

Training Header Sheet with Change Log Form

Kentucky

Writing – Grade 11

2022 Spring Op

WR11914952612

Zoos a Solution to a Problem or Another Problem

Date	Comments	Version
05/2022	Training Set	Set A

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Prompt, Sources, Rubric

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Prompt

On-Demand Writing Directions: Carefully read the prompt below. Then read the provided texts. Enter your essay in the space provided.

The Role of Zoos

Write a well-organized essay arguing whether zoos are a solution to a problem humans have created for animals in the wild, or whether zoos are another part of the problem. Support your argument with evidence from the texts.

Sources

from Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives

by Thomas French

In this true account, Mick is helping to transport 11 elephants to zoos in America.

1 Mick and his father ran the two game reserves where the elephants had lived in Swaziland, a small landlocked kingdom nestled in the southern tip of Africa. Mick and these eleven elephants had come of age together in the parks. They recognized his scent and voice, the rhythms of his speech. He knew their names and histories and temperaments—which of them was excitable and which more serene, where each of them ranked in the hierarchies of their herds. . . .

2 “It’s OK,” Mick told them. “You’ll be fine.”

3 Not everyone, he realized, agreed with his assessment. He was tired of the long and bitter debate that had raged on both sides of the Atlantic in the months before this flight. Tired of the petitions and the lawsuits and the denunciations from people who had never set foot in Swaziland, never seen for themselves what was happening inside the game reserves. There simply was not enough room for all of the elephants anymore, not without having the trees destroyed, the parks devastated, and other species threatened. Either some of the elephants had to be killed, or they could be sent to new homes in these two zoos. Mick saw no other way to save them. He had heard the protests from the animal-rights groups, insisting that for the elephants any fate would be preferable to a zoo, that it would be better for them to die free than live as captives.

4 Such logic made him shake his head. The righteous declarations. All this talk of freedom as if it were some pure and limitless river flowing through the wild, providing for every creature and allowing them all to live in harmony. On an overcrowded planet, where open land is disappearing and more species slip toward extinction every day, freedom is not so easily defined. Should one species—any species—have the right to multiply and consume at will, even as it nudges others toward oblivion?

5 As far as Mick could tell, nature cared about survival, not ideology. And on this plane, the elephants had been given a chance. Before his family had agreed to send them to the two zoos, he had visited the facilities where they would be housed and had talked with the keepers who would care for them. He was confident the elephants would be treated humanely and be given as much space to move as possible. Still, there was no telling how they would adjust to being taken from everything they knew. Wild elephants are accustomed to ranging through the bush for miles a day. They are intelligent, self-aware, emotional animals. They bond. They rage and grieve. True to their reputation, they remember.

French, T. (2010). *Zoo story: Life in the garden of captives*. Hyperion e-books. Retrieved from e-book.

from Recovery Plan for the California Condor

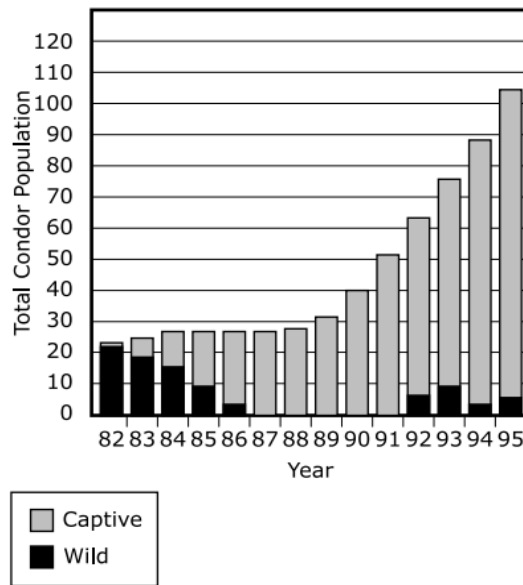
by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Brief Overview

1 The California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) was listed as endangered on March 11, 1967, in a final rule published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Service then established critical habitat for the California condor nine years later on September 24, 1976.

2 Long recognized as a vanishing species, the California condor remains one of the world's rarest and most imperiled vertebrate species. Despite intensive conservation efforts, the wild California condor population declined steadily until 1987, when the last free-flying individual was captured. During the 1980s, captive condor flocks were established at the San Diego Wild Animal Part and the Los Angeles Zoo, and the first successful captive breeding was accomplished at the former facility in 1988. Following several years of increasingly successful captive breeding, captive-produced condors were first released back to the wild in early 1992.

Figure 2. California Condor Population 1982–1995



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Kiff, L., Mesta, R. & Wallace, M. (1996, April). *Recovery plan for the California condor, third revision*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [Portland, Oregon]. Retrieved from https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/960425.pdf

from "California Condor Population Information"

by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1 Since 1992, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) began reintroducing captive-bred condors to the wild, the USFWS, and its public and private partners have grown the population to more than 440 birds.

2 Currently, there are about 160 California condors flying free in Central and Southern California, nearly 80 in Arizona and Utah, and more than 30 in Baja, Mexico. By 2008, the Recovery Program reached an important milestone: for the first time since the program began, more California condors were flying free in the wild than in captivity.

from "The Future of Zoos: Challenges Force Zoos to Change in Big Ways"

by Justin Worland

1 Study after study has shown that many animal species are far smarter and more feeling than previously understood, giving new insights into how they may suffer from anxiety and depression when they are removed from nature. That has forced a difficult existential question: If we acknowledge that creatures suffer when they're confined, should they be held in captivity? Not even those who have advanced the cause for more-humane exhibits have an answer. "Even the best zoos today are based on captivity and coercion," says Jon Coe, the legendary zoo designer who invented the Zoo360 concept for Philadelphia. "To me, that's the fundamental flaw."

2 "That moment at a zoo, when a person sees a gorilla look them back in the eye, helps them grasp their role in a greater natural world," says Mike Clifford who works with zoos at GLMV Architecture. Clifford's job title is curator of innovation, but colleagues consider him the firm's chief philosopher: he's charged with contemplating the difficult questions about the future of zoos. He thinks the answer lies in fostering human-animal connections—and making sure those experiences also help sell tickets. That's what GLMV has tried to do in Wichita, Kans., where visitors to the Sedgwick County Zoo can now ride in a boat to see the elephants in a 5-acre exhibit. The boat ride breaks down the barrier between animals and people while giving the elephants room to roam freely. . . .

3 Consider the growing challenge of providing a home to elephants. Research consensus over the past decade suggests that most current exhibits are woefully inadequate. The most recent study—a comprehensive article published in the journal *PLOS One* in July—shows how elephants thrive best when they have social connections and the challenge of having to gather their own food. When those factors aren't present, elephants tend to have impaired mental states and do not carry out basic functions like reproduction. The study confirms what zookeepers have known for years. In fact, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) approved rules in 2011 requiring any accredited zoo with elephants to keep at least three of the species and a full-time elephant scientist on staff, among other things.

Worland, J. (2017, Feb 16). The future of zoos: Challenges force zoos to change in big ways. *TIME USA*. Retrieved from <http://time.com/4672990/the-future-of-zoos/>

Rubric

KAS Argumentation Rubric--11th Grade On-Demand Writing

Guiding Principle C1: Students will compose arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Scoring Elements	Score Point 1	Score Point 2	Score Point 3	Score Point 4
Clarity and Coherence	Makes claim(s) that may lack focus or be unclear . Misses many or all demands of the prompt.	Makes general claim(s) that address the prompt, but may have lapses in focus. Attempts to address some demands of the prompt.	Introduces and maintains precise and knowledgeable claim(s) and establishes the significance of those claim(s). Addresses all demands of the prompt.	Thoroughly introduces and maintains precise, knowledgeable claim(s) and clearly establishes the significance of the claim(s). Thoroughly addresses all demands of the prompt.
Counterclaims	Makes an ineffective attempt or makes no attempt to acknowledge opposing claims. Makes an ineffective attempt or makes no attempt to counter and/or refute opposing claims.	Attempts to acknowledge opposing claims, but lacks insight, interpretation or clarification. Attempts to counter and/or refute opposing claims.	Acknowledges and distinguishes claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims with insight, interpretation or clarification. Counters and refutes opposing claims.	Skillfully acknowledges and distinguishes claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims with insight, interpretation or clarification. Thoroughly counters and refutes opposing claims with carefully selected evidence .
Support	Includes minimal or no purposeful support of claim(s) and/or opposing claims with evidence. Provides incomplete, inaccurate and/or irrelevant explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides minimal or unrelated reasoning to support claim(s).	Attempts to support claim(s) and/or opposing claims with evidence. Provides vague and/or general explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides vague and/or general reasoning to support claim(s).	Develops claim(s) and/or opposing claims fairly and thoroughly with logical reasoning and relevant evidence . Provides the most relevant evidence to support claim(s) and opposing claims. Provides reasoning that points out the strengths and limitations of claim(s) and opposing claims.	Fairly and thoroughly develops and supports claim(s) and/or opposing claims with insightful reasoning and carefully selected , relevant evidence that strengthens the argument . Provides thorough and effective explanations of the most relevant evidence and ideas. Provides complex reasoning to clarify the strengths, limitations and/or nuances of claim(s) and opposing claims.
Sourcing	Uses one or none of the provided sources or ineffectively uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claims. Cites little or no evidence. Little or no use of quotes and/or paraphrasing of details, examples and ideas.	Uses a minimum of two provided sources to attempt to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claims. Inconsistently cites evidence. Attempts to quote and/or paraphrase details, examples and ideas.	Accurately and effectively uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claims. Effectively cites evidence by quoting and/or paraphrasing details, examples and ideas.	Accurately and skillfully uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claims. Consistently and thoroughly cites evidence by quoting and/or paraphrasing details, examples and ideas.
Organization	Builds minimal or no overall structure for the argument. Ineffectively organizes claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence, creating a lack of cohesion. Makes a minimal attempt or makes no attempt to use words, phrases and clauses to link sections of the text, claim(s), opposing claims, reasons and evidence. Provides a weak conclusion or lacks a conclusion to support the argument presented.	Attempts to build a structure for the argument. Attempts to organize claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence, but contains some lapses that disrupt the cohesion or are inappropriate for the context . Attempts to use words, phrases and clauses to link sections of the text, claim(s), opposing claims, reasons and evidence, but they are simple and infrequent . Provides a basic conclusion or concluding statement in an attempt to support the argument presented.	Builds and maintains a clear structure to develop the argument. Logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. Uses effective words, phrases and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and opposing claims. Provides a logical concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.	Builds and maintains a sophisticated structure to develop the argument. Skillfully sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence to strengthen the argument . Consistently uses a variety of effective words, phrases and clauses as well as varied syntax to create a strong cohesion and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and opposing claims. Provides a logical, thorough concluding statement or section that follows from and clearly solidifies the argument presented.
Language / Conventions	Lacks or uses an inappropriate formal tone or voice. Lacks a task appropriate writing style. Uses simple or inappropriate word choice. Makes significant errors in the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation which interfere with understanding the writing.	Uses a weak formal tone or voice and/or has lapses in appropriate formal tone or voice. Attempts to establish a task appropriate writing style. Attempts to use appropriate word choice. Makes frequent errors in using the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation which may interfere with understanding the writing.	Establishes and maintains a formal tone or voice . Establishes and maintains a task appropriate writing style. Effectively uses appropriate word choice. Effectively uses the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation with minor errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.	Consistently establishes and maintains a sophisticated formal tone or voice. Consistently establishes and maintains a sophisticated , task appropriate writing style. Consistently uses effective and varied word choice. Skillfully uses the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation with few , minor errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.

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i dont think its a problem i think its a solution zoos are fun things for families to go to the animals are well kept and they are safe and they are getting food and bathed properly people be stupid and they try get in the cages of the animal and that normally leads to that person getting hurt but i do not think that it is the zoos fault because normally they got it locked really good to where no one can get in the animals cage so i do not think that zoos are a problem but maybe it wouldnt hurt to have a worker on stand by while the zoo is open like have some one stand at the animals cage and make sure people aint messing with the animals or trying to get inside there cage witch is crazy i dont understand why some one would want to get inside the animals cage it often leads to one of them getting killed or hurt really bad

Well from what I just got done reading it is a problem those people go to their habbitat and the kid is right he should be trying to fight for them elephants its not right for what is happening to them they shouldn't be getting taken away from there home and when they do most die or get killed trying to get some of elephants to get put in zoos that's why I think that zoos are not good for most of the animals. Then elephants tend to have impaired mental states and do not carry out basic functions like reproduction and it says that zoo keppers already knew about this for many years and the AZA aproved rules in 2011 requiring any accerdited zoo with elepnants to keep t least three of the species and full-time elephant scientist on staff among other things but like it's says many species are far smarter and more feeling than previously understood giving new insights inot how they may suffer from anxiety and deppersssion when they are removed from nature. Evne the best zoos are base on captivity and coercion. most zoos are not only great places to getup close to wildlife but many are also doig their part to bolster dwingling populations of animals still living free inthe wild.

Zoo's have both many pros and cons. Some zoo's are sanctuaries for animals who have been abused and malnourished coming from places like circus'. In reality though, zoo's aren't all that good for the animals. They should be out in the wild, learning and providing for themselves and their families.

I believe the role of zoos is not a problem, well in a way it is and at the same time it is not. Zoos allow others to come and see these beautiful animals and give people a chance to see them up close when any other time you really could only see a select few up close. Plus that's what helps zoos stay open and even buying food for these animals. Zoos aren't really a big problem. Zoos help endangered species that are out there in the wild.

I believe that zoos help those endangered species from becoming extinct because according to the article "How do zoos help endangered species" it says that North America participates in the association of Zoos and Aquarium's species survival plan program. The passage says that the program aims to increase the population of these endangered species by breeding these animals. Another thing that is also mentioned in this article is that the goal of the Species survival program is that they want to reintroduce these animals back into their native wild habitats. According to the passage it also says that the SSP and other programs have helped bring back black-footed ferrets, California condors, red wolves, and several other endangered species back from almost extinction. The only place they can do these things is in exhibits or zoos. Zoos and exhibits give these animals a chance to have a habitat and not have to be pushed out of their homes all the time or get killed by poachers. Zoos and exhibits save some of these animals but some don't see that.

Many people believe that placing animals in a Zoo is a very sensible and simple solution to any animal related problem. Although, this may be true in some cases, in others not so much. Animals can develop mental health problems, Many studies have shown that animals are smarter and have more emotion than we give credit for. Animals need to room to roam, they thrive best in their natural habitats, which gives us a better understanding as to why they develop things such as depression and anxiety when moved to captivity. As mentioned earlier animals thrive best in the places they naturally belong, they develop ways to live, and in Zoos they cant apply all those skills. When those aren't factored they can have inefficient reproduction. captivity makes them feel differently and they do not want to reproduce which can be a problem in the long run. People think because there are Zoos they can go out and steal homes from animals because theres another alternative for them. Animals need their natural habitats to perform adequately in life, people take this away by building roads, office buildings, parks, etc.. in place of their homes, and people fail to realize the harm they do to these animals because, they can easily be transported to a Zoo. Although, Zoos aren't the most idealistic places for animals they do have some benefits, they help with extinction and they do give homeless animals a place to stay even if its not what they really need, these benefits will never outweigh the bad though, these animals go through trauma so we can have what we want. Animals should not be held captive in Zoos, we need to minimize the damage we do for the sake of their health. We need to deal with our problems in a different way, not create problems for someone or something else

Zoos could be a solution and they could also be a problem. Zoos provide shelter, food, aid needed, etc. Things that the forest cannot provide. Zoos are used to help endangered species to survive. They provide homes to animals that are close to extinction. In the second reading, first paragraph, first sentence, it says: "giving new insights into how many suffer from anxiety and depression when they are removed from nature." Although the zoos could provide them with help, the wilderness may be the best place for them. In the forest, they are raised up around animals they know, whether its the same as them or other types. They learn all that they need to know to survive and maintain somewhat good health there in the forest. Although, the thought of them being brought into a zoo in order to stay safe sounds really good. When bringing them there, they can find ways to increase the numbers in that type of species/animals. In the third reading, first paragraph, second sentence, it says: "Species Survival Plan (SSP) Program, which claims to manage the breeding of specific endangered species in order to help maintain healthy and self-sustaining populations that are both genetically diverse and demographically stable." Meaning, some zoos specialize in just breeding while some specialize in health and nutrition. Also, in the third reading, second paragraph, it talks about related programs that specialize in captive- raised, endangered, etc, animals back to zoos for help. These types of programs helped bring black-footed ferrets, California condors, red wolves, and many more endangered species back from the brink of extinction over the past few years. Even though the animals would probably prefer to be out in the wild, the zoo may be what's best for them all in all. As stated in the beginning of this writing, the zoos can provide many more things for the animals than the forest can.

Zoos can be a solution to endangered species, but can also be a problem for species that are not endangered. For animals like the California Condor, zoos helped this species breed and become more populous. But on the other hand, for a species like elephants, keeping them captive in a zoo is part of the problem.

"On March 11, 1967, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the California Condor endangered." (Recovery Plan for the Californial Condor). In 1988, 21 years later, the San Diego Wild Animal Part, and the Los Angeles Zoo had the first successful captive breeding. Without these zoos capturing and breeding this species, they may have become extinct. These zoos started releasing the condors back into the wild in 1992. These zoos took the resources they had, and helped a species that was in trouble. Thanks to these zoos, the population of the California Condor has rose from 1982.

On the other hand, zoos are not as helpful to species such as elephants. "An article published in the journal *PLOS One* in July- shows how elephants thrive best when they have social connections and the challenge of having to gather their own food." (The Future of Zoos: Challenges Force Zoos to Change in Big Ways). In the capive enviornment of a zoo, many elephants do not have to face the challenge of gathering up their own food. Also, consider the size of an elephant, big right? Many zoos cannot provide an adequate enviornment for them to live in. Without things like social connections and fighting for their food, elephants cannot carry out natural functions like reproducing.

Therefore, I believe that yes, zoos can be a solution for some species, but they can also be really harmful to others. The California Condor has had a growth in population thanks to zoos. But the captive enviornment of a zoo also can cause elephants not to be able to think properly and reproduce. I believe that zoos should carefully decide what animals they are going to keep in captivity, and maybe use their resources to help animals in danger, instead of endangering other species for show and money.

As a kid I always got excited when we were going to the zoo. You would get to see all the cool animals, and there was so much to learn there too. However, not all people see the zoo as a fun and educational place, they see it as a prison for animals. Although the zoo can be like a prison for animals, it can also be the savior of endangered animals. Although some believe zoos should be of the past, I believe they should live on because zoos help endangered species, create an educational environment for all customers, and allow scientists to study animals easier.

Although some see zoos as life-long prison camps for animals, they can also be the savior of endangered species. For example, in 1967 the California Condor was considered an endangered species. The species almost went extinct until 1987 when the last free flying condor was captured and put in a zoo to help rebuild its species. In 1982 there were only about 23 condors left, but in 1995 there were over 100. Currently there are around 446 total, with 276 in the wild, and the other 170 in a zoo. So you might think that zoos are leaving animals to slowly die in their confinements, but they are really saving species.

Even though now days you can look anything up on the internet and know everything about it, but nothing beats a real world learning experience at a zoo. If every school taught like a zoo did, the educational system would be amazing. At the zoo it's all hands on and visual learning. Being able to read about an animal that is just 5 feet away from you, is the best learning experience you could ask for. With this in mind before you decide to just look up online about animals, you should take a visit to the zoo and see for yourself.

Last but not least, zoos give way to scientific studies and practices on animals. Although in the wild you could study their wild side, but in a zoo you could study how differently they react in captivity. Scientists could study different patterns that all species have through out their day. The list goes on and on with different things they could study. Although some scientists might say the tests may be unethical, however observations of a species daily life is not unethical.

In conclusion, if you've never been to the zoo, it is a great learning experience for all. It may seem like a prison for animals, but with those negatives comes positives. Zoos help save animal species, and gives a platform for scientists to study animal species.

Do you think it is better for animals to live in the wild, or in captivity? Many animals are taken from their natural habitats to be moved into a zoo. Most of us believe that there isn't much harm in doing this as we can protect and feed, and breed the animals in safety. I believe putting animals in zoos can be very beneficial to our wildlife in the long run.

Nowadays on this overcrowded planet, many wildlife species are endangered, and many are on the brink of extinction. Many zoos have come together to create the AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and the SSP (Species Survival Plan).

The goal of these organizations is to safely rebuild the population of these endangered species and keep it sustainable so they can eventually reinhabit their native land. These organizations have helped many species get back on their feet such as, Red Wolves, California Condors, and Black-Footed Ferrets. With enough funding and support these organizations can help nearly extinct species bounce back and have a stable population.

Now with captive breeding, many species have been able to remain on this planet. One of those species is the California Condor. In 2010 the total population for California Condors was 370, and in only 6 years that population has surged back up to 446. Also since 2010 we have raised the wild population of California Condors from 181, to 276. Many still believe that this strategy for helping animals hasn't been fully refined yet and is still a work in progress. However with positive results like this it is hard to argue the effectiveness of this strategy. If you saw the population numbers today on the California Condor it would be hard to believe that there were only 20 of them left on this entire planet in 1982.

Finally, new studies have shown that animals may feel emotions such as Anxiety and Depression when they are removed from their natural habitat. However in the world we live in today there are many threats to animals that are endangered, such as poachers, Natural Predators, and Climate Change. I believe putting endangered species in captivity is better than leaving them out to face the dangers of the world alone. While in captivity they will be nurtured and fed. Whereas in the wild they aren't guaranteed food, water, or even another day on this earth. For the good of the future of the animal kingdom it is best we put endangered species in captivity till they are ready to be released back into the wild.

In conclusion, I believe it is better to help species that are in need by bringing them into captivity to keep them safe than it is to leave them in the wild where they will soon run extinct.

Humans have done a lot of damage to the world and the living things in it. Not all humans are evil. Some may argue that zoos help keep those animals safe from the damage done by humanity but zoos are only part of the damage. zoos keep the animals trapped from the outside world, different breeds of animals get seperated that may have lived together in the wild, they may also have mental illnesses due to seperation from their homes.

Firstly, zoos are apart of the problem because it keeps animals trapped from the outside world, if you've ever been to a zoo you see these animals are in cages and are not in the exact area they were found which is a new habitat for them its not their homes.It ruins the food chain. In the article " Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives" it states "on an overcrowded planet, where open land is disappearing and more species slip toward extinction everyday, freedom is not so easily defined... Nature cared about survival, not ideology.

secondly, animals are being seperated from each other that may have lived together in the wild. In the text "the future of zoos: challenges force zoos to change in big ways" it states "... elephants thrive best when they have social connections and the challenge of having to gather their own food. When those factors aren't present, elephants tend to have impaired mental states and do not carry out basic functions like reproduction."

although, zoos help endangered species as stated in the article " recovery plan for the california condor" "during the 1980s, captive condor flocks were establishd at the san diego wild animal part and the los angeles zoo, and the first successful captive breeding was accomplished at the former facility in 1988." it causes problems for other animals with mental health.

for an example animals who get seperated from their homes may cause them to have mental health problems such as anxiety and depression. in the article " the future of zoos: challenges force zoos to change in big ways it states "study after study has shown that many animal species are far smarter and more feeling than previously understood, giving new insights into how they may suffer from anxiety and depression...AZA approved rules in 2011 requiring any accredited zoo with elephants to keep at least three of the species...."

zoos can be a helpful place for some animals but its not guaranteed to help all animals. since animals cant talk we cant really understand them other then signs they show which is cruel and unfair animals deserve to be out in the wild not in cages its the circle of life eventually all the animals will die its better they die in their own land. It is understood if animals are in trouble to help them but there is no reason to capture animals who are minding their own business it upsets them that is evil.

Zoos are built to satisfy human wants. When you were little your parents or grandparents took you to a zoo, so you can look at all the cool animals; when you're little you don't care about the animals needs, you're just there to look and have fun. These animals do not belong in a caged in area, they belong in their natural habitat "the wild". Humans don't see the wrong in what they are doing to these animals; as long as, they have a good profit coming their way.

When animals are kept in a tight space, they get paranoid or start to have anxiety or depression. Just because you give them food, and ,water,a place to live doesn't mean you are looking after of what they really need. In the first paragraph they ask the question " If we acknowledge that creators suffer when they're confined, should they be held in captivity?" The whole reason as to why these animals are confined in such small spaces, is because of money. Everyone wants money, it's what makes man evil. All zoos mark up their prices if they think they are making good business. And when they do that, they know that the people will come in because you are seeing wild animals, and they know that you won't pass it up. That's a good business tactic right there.

I'm not saying that zoos don't care about their animals, I'm trying to make people understand that holding animals in a confined space doesn't make them feel like they are at home. Zoos make it cheaper than going over seas to see exotic creatures or the wildlife. They try to make the animals feel at home, but they are not realizing that they are taking them away from their natural habitat. We all want the best for the animals , but it's just not right to keep them in cages. When animals are kept in cages they start to act out or try to escape or hurt one another. Lots of animals die because they aren't able to keep up with the group.

Many zoos want to help the endangered species. "Most zoos are not great places to get up close to wildlife, but many are also doing their part to bolster dwindling populations of animals still living free in the wild." "The (AZA's) is an Association of Zoos and Aquarium's and the (SSP) is Special Survival Plan Program, which aims to manage the breeding of specific endangered species in order to help maintain healthy and self-sustaining populations that are both genetically diverse and demographically stable." The goal of many SSPs is the reintroduction of captive-raised endangered species into their native wild habitats.

Zoos also use SSPs as a research facility to better understand wildlife biology at its fullest. They want to be able to raise awareness and funds to support field projects and habitat protection for specific species. If their studies are a success and their progress is well ,then once they have established a stable population of that animal ,then they will release these captive-bred animals into the wild. When you are trying to better the wildlife instead of trying to break it down or become rich off of it then that is why we have zoos. Zoos are supposed to be a way of making new life come about, and trying to help those endangered spieces grow to the fullest. We need to protect these animals at all cost. These animals are not just for looks, they are living just like you are, you wouldn't want to be held captive...would you?

Zoos have been around for quite some time. However the effects that zoos have left on the environment are questioned by many. Zoos have proven beneficial to both humans and wildlife resulting in prevention of extinction as well as advocacy for wildlife awareness.

Many people argue that "it would be better for them to die free than live as captives" according to *Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives* by Thomas French. This argument would be sensible if a zoo were abusing or harming animals, however that is not always the case. For example The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has released data on the California Condor population over the years and the number of captives have gone up and even allowed for the wildlife condor population to increase as well. According to "How Do Zoos Help Endangered Animals?" by EarthTalk, "the end goal of many SSPs is the reintroduction into their native wild habitats." Zoos want to keep the wildlife flourishing, not hold them miserably and poorly in confined areas, they want to see more animals return to wildlife in good health.

Zoos are important to humans to learn from and take in as a way to understand the "greater world" we are a part of. Many times elementary schools and even some secondary schools bring students to the zoo to see the animals that had been studied in class. They are "great places to get up close to wildlife" like mentioned in "How Do Zoos Help Endangered Animals?" by EarthTalk. "*Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives*" by Thomas French makes a valid statement when he wrote "on an overcrowded planet, where open land is disappearing and more species slip toward extinction everyday, freedom is not so easily defined." Animals may have freedom in our eyes when they are in wildlife not being bothered, however their understanding of the ecosystem only extends so far. As humans we have research and knowledge of population numbers and data as well as medical and health knowledge. It is almost our jobs to advocate for wildlife awareness as well as keep a close eye on how to keep animals from going extinct. It is our job because they can not do it alone, it is similar to a shepherd and their sheep or even a parent and a child. The child and sheep need and rely on guidance, they like to think they know what is best. A zoo could be comparable to a school or going to the doctors office when a child is reluctantly trying to get out of attending.

While not all zoos and reserves are perfect, the idea of taking in animals struggling to survive in the wild and rehabilitating them is important. Zoos are beneficial and can be one of many sound solutions to our current ecological issues we see involving wildlife today.

The debate about zoo's has been going on for many years, there's always going to be more than one opinion on an idea but clearly in many ways zoo's have created a solution for the animals in the wild by many ways but mostly by breeding endangered species, protected species from extinction, and helping animals/humans live in harmony.

To begin with, dozens of zoo's across north america participate in the association of zoos and aquariums special survival plan program, hoping to maintain healthy and self-sustaining populations that are both diverse and stable. The first successful captive breeding was accomplished at a former facility in san diego, successfully increasing the condors vanishing species; based on the chart from "Recovery plan for the California Condor" the population jumped by about sixty percent and some were released back into the wild to help the population stay consistent. The population has now grown over four hundred and forty birds and the chart from "California Condor Population information" they are more flying free then in captivity which was a major milestone for the recovery program in two thousand eight.

Secondly, zoos also take future steps to prevent extinction in species. "According to the AZA, SSPs and related programs have helped bring black-footed ferrets, california condors, red wolves, and several other species back from the brink of extinction over the last three decades." The zoos also use their programs to understand wildlife biology and the spread the awareness to support field projects and habitat protection for specific species. AZA now administers one hundred and thirteen different SSPs covering one hundred and eighty one individual species. The human population also continues to grow, we cut down trees, take land and ruin habitats for many natural creatures which is why zoos can provide safety from hunters, destroyed habitats and natural disasters in the wild. Freedom is not so easily defined, the programs the zoos offer, provide protection for wildlife.

Finally, zoos bring the animal world to us and the human world to them. It gives both species a chance to interact with each other and other species. The caretakers and scientist at the zoo provide for every creature and allow them to all live in harmony. They get fed, bathed, pet, a place to sleep much like how you would treat yourself. Many animal species are far smarter and emotional then we had previously understood, providing comfort for the animals where they will be cared for is what zoos do best.

You might be saying, dont the animals suffer when they're confined? Why are we holding them in captivity there are studies showing how elephants thrive best when they have social connections and the challenge of having to gather their own food. It is said that when those factors aren't present, elephants tend to have impaired mental states and do not carry out basic functions like reproduction but GLMV Architecture Mike Clifford says the key is fostering human-animals connections so the animals can feel safe and at peace in the zoo so they can carry out happy full lives in the zoo.

In conclusion, the debate between letting animals roam free or keeping them in captivity has been going on for years and will continue to do so. The protest and law suits from supporting groups all have their own opinions but the zoos go out of their way to help create a solution for the animals in the wild by breeding endangered species, protecting species from extinction, and helping animals/humans live in harmony.

Zoos have been around ever since the late 1900's. They have been a staple to society today as a source of entertainment. But, are these sources of entertainment actually causing problems in the wild? That is highly unlikely, in fact, zoos actually improve wildlife and help restore the wild in more than one way. Although some people might disagree, there is plenty of evidence supporting the argument for zoos.

Zoos have been getting a bad reputation recently with the rise of animal rights activist and other groups, such as the vegan community and PETA. However, zoos do a lot more for animals than these groups think they do. In the article, "Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives", Thomas French discusses that in a park that is located in Swaziland, elephants are running out of space to roam. Thomas states that, "There simply was not enough room for all of the elephants anymore, not without having the trees destroyed, the parks devastated, and other species threatened" (3). These elephants couldn't stay in the wild anymore, so they were moved to two zoos so that they will be able to live on and not worry about losing their habitat. Zoos allow animals to be protected by the horrors of mother nature and can help make sure a species survives for many years to come.

Many animals are not as lucky as we are today. Humans destroy thousands of animal habitats every year for their own selfish needs. With each habitat destroyed, more and more animals are dying off, which leads to extinction of entire animal kingdoms. However, a good way to combat this loss of animal species is by giving these stranded animals a safe places to live and breed. According to the article, "Recovery Plan for the California Condor", Zoos have helped countless times in the past with the restoration and rehabilitation of many endangered species. In the article, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service states that the California Condor was on the brink of extinction, until they managed to capture the last free flying condor. This condor was brought to the Los Angeles Zoo and "the first successful captive breeding was accomplished at the former facility in 1988" (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services 2). No matter how bad these groups say zoos are, zoos are vital to the restoration of animal species.

Many groups believe that zoos force animals into small environments that can lead to mental issues in animal groups. Although that is a true statement, there are other statements that show a more positive effect on animals in captivity. Zoos have, as of recently, become more and more up to code when it comes to keeping animals in captivity. According to the article, "The Future of Zoos: Challenges Force Zoos to Change in Big Ways", some zoos have begun creating exhibits that allow the animals to freely roam in a park that keeps the humans pathway around the park on a continuous ride via boat. In the article, Justin Worland states that, "the GLMV is trying to make a ride at the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kans, that allows guest to ride in a boat to see elephants in a 5-acre exhibit" (2). These zoos have already begun creating exhibits that give the animals a better environment than the one the animals previously lived in.

In conclusion, zoos created a strong environment that give animals the safety that they need in order to survive. Although many people believe that zoos create unhealthy environments for animals, zoos are already making improvements to their exhibits that create a healthy environment to animals. Zoos give animals the shelter they need in order to grow in numbers so that one day, they may return to the wild and be free once more. But, until humans realize how much damage they're causing to the environment, animals must be protected in one way or another. Whether its through nature preserves or zoos, animals need help.

Animals are increasingly dying in their natural habitats because of the growth of the human population. Humans have then put these animals in zoos (captivity) as a fast solution that benefits humans and also has revenue. Zoos are another part of the problem and are not a solution for the problem humans created for animals in the wild. Animals are not in their natural habitats, are treated inhumanely, and shouldn't be bred in captivity. We should be working to restore the habitats in which we humans destroyed, instead of taking animals captive. It is only fair to repay them.

First, animals are not in their natural habitats. According to the ebook, *Zoo story: Life in the garden of captives* by French, T., "Wild elephants are accustomed to ranging through the bush for miles a day." It also states that they are emotional and intelligent. This means that they are affected when removed from their home. Like humans, they are intelligent to know this, and like humans, they are affected by this emotionally. If we know this about elephants, how do we humans have the hearts to put them through that knowingly? "Most current exhibits are woefully inadequate", according to Worland, J. It is not ethical or morally right to remove an animal from its natural habitat to then place it in one that doesn't measure up to its original one.

Second, animals are treated inhumanely. "Elephants thrive best when they have social connections and the challenge of having to gather their own food", according to Worland, J. He also says that when they are deprived of these factors, they can have an "impaired mental state and do not carry out basic functions like reproduction." What makes this worse is that fact that zookeepers have known this information for years. This supports that statement that zoos are for people not animals. People benefit from looking at wildlife, but the animals suffer.

Some may argue that zoos can help endangered animals by breeding them in captivity. While this is true, we should be working on not having to take animals captive and bettering their habitats. According to a chart from "California Condor Population Information", from 2010 to 2016, the number of condors was higher in the wild population than that of the captivity population. So yes, captive breeding increases the population of a species, but couldn't it be increased without captivity? Animals are more accustomed to their natural environment, therefore if we improved their environment, their population would naturally increase. Animals are emotional and intelligent, so when taken captive go through trauma. This trauma is avoidable so should be avoided.

All in all, zoos are not the solution to a problem made by humans. Zoos are a solution for humans and benefit humans when the solution to a human-made problem should benefit animals. Zoos take animals out of their natural habitat, animals are treated inhumanely, and shouldn't be bred in captivity. According to Jon Coe, "Even the best zoos today are based on captivity and coercion." The entire concept of a zoo is wrong, therefore should be removed and replaced with something that holds the animals best interest at the foundation.

In the twenty-first century, it's all about intentions. What is the intention when fighting climate change? What is the intention when urging the government towards gun control laws? No matter where a person stands on any controversial debate, in their mind, they have the right intentions. Every opinionated person believes their side of an argument is correct, and will be the most beneficial solution. When it comes to whether wild animals should be held captive in a zoo or not, everybody is bound to have an opinion. Both sides of the debate have the right intentions in their own heart, and though they may not agree on what to do, they can meet at one common ground: love of animals.

Zoos have every animal's best interest. Their intent is to keep not just certain animals, but hundreds of species safe, well-fed, and alive. Zoos have helped keep hundreds of animals from going extinct. The California Condor, which was listed as endangered in 1967, was nearly extinct until 1987, when the last free-flying individual was captured. The San Diego Wild Animal Park and the Los Angeles Zoo began breeding the last known California Condors in the late 80's, which led to a successful repopulation of the species. In 1992, after decades of being endangered and nearly extinct, captive-produced condors were finally released back into the wild. Their population went from a little over 20 in 1982, to about 105 in 1995 (*Recovery Plan for the California Condor*). Though majority of the condors were captive in 1995, they were in store for what was about to happen next, nearly two decades later.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has come a long way since the California Condors were reintroduced into the wild back in 1992. According to data published by the USFWS, the condor population reached 446 in 2016. Best of all, since 2011, there has consistently been more wild condors than captive. By looking at the facts, data, and statistics, it proves that Zoos, specifically the San Diego Wild Animal Park and the Los Angeles Zoo, had and still has the California Condor's absolute best intention, and the positive progression is yet to continue.

Animal-right groups who protest zoo captivity have made the argument that, "it would be better for them to die free than live as captives." (*Zoo story: Life in the garden of captives*). Think about this statement if it were theoretically true. Think about all of the animals who would be extinct, heavily endangered, or even overpopulated. If it were not for the efforts of organizations such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Zoos, animal sanctuaries, etc., the food chain process would be all sorts of messed up. For example, let's say there is a declining population of lions. If their population is going extinct, then not as many zebras would be consumed, causing an increase population of zebras or maybe even other animals lions consume. Then, there would be a decrease in the food source that zebras consume because of the overpopulation. The ripple effect keeps going, causing the zebra population to decline, because they have a shortage on food. This ripple effect will continue for who knows how many animal species, until someone decides to step in and help.

In conclusion, zoos are a solution to a problem humans may have created for animals in the wild. Zoos have revived so many species, giving animals a place to repopulate, be well fed, and loved on by people who have their best interest at heart, and nothing but the right intention. Species such as the California Condor would not be here today without the efforts of organizations who had the right intentions. Without zoos or places like them, the "ripple effect" could potentially kill off hundreds, maybe even thousands of species. The next time you visit a zoo and see the beautiful animals who are in a safe and loving home, appreciate the efforts put in by everybody who makes it possible to keep these animals alive and well.