



Study the source text and then complete the double crossword puzzle in pairs.

TEXT:

Rapid industrialization and population growth in India put pressure on natural resources and biodiversity. However, India maintains an awareness of conservation, rooted in its traditional religions. The country has 106 national parks covering over 44,000 km², which accounts for just over 1% of its territory.

India has implemented key environmental protection laws, such as the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, which bans hunting endangered species. However, enforcing these laws remains challenging—growing human populations lead to conflicts with wildlife, as seen in Kaziranga National Park, where elephants often damage crops.

Despite these challenges, India has made significant progress, particularly in Bengal tiger conservation. Due to uncontrolled hunting, their population plummeted from 100,000 at the beginning of the 20th century to just 1,400 in 2006. Thanks to anti-poaching efforts and habitat improvements, their numbers rose to over 3,500 by 2025, making up about 75% of the world's wild tiger population.

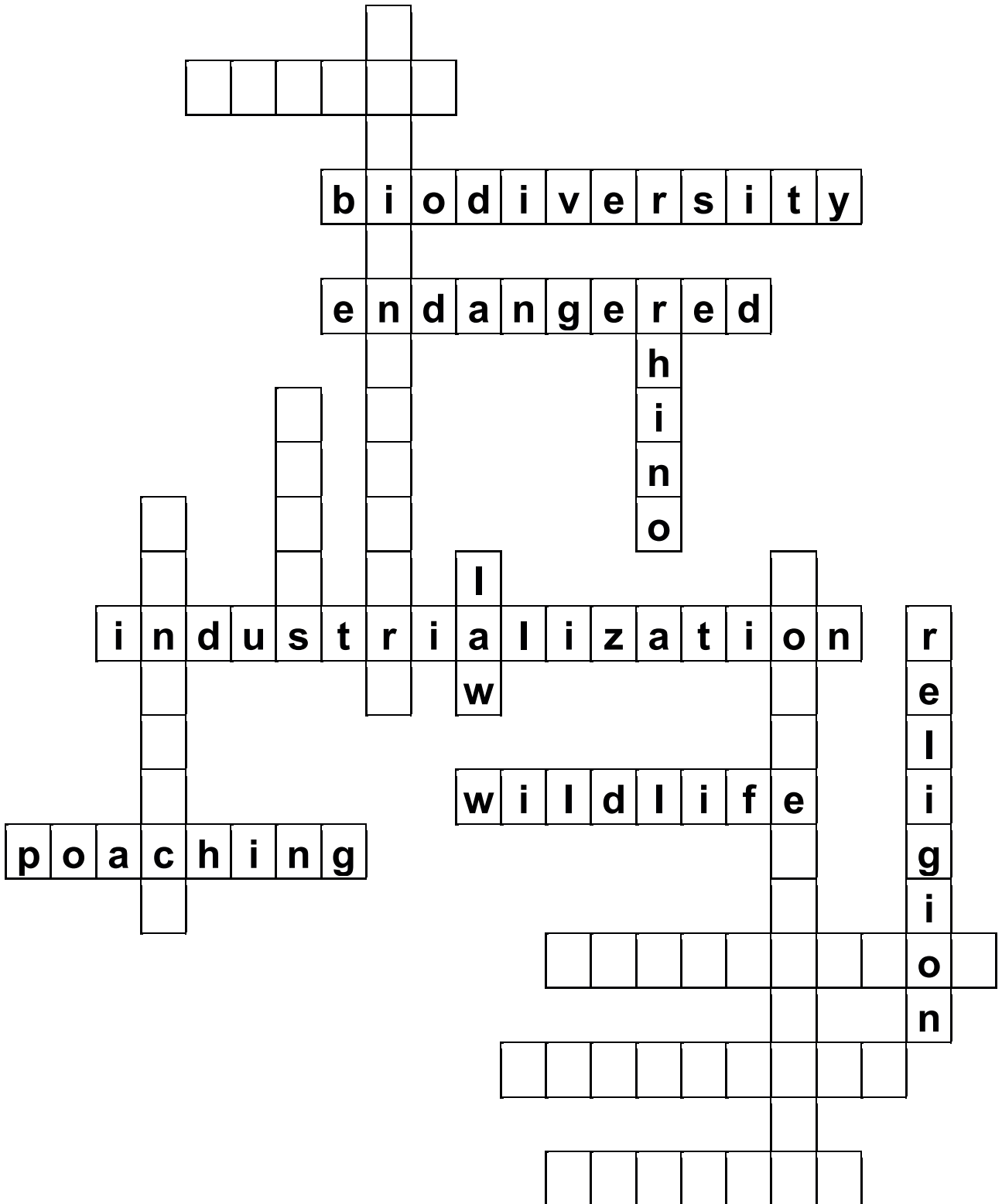
These tigers inhabit an area roughly twice the size of the Czech Republic, but only about a quarter of it provides sufficient resources for survival. Moreover, in nearly half of these regions, tigers must share their ecosystem with humans.

One of the key strategies for tiger conservation was village relocation, which expanded tiger habitats and reduced human-wildlife conflicts. However, human presence itself is not the main issue—attitudes toward conservation matter most. Some local communities benefit from the growing tiger population, primarily through ecotourism revenue. Studies suggest that conservation efforts can support both biodiversity and local livelihoods.

Similar successes have been achieved with other endangered species, such as the Indian rhinoceros in Kaziranga, which is also home to a strong population of elephants and buffaloes. These results demonstrate that nature conservation benefits not only wildlife but also people.

SAVING THE BENGAL TIGER - STUDENT A

You and your partner have different parts of the same crossword puzzle. Fill in the missing words by asking your partner for clues. Take turns asking questions like; What's 3 across? or What's 5 down? You and your partner should answer by describing in what context the missing word occurs in the source text.



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