** habitat destruction
- **B)** invasive species
- **C)** overexploitation
- **D)** reclamation