

'When we plant, they come': thirsty elephants pose new problem for drought-hit Kenyan farmers

Level 1: Elementary / Pre-Intermediate – Teacher's notes

Article summary: The article describes how climate change is affecting poorer countries and even leading to problems with wild animals in Kenya.

Time: 60 minutes

Skills: Reading, Speaking, Writing

Language focus: Vocabulary

Materials needed: One copy of the worksheet per student

1. Warmer

- a. The purpose of this activity is to get students thinking about the geographical location of wild animals and to introduce the idea that some of them may be threatened or endangered by the onset of climate change.

Key:

1. Asia
2. Australasia
3. Antarctica
4. North America
5. Africa
6. South America

2. Key words

- a. Ask students to do the exercise individually and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups. Note the pronunciation of *drought* rhymes with *out*. The opposite of the collocation *remote possibility* is *strong possibility*.

Key:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Maize | 6. surge |
| 2. Coexistence | 7. beehive |
| 3. Drought | 8. remote |
| 4. consume | 9. pledge |
| 5. Poaching | 10. sceptical |

3. Comprehension check

- a. Ask students to work individually to answer the questions and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups.

Key:

1. 60 bags
2. rich countries
3. about 200kg
4. around 200 litres
5. fifteen thousand
6. maybe one hundred
7. the elephant
8. sunflowers
9. The bees get angry and attack the elephants.
10. Egypt

4. Key language

- a. Note that the verb and nouns forms of *increase* are identical. The same is true of 'decrease'.

Key:

1. peaceful
2. drought
3. possibility
4. coexistence
5. poacher
6. increase

5. Discussion

- a. Allow students time to note down their ideas and encourage them to give reasons for their answer.

6. In your own words

- a. This could also be done as a homework task.