Year 6 Reading Assessment Marking Scheme for Non-Fiction

question	answer	marks	notes
1.	According to the introduction of the text, how many species have now been classified as 'Extinct in the Wild'?		
	69	1	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for the correct answer indicated.
2.	How tall was the dodo bird thought to be?		
	About 1 metre tall	1	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for the correct answer indicated.
3.	What other animals does the text list as being now extinct? Tick **three**.		
	passenger pigeon West African black rhino Tasmanian tiger	Up to 2	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 2 marks** for all three ticked correctly and no others ticked. **Award 1 mark** for one or two ticked correctly and / or other options incorrectly ticked.
4.	Look at this sentence: *"Some animals, like the bald eagle and the American alligator, were once on the brink of extinction but are now known to be recovering."* What is the meaning of the word **brink** in this sentence?		
	the edge / verge / threshold nearly occurring about to happen	1	**Content domain:** 2a - give / explain the meaning of words in context. **Award 1 mark** for answers which indicate the meaning of brink.
5.	Complete this table of information about some of the animals' features in the text.		
	Black Rhino Endangered 880	Up to 3	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for each box correctly completed.
6.	In what year did the Chinese government introduce a hunting ban?		
	1979	1	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for the correct answer indicated.

7.	According to the text, why is this species of tiger considered to be 'functionally extinct'?		
	Because it has not been seen in the wild for more than 25 years.	1	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for the correct answer indicated.
8.	**Find** and **copy** a word which means reducing or getting smaller in number.		
	decreasing or decline	1	**Content domain:** 2a - give / explain the meaning of words in context. **Award 1 mark** for either decreasing or decline.
9.	Why might it be surprising that the giant panda is endangered? Give **two** reasons.		
	1. Considerable efforts have gone into conservation. 2. The animals have no natural predators.	Up to 2	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for each correct reason indicated.
10.	Why are the pandas important for the bamboo forests?		
	Spread seeds / encourage new growth	1	**Content domain:** 2d - make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. **Award 1 mark** for the correct answer indicated.
11.	How do pandas living in the wild benefit other animal species?		
	Other species of animals live in the forest so they need it to keep growing. Without the pandas spreading bamboo seeds, the forests would not grow so well and it is the home of the other species. The forest is home to other animal species which rely on the pandas spreading the seeds to encourage new growth.	1	**Content domain:** 2d - make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. **Award 1 mark** for answers which explain the need for regrowth of the bamboo forest as a habitat for other species, which occurs through the pandas spreading seeds.
12.	Match these facts with the correct animal in the text. One has been done for you.		
	Bald Eagle - Once at risk of extinction but now recovering Black Rhino - Killed for the illegal trade of their horn Dodo - Flightless bird, now extinct	1	**Content domain:** 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. **Award 1 mark** for all animals and facts correctly matched.

13.	Give **two** reasons why animals should be saved from extinction. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.		
	Plants and animals can be extremely important for the ecosystem of the Earth. Species depend on each other for survival. We want to be able to enjoy the beauty of nature. Once a species becomes extinct, it has gone forever.	Up to 2	**Content domain:** 2d - make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. **Award 1 mark** for each reason given, up to two marks. Quotations or information taken directly from the text should be evident.
14.	Look at the section called **'What causes endangerment or extinction?'** The text says: '*Animal extinction can occur due to natural or human causes.*' Which reason do you think is more likely to be responsible for species becoming extinct in recent years? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.		
	Human causes are more likely as they include examples such as hunting or habitat destruction which have happened more recently. Human causes because the text says 'In more modern times, the most common causes are from human intervention.' or Natural causes because governments have introduced new laws, such as in China in 1979, to reduce the decline of animals like the giant panda. Natural causes because 'increased conservation efforts' have helped to save species such as the mountain gorilla, bald eagle or American alligator.	2	**Content domain:** 2d - make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. **Award 2 marks** for the answer 'human causes', along with appropriate evidence from the text. Alternatively **award 2 marks** for the answer 'natural causes' if the evidence refers to a change of attitude or laws in recent times.
		Total 20	