

## Active Reading

### Section 2: Biodiversity at Risk

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Like rain forests, coral reefs occupy a small fraction of the marine environment yet contain the majority of the biodiversity there. Reefs provide millions of people with food, tourism revenue, coastal protection, and sources of new chemicals. One study in 1998 estimated the value of these services to be \$375 billion per year. But reefs are poorly studied and not as well protected by laws as terrestrial areas are. Nearly 60 percent of Earth's coral reefs are threatened by human activities, such as development along waterways, over fishing, and pollution. Similar threats affect coastal ecosystems, such as swamps, marshes, shores, and kelp beds. Coastal areas are travel routes for many migrating species as well as links to ecosystems on land.

#### IDENTIFYING MAIN IDEAS

One reading skill is the ability to identify the main idea of a passage. The main idea is the main focus or key idea. Frequently, a main idea is accompanied by supporting information that offers detailed facts about main ideas.

Read each question and write the answer in the space provided.

1. How much of the marine environment do coral reefs make up?  
A small fraction is made up by coral reefs.
2. What percentage of coral reefs are threatened by human activity?  
by a 60%.
3. How much of the marine environment's biodiversity is contained in Earth's coral reefs?  
the majority of biodiversity
4. How much money are the coral reefs worth, according to one study?  
\$ 375 billion per year
5. Which are better protected by laws, terrestrial areas or coral reef areas?  
terrestrial areas
6. Name four reasons why coral reefs are beneficial to humans.  
they are a source of food, money from tourism, coastal protection and new chemicals
7. Name four types of coastal ecosystems.  
Swamps, marshes, shores, Kelp beds

# Holt Environmental Science Worksheet 26

**Anthony S. Fauci**



## **Holt Environmental Science Worksheet 26:**

## Unveiling the Magic of Words: A Report on "**Holt Environmental Science Worksheet 26**"

In a world defined by information and interconnectivity, the enchanting power of words has acquired unparalleled significance. Their ability to kindle emotions, provoke contemplation, and ignite transformative change is really awe-inspiring. Enter the realm of "**Holt Environmental Science Worksheet 26**," a mesmerizing literary masterpiece penned by a distinguished author, guiding readers on a profound journey to unravel the secrets and potential hidden within every word. In this critique, we shall delve in to the book is central themes, examine its distinctive writing style, and assess its profound effect on the souls of its readers.

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