

# Intermediate GrammarPlus

## A Problem For The Future

- 1 Read this written presentation about animal extinction. Which areas of the world are most under threat?



**Greater Bamboo Lemur (*Hapalemur simus*).** Critically endangered and endemic to southeastern Madagascar.

My teacher asked me if I wanted to prepare a written presentation on the problem of animal extinction. In order to do this I consulted a number of websites, watched several documentaries and interviewed other class members about their knowledge of the subject. Animal extinction is a real threat which is becoming more and more worrying with each passing year. However, when I asked my classmates if it was a subject they knew anything about, the most common response was that they had not really thought about the problem. Nevertheless, this is an issue that affects us all, because in the future our planet's ecosystems risk being severely damaged.

In a recent documentary, *The future of our planet*, prominent scientist Edward Crawford was asked whether animal extinction had always been a problem, even in the distant past. He said that although animal extinction was a natural phenomenon that affects one to five species a year, nowadays areas around the world are losing dozens of species a day. This claim is backed up by figures released by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) indicating that in the year 2007, 16,306 different kinds of animals were in danger of extinction. When he was asked which areas of the world were having particular problems, he specified that the tropical forests are a notable danger area, and that is where 70% of the world's species live. At the current rate, many of these species will have disappeared within one hundred years. Experts argue that over two million species will have become extinct by the middle of this century.

Obviously governments around the world must do something to resolve this problem. They must be aware of the fact that if nothing is done, the future of the fauna of our planet will be very bleak indeed. In April, governments of the world will be meeting to talk about this problem. They will be looking at ways of monitoring activities like hunting, fishing and deforestation. Let us hope, for the future of the planet, that some action will be taken.

### DISCOVER

#### Grammar 1 (Future Perfect)

- 2 Read these extracts from the written presentation, then complete the Deductions box.
- At the current rate many of these species will have disappeared within one hundred years.*
- Experts argue that over two million species will have become extinct by the middle of this century.*

### DEDUCTIONS

- a Look at the words *by* and *within* in the extracts. Which of the words below are they closest in meaning to?
- before      during      after*
- b The Future Perfect is made up of *will + Past Simple / will + have + past participle*. (cross out the incorrect option)
- c This verb form refers to *the past / the future / both the past and the future*. (cross out the incorrect option)

## DISCOVER

## Grammar 2 (Future Continuous)

- 3 Read these extracts from the written presentation, then cross out the incorrect options in the Deductions box.

*In April, governments of the world will be meeting to talk about this problem. They will be looking at ways of monitoring activities like hunting, fishing and deforestation.*

## DEDUCTIONS

- a The Future Continuous is made up of *will + Present Continuous / Future Simple of be + -ing form*.
- b The writer is referring to an action *in the present / in the future*.
- c The writer is referring to an action *which is certain / which is uncertain*.
- d the writer is referring to an action *which will be finished / which will be in progress* at some time in the future.
- e The writer is referring to an action *which has just been decided / which has been arranged*.

- 4 Complete these sentences with either the Future Perfect or the Future Continuous. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

find	fly	listen	lose
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- My diet is going really well. By June \_\_\_\_\_ six pounds, for sure!
- In this edition of *The World Today* we I \_\_\_\_\_ to some of your views.
- I am quite confident that I \_\_\_\_\_ a new job by the end of the year.
- This time tomorrow I \_\_\_\_\_ to London.

## DISCOVER

## Grammar 3 (Reported Questions)

- 5 Look at how the writer of the presentation 'reports' questions asked on previous occasions. Compare with the equivalent direct questions, then complete the Deductions box.

- "**Do** you **want** to prepare a written presentation on the problem of animal extinction?"  
→ My teacher asked me if I **wanted** to prepare a written presentation on the problem of animal extinction.

- "**Is** it a subject you know anything about?"  
→ I asked my classmates if it **was** a subject they knew anything about.
- "**Has** animal extinction always **been** a problem?"  
→ Edward Crawford was asked whether animal extinction **had** always **been** a problem
- "Which areas of the world **are having** particular problems?"  
→ He was asked which areas of the world were having particular problems.

## DEDUCTIONS

When a question is 'reported' you must:	T	F
a use a question mark.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b use a different tense.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c use the word order of the interrogative form.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d use <i>if</i> or <i>whether</i> when the question begins with a question word.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 6 Turn these questions into reported questions beginning *She asked him...*

- "Where is your car?"  
→ She asked him \_\_\_\_\_
- "Where do you live?"  
→ She asked him \_\_\_\_\_
- "Do you like going to the park?"  
→ She asked him \_\_\_\_\_
- "Have you ever been to Paris?"  
→ She asked him \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNICATE

## Pair Work

- 7 Look into your future! What do you think will be happening or will have happened in your town in 10, 20, 30 years time?

## SUGGESTIONS

buildings / recreation / schooling / shopping / technology / transport