



The Natural World

Multiple choice: wildlife and observation | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0510/0511

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you read.

1. What rules should visitors follow around wildlife?
2. Would you enjoy a nature trip at night?
3. Can tourism help protect animals?
4. Why is patience important when observing nature?

Exercise 4 at a glance

Read one longer text and answer six multiple-choice questions. Choose A, B or C. The correct answer may depend on attitude, purpose or a detail across a whole paragraph, not just one matching word.

2. Read for overall understanding

Read the article. What did Amina learn from the turtle-watching trip?

Watching sea turtles at night

by Amina Yusuf

During a family holiday, we joined a guided walk to watch sea turtles nesting on a beach. I expected the trip to feel like a nature documentary, with dramatic scenes happening as soon as we arrived. Instead, the guide began with rules: no flashlights, no loud voices, no walking near the water without permission. Some tourists looked disappointed. I did too, until the guide explained that bright light can confuse turtles and send them back to the sea. The guide also asked us to switch our phones to silent, because even a sudden screen glow could break the darkness.

We waited for nearly an hour in the dark. At first, I felt impatient and slightly foolish, standing silently with strangers while waves covered most other sounds. Gradually, my eyes adjusted. I noticed the shape of the beach, the wind in the grass and tiny movements near our feet. The guide whispered that waiting was part of wildlife watching. Animals do not perform because visitors have paid for a tour. The longer we waited, the more I realised that silence was not empty; it was full of small sounds I usually ignored.

When a turtle finally appeared, nobody moved. She came out of the water slowly, stopping often, as if every metre required a decision. I wanted to take a photo, but photography was only allowed from behind and without flash once the guide said it was safe. That rule frustrated me for a second. Then I realised the memory was stronger because I was actually watching, not trying to capture proof for other people. I still remember the slow marks she left in the sand more clearly than many photos I have taken on other trips.

The guide also talked about conservation. Money from the tours helped pay local monitors, but tourism could become a problem if visitors ignored rules or crowded the beach. He said successful protection depended on trust between guides, residents and tourists. That surprised me because I had imagined conservation as something done by scientists far away. Here, it depended on ordinary behaviour: where people stood, how loudly they spoke and whether they followed instructions. He gave the example of one beach where visitor numbers had to be reduced after people ignored the marked paths.

We left before the turtle returned to the sea because the guide did not want the group to stay too long. I was disappointed, but I understood. The trip taught me that loving nature is not the same as taking as much as you want from it. Sometimes respect means accepting that you only see part of the story. That night, the beach felt less like a tourist attraction and more like someone else's home. That idea stayed with me because it made respect feel active, not passive.

3. Strategy focus

Read for purpose

When a question asks why the writer mentions something, decide what the example proves in that paragraph.

4. Exam-style multiple-choice questions

For each question, choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

Question 1

Why did the guide begin with strict rules?

- A The tour company wanted visitors to take fewer photos.
- B Human behaviour could disturb the turtles.
- C The beach was dangerous for tourists at night.

Question 2

How did Amina's experience of waiting change?

- A She became more annoyed with the other tourists.
- B She realised the guide had chosen the wrong time.
- C She began to notice the beach more carefully.

Question 3

What did Amina realise about not taking a photo immediately?

- A Watching carefully gave her a stronger memory.
- B Photography is never useful during wildlife trips.
- C The guide wanted tourists to buy official pictures.

Question 4

What point does the guide make about tourism?

- A It should be limited to scientists and local residents.
- B It can help conservation only if visitors behave responsibly.
- C It creates more problems than benefits for beaches.

Question 5

Why was Amina surprised by the conservation talk?

- A It focused more on money than animal behaviour.
- B It suggested scientists were not involved at all.
- C It showed that ordinary actions mattered.

Question 6

What does Amina mean by seeing only part of the story?

- A Visitors must accept limits when observing wildlife.
- B Nature guides often leave out important information.
- C Turtle nesting is too complicated for tourists to understand.

5. Follow-up tasks

1. Discussion: Should wildlife tourism have strict rules? Why, or why not?
2. Strategy: Compare the correct answer with one wrong option. What detail makes the wrong option incorrect?
3. Writing: Write visitor guidelines for a wildlife area.
4. Vocabulary: Circle words and phrases connected to wildlife, tourism and conservation.

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Multiple choice: wildlife and observation

2. Read for overall understanding

Suggested answer: She learned that protecting wildlife often means being quiet, patient and willing to follow limits.

4. Exam-style multiple-choice questions

1. B; 2. C; 3. A; 4. B; 5. C; 6. A

1. B - Bright light and noise can disturb turtles and affect nesting.
2. C - Her eyes adjusted and she noticed details around her.
3. A - She says the memory was stronger because she was watching.
4. B - Tour money helps, but visitors must follow rules.
5. C - She realises conservation depends on ordinary behaviour.
6. A - Leaving early disappoints her, but she understands respect means limits.