[4.3.5 Activity](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/4.3.5+Activity)

 Edit[0](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/page/messages/4.3.5+Activity)[19](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/page/history/4.3.5+Activity)[…](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/page/menu/4.3.5+Activity)

In an outline format in the table for your topic below, you should use the following pattern in presenting the strengths and weaknesses: 

* State the strength/weakness
* Give at least 1 specific Evidence/Example for the strength/weakness
* Give a brief statement why it’s a strong/weak example

You should have a least 2 strengths and 2 weaknesses that follow this pattern.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species** | |
| ***Strengths*** | ***Weaknesses*** |
| - Broad and diverse, therefore, it covers a whole wide range of species and implements a whole variety of laws, from bans on trade, to ban on breeding.  Ex. through the convention, the organization agreed to ban the trading of elephant tusks and have all member nations sign on to the agreement that elephant tusks be counted as a part of "contraband" meaning it is punishable by criminal prosecution. This effectively decreased the amount of elephant shot a year as many markets in nations shrunk to tiny portions of the black market as many citizens are deterred from buying the tusks as a result of the laws.  - Species approach for threatened animals | - Varied law enforcement from country to country; member countries can exempt themselves from protecting any listed species -When a specific species is highly profitable, illegal wildlife trade goes on in countries that have not signed the treaty.  -As countries value different animals and plant species, there would be conflicts in deciding which species to protect  -Serious lack of field and monitoring equipment, and an inadequate and insuffiecient transport systems for staff. Many of staff/wardens in areas seem to be unintreasted in the cause, and merely there for their pay.  Example: ([www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org/))  *"A training programme (assisted by SADC) for rhinoceros monitoring (June – November 2004) found that many of the staff trained in the previous year had hardly been on patrol since November 2003. These included: staff problems, a severe shortage of transport, lack of basic field equipment, inadequate patrolling, lack of standardized GPS and problems with managing water supplies."* |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic: Captive Breeding and Reintroduction Programs** | | |
| ***Strengths*** | ***Weaknesses*** |  |
| • help to maintain balance within an ecosystem, especially if you're reintroducing a keystone species. Ex: Grey wolf in Yellow Stone National Park. They help to control the population of deers and Buffalos. •avoid extinction, bring back certain endangered species Ex: California Condor, originally, there were only 22 in the wild, after reintroduction programs , there were 135 in the wild Ex: Lion Tamarins in Brazil. | •over focus on a certain animal and miss other important species Ex: European Beaver in Scotland, failed to be successful because they only reintroduce a small amount of the beaver back into the natural environment •reintroduction usually fail due to the lack of habitat Ex: oriental Magpie Robin in Singapore fail to reintroduce because they did not conserve the habitat for this species to live   * only 33% of all animals reintroduced to the environment survive   •very costly   * Difficult   Ex: California Condor cost 35 million dollars |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic: Zoos** | | |
| ***Strengths*** | ***Weaknesses*** |  |
| Zoos protect endangered animals from health threats, ie. predators, starvation, and disease, thus ensuring their survival. Example: the [Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/Point+Defiance+Zoo+and+Aquarium) includes endangered species such as polar bears, Asian elephants, Sumatran tigers, and White-cheeked gibbons  Zoos provide educational and inspirational benefits. Students who come to see the animals can learn about endangered species and habitat destruction, and grow up with environmentalism in mind. Others who come can be inspired to join protection groups or aid in related community work. Example: the [Blue Zoo](https://ibess.wikispaces.com/Blue+Zoo) in Beijing is a common site for visitation by local schoolchildren. The zoo has special display areas dedicated to information on endangered species such as the fresh water dolphins of the Yangtze River.  Zoos help grow the knowledge bank about animals and their habitats. The research that takes place from valuable close-quarter contact and observation can benefit future inquiries about species conservation. | Zoos maybe overpopulated with animals taking up more of the available spaces in Zoos. As a result, zoo keeper put down excess animals. ex. scimitar-horned oryxes (from antelope family) in Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo  Reproduction of species are not guaranteed. ex. Panda, which has a poor reproduction history.  Sick animals in Zoos tend to die often unless a cure is produced. ex. Arabian oryx may carry TB |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic: Aesthetic versus Ecological Value** | | |
| ***Strengths*** | ***Weaknesses*** |  |
| People are willing to save endangered animals if the animal has an attractive quality that people are willing to want to save. For example, the panda, an endangered animal in China is cute and cuddly and therefore protected by Chinese law. Although people are willing to save the panda because of the ecological value that it provides to the environment, the majority of people will not be aware of this and just go about saving the panda relying on aesthetic values. This is a strength because although people do not know the ecological benefit of saving the animal, they do so anyways because of aesthetic values. |  |  |