A Perfect Planet: Humans

Life flourishes on planet Earth thanks to powerful natural forces. However, it is a fragile system. There is one force so powerful it threatens the future of life on Earth.

We will lose _____ the species of animals on Earth over the next eight decades. The last time we had an extinction event of this magnitude was ____ million years ago.

Global Warming

- Through burning **fossil fuels**, we now release _____ times more CO^2 into the atmosphere than all Earths volcanoes combined.
- Warming our planet by just _____ degrees means that the atmosphere is sucking up 7% more water and causing more **extreme weather events**, making it increasingly difficult for animals to survive.
- It is not just affecting wildlife though. For every 1 degree rise in global temperatures a _____ people with be pushed into **extreme unlivable conditions** and this will trigger one of the greatest human migrations in history. Climate refugees will move north into _____.
- There is hope. The **Sahara Desert** is advancing southwards so 1 billion drought resistant trees are being planted to stop top soil from blowing away. It will stretch 5,000 miles across Africa and is called _____.

Tropical Rainforests

- The **Amazon** stores as much as ___ years' worth of emissions as all of the cars in the world
- Urban expansion, cattle ranching and mining means that forest is being lost at a frightening rate. Every minute an area the size of ____ football pitches is destroyed by humans.
- There is hope. A new jungle of ___ million trees is being **planted** in the Amazon. Using the knowledge of indigenous people, this seed network scatters ___ tonnes of seeds over degraded land and after 6 years, restores an area the size of _____ football fields. It is the largest tropical forest restoration project in the world.

Oceans

- The oceans produce up to ___% of the **oxygen** we breathe and **feed** over ___ billion people.
- Since the start of the **Industrial Revolution** the oceans have absorbed almost _____ our CO^2 emissions. Warm, acidic waters are destroying coral reefs and decimating _____, the basis of survival for everything else in the oceans.

- Oceans are being damaged in another way. **Overfishing** has removed as much as ___% of all large predatory fish. Fewer fish means a marine system that stores less carbon.
- There is hope. Around 5% of the oceans are currently **protected**. A global campaign to increase this to ___% will help many of the planets most vulnerable species to recover and a healthier ocean can absorb more $CO^{2.}$

Renewable Energy

- We can reduce CO^2 emission by **consuming less** or **reusing** some of our resources. But, the biggest saving we could make would be to _____.
- We can power the whole world with just a fraction of the **solar and wind energy** that we get every year. **Volcanic heat**: so far we've only tapped ___% of its global potential. The wind in our skies could provide ___% of our energy by 2050.
- Is this transition to a **low carbon society** happening fast enough? In 2015, 195 of the world's nations pledged to reduce their CO^2 emissions. To avoid planetary disaster, the goal was to limit the warming of the Earth to well below ___ degrees.
- The news is _____. This year, CO^2 levels in the atmosphere went up again. Hitting another **world record high**. We are in a crisis right now.

Frozen Zoos

- Species are becoming **extinct** at around _____ times faster than the normal rate.
- There is hope. Zoos around the world are taking drastic action, collecting ____ from endangered species to build a genetic store of life before they become extinct.