The Jewish Journal

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By: _____

Introduce the event (5Ws)

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What actually happened?

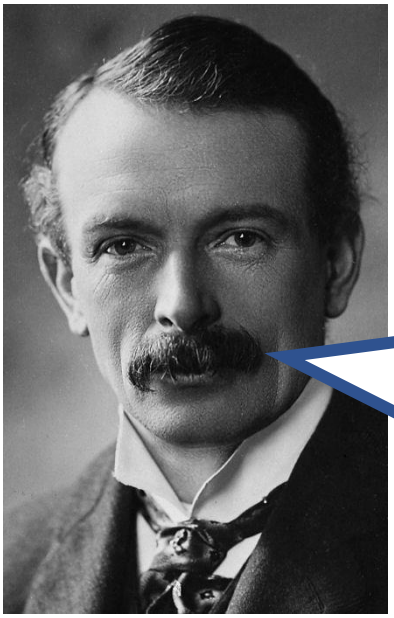
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What might the guests have thought about some of the bridesmaids?

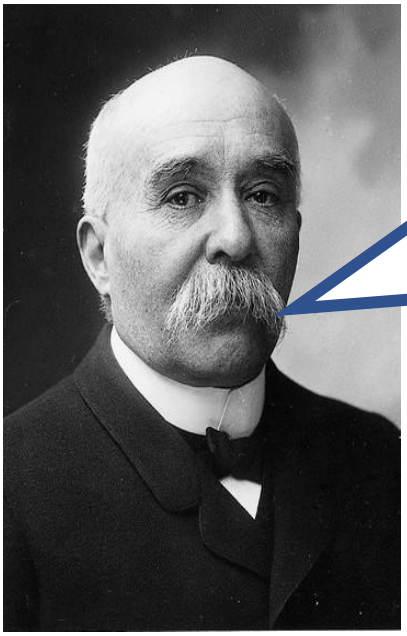
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What do we learn from this event?

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Threats to Biodiversity

1. Climate change

Changes in climate throughout our planet's history have, of course, altered life on Earth in the long run — ecosystems have come and gone and species routinely go extinct.

But rapid, manmade climate change speeds up the process, without affording ecosystems and species the time to adapt. For example, rising ocean temperatures and diminishing Arctic sea ice affects marine biodiversity and can shift vegetation zones, having global implications.

Overall, climate is a major factor in the distribution of species across the globe; climate change forces them to adjust. But many are not able to cope, causing them to die out.

What can we do? Individuals can take various steps to fight climate change, such as reducing their carbon footprints, try to always use renewable sources or energy when possible, i.e. using solar and wind power. Cycle and walk to different places instead of using the car. Use public transport when possible. Try to buy food, clothes and other goods which are produced locally.

2. Deforestation and habitat loss



Deforestation is a direct cause of extinction and loss of biodiversity. An estimated 18 million acres of forest are lost each year, due in part to logging and other human practices, destroying the ecosystems on which many species depend.

Tropical rainforests in particular, such as the Amazon, hold a high percentage of the world's known species, yet the regions themselves are in decline due to humans.

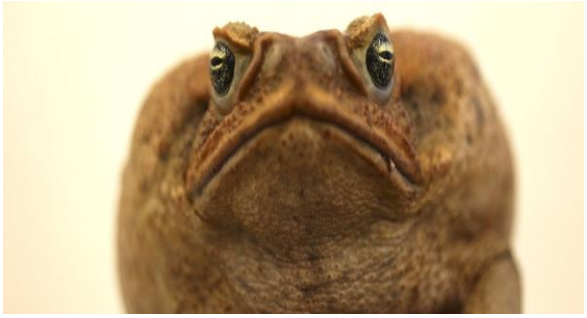
What can we do? The solutions to deforestation mostly lie in policy — companies and corporations can adopt best practices and refuse to use timber and paper suppliers that contribute to deforestation. You can visit a nearby national park or nature reserve. Some national parks have special guided tours and walks for kids. When you visit a national park, make sure you obey the wildlife code: follow fire regulations; leave your pets at home; leave flowers, birds' eggs, logs and bush rocks where you find them; put your rubbish in a bin or, better still, take it home.

3. Overexploitation

Overhunting, overfishing and over-harvesting contribute greatly to the loss of biodiversity, killing off numerous species over the past several hundred years. Poaching and other forms of hunting for profit increase the risk of extinction; the extinction of an apex predator — or, a predator at the top of a food chain — can result in catastrophic consequences for ecosystems.

We can only buy those products who do not over-exploit the environment, i.e. fish from companies who restock with younger fish or kitchen paper from companies who plant as many or more trees as they use.

4. Invasive species



Some parks and reserves, beaches, bushland and rivers are now infested with invasive plants, and native species often cannot compete with these plants. Many environmental weeds come from people's gardens. Sometimes, the seeds are taken into the bush by the wind or by birds. The introduction of non-native species into an ecosystem can threaten wildlife (either as predators or competing for resources), affect human health and upset economies.

What can we do? Do not dump weeds in the bush. Plant native plants local to the area rather than introduced plants.

5. Pollution



From the burning of fossil fuels (releasing dangerous chemicals into the atmosphere and, in some cases, depleting ozone levels) to dumping 19 billion pounds of plastic into the ocean every year, pollution completely disrupts the Earth's ecosystems. While it may not necessarily cause extinction, pollutants do have the potential to influents species' habits.

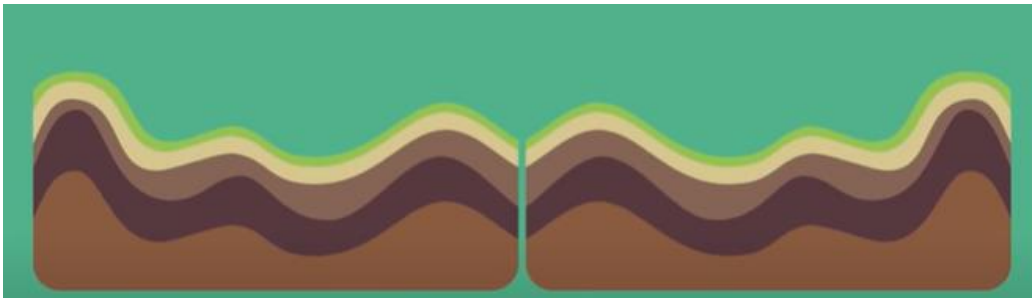
For example, acid rain, which is typically caused by the burning of fossil fuels, can acidify smaller bodies of water and soil, negatively affecting the species that live there by changing breeding and feeding habits.

What can we do? The average person can do a number of things to fight atmospheric and hydrologic pollution, such as recycling, conserving energy at home and using public transportation. Cut down your “carbon footprint” which leads to pollution and ultimately climate change. Reduce, reuse and recycle whenever possible.



What is the earth's crust divided up into?

What are the two tectonic plates called that form the Andes? – Where do they meet?



What happens to one of the plates when they meet? – What is this called?

What happens to the land?



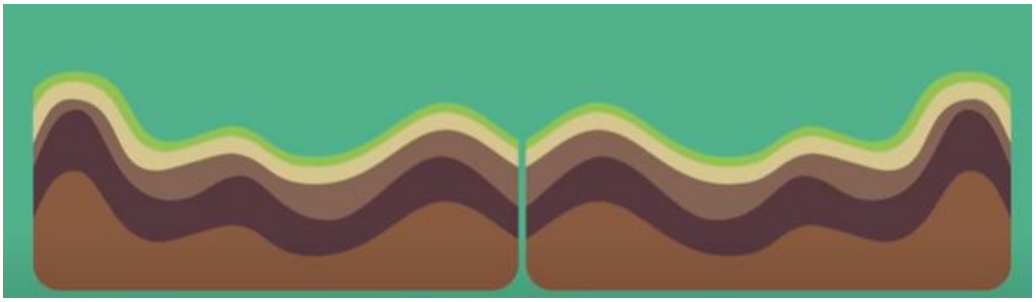
What type of mountain range is formed?

What about flat land? -What is it called? What is built on these areas of land?



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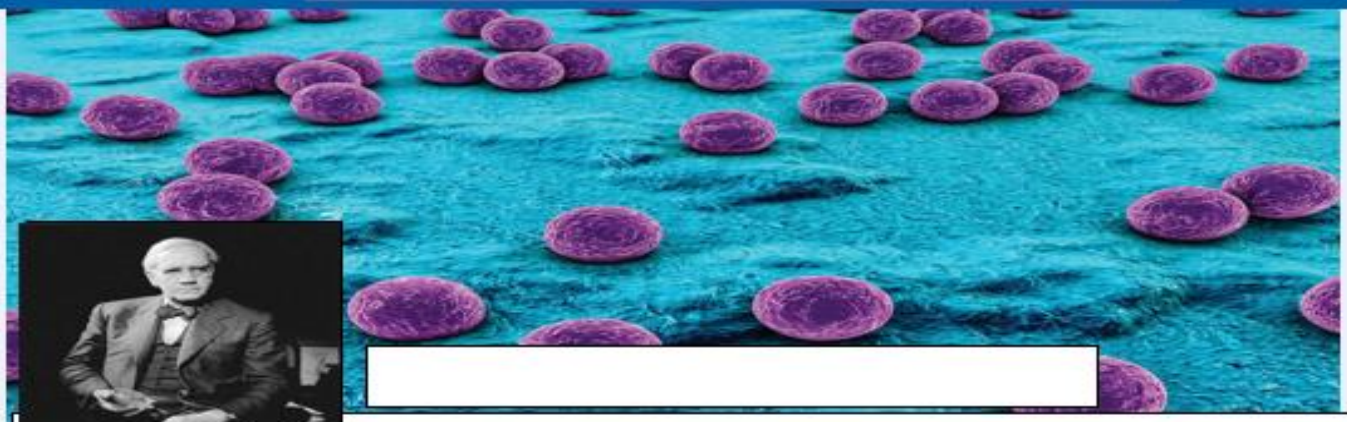


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Sciencebook

Search



Born:
Died:
Nationality:







About me

My Eureka Moment!

Work, Education and Personal Life.

Timeline of Achievements