

Name _____ Period _____

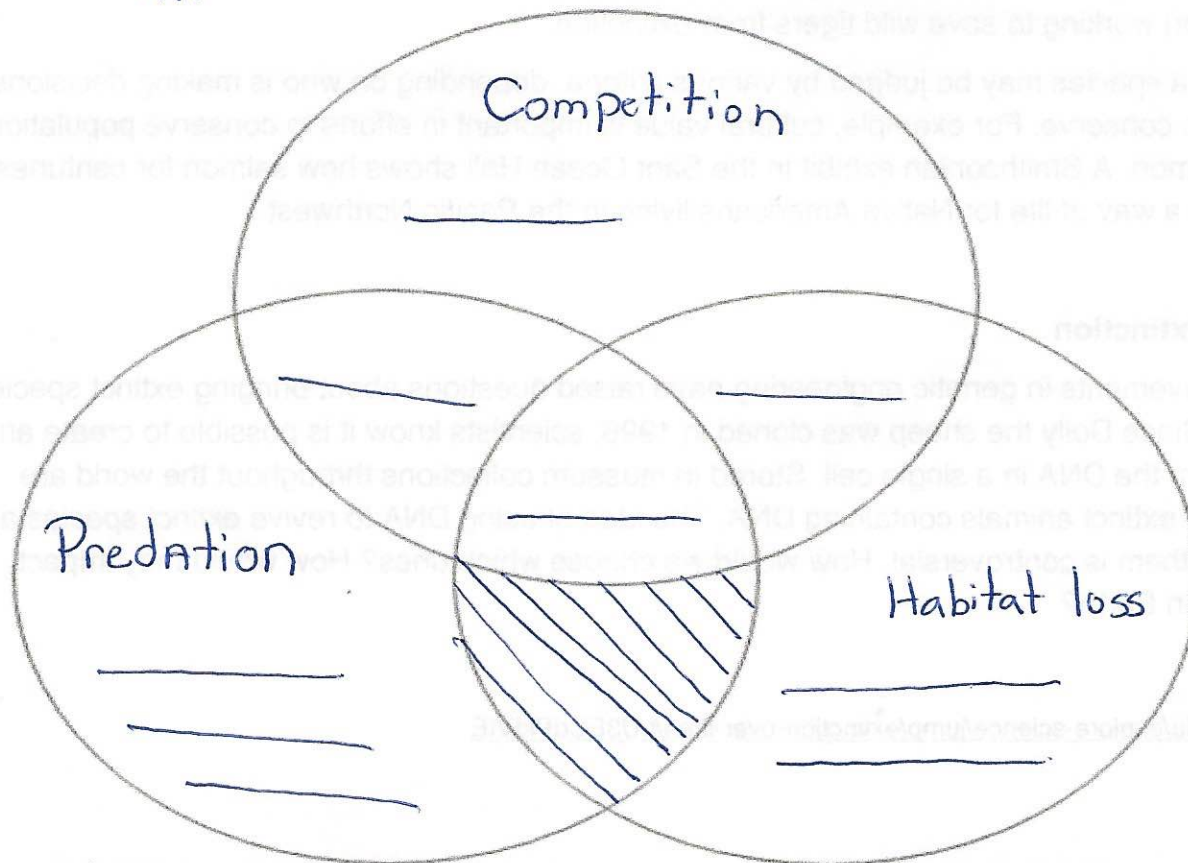
Reading in Science



Read and annotate the informational text, *Extinction Over Time*. After reading the text, answer the questions below. Be sure your responses are complete and thorough.

1. In the first paragraph the author states that, "One of the most dramatic examples of a modern extinction is the passenger pigeon." Define extinction, according to the author.

2. Many species have become extinct due to human activities. Compare and contrast how ~~three~~ ^{all} of the organisms on the article's list became extinct.



3. What is mass ~~extension~~ ^{extinction}? Cite text evidence to support your explanation.

4. Why is it difficult to determine extinction rates?

5. Is today's extinction rate higher or lower than the natural baseline rate? Why do you think this is?

6. Choose one mass extinction. When and why did it happen? What types of organisms were affected?

7. Do you believe we are part of the Sixth Mass Extinction? Use at least three pieces of evidence from the article to support your claim.