

Reading Activity: Sudan, World's Last Male Northern White Rhino, Dies

Link: <https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2018/03/20/591075801/sudan-worlds-last-male-northern-white-rhino-dies>

1. **Pre-Reading:** What is the most interesting thing you learned about rhinoceroses from the introductory video you watched? Explain your answer.

3. **Point of View:** Some people argue that humans feel that they are mostly responsible for the near extinction of the White Rhino, while others argue humans are key to preservation of the species, list one argument why and a quote from the text to strengthen it.

Reason for Possible Extinction: <hr/> <hr/>	Reason for Possible Preservation: <hr/> <hr/>
	
Quote: " <hr/> <hr/> "	Quote: " <hr/> <hr/> "

5. **Inquiry:** After reading and reviewing the article, create five level 2 or level 3 divergent questions that can lead to gaining further knowledge about rhinoceroses:

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2. **Vocabulary:** Using your knowledge, the article, or approved research techniques, select the matching definitions and/or synonyms for each vocabulary term:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. _____ Extinction | a. To put (a living being, especially a dog or cat) to death humanely. |
| 2. _____ Infection | b. Death, disappearance, elimination (n.) |
| 3. _____ Euthanize | c. an organization or place concerned with the preservation of nature, specific species, or natural resources (n.) |
| 4. _____ Poaching | d. illegally hunt or catch (game or fish) on land that is not one's own, against official protection. (v) |
| 5. _____ Conservancy | e. Disease, illness, sickness (n.) |

4. **Multiple Choice:** Select the best possible answer from the options provided:

1. Why does it seem that Sudan's death is such a big deal?

a. White rhinos may become extinct	c. He told an incredible story that spanned continents
b. There are no more white rhinos left	d. It creates an urgency to protect rhinos
2. In the paragraph that states countries where native rhinos "used to be found," what phrase can replace "used to be found"?

a. Were forced to leave	c. Immigrated into
b. Are native to	d. Originally created
3. What is the primary inference you can draw from the phrase, "Sudan finally learned to become a rhino,..."?

a. He realized he wasn't human	c. He became lazy
b. He became aggressive	d. He became comfortable
4. What is the best example of personification presented in this text?

a. Sudan knew talking meant he would be scratched	c. He had a veterinarian like people have doctors
b. Sudan lived in a conservancy alongside people	d. Sudan had a Tinder account to connect with others
5. What phrase best summarizes this article?

a. Humans are to blame for the extinction of white rhinos	c. White rhinos are very rare and will become extinct
b. Sudan died but there is hope to prevent rhino extinction	d. Decision for euthanizing animals are not easy

6. **Evidence support:** Look at the choice you made for Multiple Choice Question #5, identify lines from the text that support your answer and provide explanations and connections to make your logic clear:

Line From Text	Explanation & Connection
<i>Any line from the text, put in quotations to indicate the words are not yours</i>	<i>Explain what the line means and make a clear connection to your choice above.</i>
“ <hr/> <hr/> ”	 <hr/> <hr/>
“ <hr/> <hr/> ”	 <hr/> <hr/>

7. **Tone:** What word would you use to describe the tone the author uses within this article?

Optimistic, Pessimistic, Shameful, Celebratory

I would use the word _____ because

_____.

One line from the article that supports my conclusion is, “_____

_____” and another line states, “_____

_____.”

9. **Counterclaims:** Look at the argument you stated in Question #8, list five counterclaims a person could make to challenge your argument:

First, a person might argue against me by saying _____

Next, a person could argue against me by stating _____

Third, a person may argue _____

Of the three listed above, I think number _____ is the strongest because

11. **Geography:** On the map of Africa, color the native countries of the Northern White Rhino mentioned in the article:



8. **Critical Thinking:** Some people argue that helping animals avoid extinction through artificial processes could lead to humans overstepping their role in the creation of life, whereas others argue that it gives humans the opportunity to rectify past mistakes. In your opinion, is it ethical or unethical for humans to prevent extinction? Explain.

I think it is _____ because _____

_____.

For example _____

Furthermore, _____

_____.

10. **Conclusion:** What is the best conclusion you can draw from what the article writes, check the one you think is best and explain why:

- Global efforts must be made to preserve endangered animals
- Animals can give humans peace and perspective
- Science can do amazing things to preserve the planet
- Humans should learn to conserve not consume wildlife

The reason I chose the one I did is because _____

The text supports this by saying, “_____

_____.” One other example not in

the text is _____

_____.

12. **Creativity:** Create two haikus that discuss something you learned about the death of Sudan and/or the Northern White Rhino.

General Haiku Rules:

- 5-7-5 Syllable Structure (first line has five syllables)
- First at last line have similar (but not the same) subjects and wording
- Focused on one subject with one lesson to be learned

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1. **Pre-Reading:** What is the most interesting thing you learned about rhinoceroses from the introductory video you watched? Explain your answer.

5 – Excellent, proficient detail, space is full 4.5 – Good, proficient detail, space is mostly full 4.0 – Average (+) sufficient detail, space is over half full 3.5 – Average (-), sufficient detail, space is about half full 3.0 – Below Average, marginal detail, space less than half full 2.5 – Effort, Detail and descriptiveness are insufficient 0.0 – No Data

3. **Point of View:** Some people argue that humans feel that they are mostly responsible for the near extinction of the White Rhino, while others argue humans are key to preservation of the species, list one argument why and a quote from the text to strengthen it.

Reason for Possible Extinction:	Reason for Possible Preservation:
5 – Very Logical reasons, clear connection of quotes 4.5 – Very Logical reasons, sufficient connection of quotes 4.0 – Logical reasons, quotes show connection 3.5 – Logical reasons, quotes show weak connection 3.0 – Logical reasons, quotes seem irrelevant 2.5 – Logic is not clear and/or quotes show no connections 0.0 – No Data	
Quote: “ _____ _____ _____”	Quote: “ _____ _____ _____”

5. **Inquiry:** After reading and reviewing the article, create five level 2 or level 3 divergent questions that can lead to gaining further knowledge about rhinoceroses: (1 Point per question)

* _____

* _____

* _____

* _____

* _____

2. **Vocabulary:** Using your knowledge, the article, or approved research techniques, select the matching definitions and/or synonyms for each vocabulary term:

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| 1. <u>B</u> Extinction | a. To put (a living being, especially a dog or cat) to death humanely. |
| 2. <u>E</u> Infection | b. Death, disappearance, elimination (n.) |
| 3. <u>A</u> Euthanize | c. an organization or place concerned with the preservation of nature, specific species, or natural resources (n.) |
| 4. <u>D</u> Poaching | d. illegally hunt or catch (game or fish) on land that is not one's own, against official protection. (v) |
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4. **Multiple Choice:** Select the best possible answer from the options provided:

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5. What phrase best summarizes this article?

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6. **Evidence support:** Look at the choice you made for Multiple Choice Question #5, identify lines from the text that support your answer and provide explanations and connections to make your logic clear:

Line From Text	Explanation & Connection	
Any line from the text, put in quotations to indicate the words are not yours	Explain what the line means and make a clear connection to your choice above.	
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7. **Tone:** What word would you use to describe the tone the author uses within this article?

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I would use the word _____ because _____

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_____” and another line states, “_____”

9. **Counterclaims:** Look at the argument you stated in Question #8, list five counterclaims a person could make to challenge your argument:

First, a person might argue against me by saying _____

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8. **Critical Thinking:** Some people argue that helping animals avoid extinction through artificial processes could lead to humans overstepping their role in the creation of life, whereas others argue that it gives humans the opportunity to rectify past mistakes. In your opinion, is it ethical or unethical for humans to prevent extinction? Explain.

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Furthermore, _____

10. **Conclusion:** What is the best conclusion you can draw from what the article writes, check the one you think is best and explain why:

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_____.” One other example not in the text is _____

12. **Creativity:** Create two haikus that discuss something you learned about the death of Sudan and/or the Northern White Rhino.

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2.5 Point per Haiku that is attempted
Good opportunity for students to share with one another or create pieces of art like drawings, paintings, or collages to hang around the classroom or school