

Topic 1: Write a persuasive essay explaining why zoos should be banned. In your essay, consider the ethical concerns of keeping animals in captivity and how zoos may negatively impact the conservation of wildlife. Use evidence and examples to support your argument.

great choice in describing what a zoo is in opening your piece

A zoo is a place where captive animals are put on display for humans to see. While early zoos (shortened from zoological parks) concentrated on displaying as many unusual creatures as possible—often in small, cramped conditions. A study by Bristol University found that many British zoos fail to provide animals with the required minimum standard of care.

this piece of factual information is up the top! But this should be in the body of the piece only. You are still in the introduction so take it slow

Wild animals often suffer in captivity because they were meant to be free. Many zoo animals are forcefully removed from their natural habitat. This relocation alone can come as a large shock and wreak havoc on the animals' mental health. For some animals in zoos, the shock of their relocation alone can be fatal.

Individual animals have sentience and therefore have rights. Keeping endangered animals in zoos infringes on those individuals' rights to freedom.

In addition, when animals are removed from their natural habitats, they are also removed from their family structure and social hierarchy. For many wild animals, this is a vital part of their life, and they can struggle to redefine their footing.

Baby animals bring in visitors and money, but this incentive to breed new baby animals leads to overpopulation. Surplus animals are sold not only to other zoos, but also to circuses and hunting facilities. Some zoos simply kill their surplus animals outright.

The vast majority of captive breeding programs do not release animals back into the wild. The offspring are forever part of the chain of zoos, circuses, petting zoos, and the exotic pet trade that buys, sells, barbers, and generally exploits animals.

When factoring in the number of zoos breeding animals and the risk posed to baby animals, the change of disease skyrockets further.

There have also been reported cases of zoos not properly disposing of dead bodies when animals die on their premises. Some surplus animals or injured animals are even fed to predators as a means of life-cycle maintenance.

Animals sometimes escape their enclosures, endangering themselves as well as people. Likewise, people ignore warnings or accidentally get too close to animals, leading to horrific outcomes. For example, Harambe, a 17-year-old western lowland gorilla, was shot in 2016 when a toddler accidentally fell into his enclosure at the Cincinnati Zoo. While the child survived and was not badly injured, the gorilla was killed outright.

At the end of the day, Zoos are largely unethical places that are built under the pretense of habitat conservation but really are there to earn money and entertain people who want to be able to say they saw real-life wild animals. Many zoos claim to be helping preserve dwindling populations.

This may be true to some extent; however, many zoos are running breeding programs for their own benefit and have no interest in releasing their animals back into the wild.

The truth is that zoos are a prison for animals. They are contained in small spaces, often made docile through drugs and other medications, and slowly strip away all autonomy and freedom from all animals.

Removing individual specimens from the wild further endangers the wild population because the remaining individuals will be less genetically diverse and may have greater difficulty finding mates. Maintaining species diversity within captive breeding facilities is also a challenge.

If people want to see wild animals in real life, they can observe wildlife in the wild or visit a sanctuary. (A true sanctuary does not buy, sell, or breed animals, but instead takes in unwanted exotic pets, surplus animals from zoos, or injured wildlife that can no longer survive in the wild.)

In addition, a more educational option is to make arrangements to view animals in the wild. Nature reserves, bird watching, going on a safari. All of these options afford you a close view of nature exactly as it was intended.

Conclusion is quite hanging

Thanks for submitting your piece on time! First off, your persuasive essay is very informative! I especially like the part about Harambe as it really did put out a huge effect when it comes to this topic. There are just a few things you need to work on. Firstly, add a source everytime you mention a factual information. Also have a proper flow of ideas with a good transition from one thought to the next. Lastly, for your conclusion, you can try and summarise the whole piece and arrive at a strong conclusion.

Mark (46/50)