**Question:** 137
The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerate threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have began to sell it in order to support their livelihoods. As a result of logging oyamel fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008, scientists used satellite imagery to illustrate the degradation of oyamel fir forests. Officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States met to quickly develop a monarch butterfly conservation plan. A key feature of the plan focused on protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico. Why have the ovamel fir tree forests decreased in recent years?

A. Severe drought has led to the death of many trees.
B. There is no conservation plan in place to protect the trees.
C. Scientists were not aware of the need to maintain the forests.
D. Residents have begun selling the trees for profit, rather than only using them for personal needs.

**Answer:** C

In recent years, residents who previously harvested the fir trees for personal use have begun selling the wood as a means of making a livelihood. This increase in harvesting of the fir trees has diminished the winter habitat for the monarch butterfly. Because the habitat is smaller, the population of the butterflies is also decreasing.
Question: 138
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A. Winter  
B. Spring  
C. Summer  
D. B and C  
E. A and B

Answer: D

Since monarch butterflies overwinter in Mexico, they are in Canada in the spring and summer. This question required an understanding that the butterflies migrate, or move from the U.S. and Canada to Mexico for the winter.

Question: 139
The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerable threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have began to sell it in order to support their livelihoods. As a result of logging oyamel fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008, scientists used satellite imagery to illustrate the degradation of oyamel fir forests. Officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States met to quickly develop a monarch butterfly conservation plan. A key feature of the plan focused on protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico. What can the reader infer about the conservation efforts thus far in Mexico?

A. Conservation efforts have stalled the decline in the monarch butterfly population.
B. Conservation efforts have been initiated but have not been effective.
C. There has been significant resistance to conservation efforts in Mexico.
D. Scientists hope to develop a conservation plan in the near future.

Answer: B

The reader can infer that conservation efforts have been initiated but they have not been effective. Although the Monarch Biosphere Reserve has been established, and a ban on logging has been enforced, the butterfly population continues to decline.

Question: 140
The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme
drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerate threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have began to sell it in order to support their livelihoods. As a result of logging oyamel fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008, scientists used satellite imagery to illustrate the degradation of oyamel fir forests. Officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States met to quickly develop a monarch butterfly conservation plan. A key feature of the plan focused on protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico. What is a reasonable inference one could make from the following sentence, “If further efforts are not made, some scientists predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico.”

A. Not all scientists studying the area predict the total collapse of the ecosystem.  
B. Scientists are demanding further efforts be made to protect the butterflies.  
C. The monarch butterflies could become extinct in Mexico, but remain in other countries.  
D. The current efforts have been very successful.  

**Answer:** A

The reader can infer that some, but not all scientists studying the butterflies have predicted the total collapse of the ecosystem. Since the sentence notes that some scientists make this prediction, it is logical that others do not.

**Question:** 141  
The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerate
threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have began to sell it in order to support their livelihoods. As a result of logging oyamel fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008, scientists used satellite imagery to illustrate the degradation of oyamel fir forests. Officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States met to quickly develop a monarch butterfly conservation plan. A key feature of the plan focused on protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico. Based on the author’s tone, what can the reader conclude about the threat to monarch butterflies?

A. It has developed gradually and is not yet significant.
B. It may have been developing over a long period of time, but scientists did not notice it until recently.
C. It began in 2008
D. The crisis developed quickly over a short period of time and must be addressed immediately.

Answer: D

The crisis represented by the decline in the population of monarch butterflies in Mexico has been noticed recently and must be addressed immediately. In the first paragraph the author notes that the World Wildlife Foundation recently noticed the decline in butterflies in Mexico. Later in the passage the author points out that satellite imagery from 2008 showed the decline in forests, and finally, in the last paragraph, the author writes that the decline continues and more needs to be done.

Question: 142
The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for
food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerate threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have began to sell it in order to support their livelihoods. As a result of logging oyamel fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008, scientists used satellite imagery to illustrate the degradation of oyamel fir forests. Officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States met to quickly develop a monarch butterfly conservation plan. A key feature of the plan focused on protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in Mexico. What assumption does this author make about the reader or audience?

A. The author assumes the reader is familiar with the oyamel tree.
B. The author assumes the reader has seen satellite images of the deforestation in Mexico.
C. The author assumes the reader knows what a butterfly is.
D. The author assumes the reader is Canadian.

**Answer:** C

The author makes the assumption that the reader knows what a butterfly is. While the author explains the type of tree he or she is referring to, and the results of logging, he or she does not describe what a butterfly is or how it migrates.

**Question:** 143

The World Wildlife Foundation recently reports that the number of monarch butterflies overwintering in Mexico has declined drastically. Although extreme drought conditions have dried up nectar plants monarch butterflies rely on for food. The destruction of their overwintering grounds also poses a considerate threat. When monarch butterflies arrive in Mexico from Canada and the United States, they converge on oyamel fir trees. The trees provide shelter to monarch butterflies they are also essential to the communities that surround the forests. In
the past, residents used the wood for cooking and heating, but recently, they have
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fir trees, the habitat of the monarch butterfly population has shrunk. In 2008,
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protecting the monarch butterflies’ habitat. Mexico agreed to enforce a ban on
logging within the Monarch Biosphere Bio Reserve. Despite various conversation
efforts, including paying landowners for logging rights, the monarch butterfly
population continues to decline. There was a 28 percent reduction in numbers of
butterflies overwintering in Mexico. If further efforts are not made, some scientist
predict the total collapse of the ecosystem that supports monarch butterflies in
Mexico. Compare how residents have used oyamel fir trees in the past to how
they currently use the trees.

A. In the past, residents used the trees only for personal needs like cooking and
heat, but now they sell the wood to others to earn money.
B. In the past residents avoided using the trees in the conservation biosphere, but
now they have to use those trees as well.
C. The increase in population has led to residents cutting down more trees than
they have in the past.
D. In the past residents earned money by selling wood from the trees, now they
are given money by the government and don’t cut the trees.

**Answer:** A

In the past residents used the trees only for their own cooking and heating needs.
Now, to earn a living, they cut down the trees and sell the wood. This is a recent
change and has led to the destruction of the monarch butterfly habitat.
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