

ACT WRITING PROMPT

Elephant Extinction

Elephants, one of the most iconic and intelligent species on Earth, are facing rapid population declines due to habitat destruction, poaching, and climate change. Some experts argue that unless human behavior shifts dramatically—through stronger conservation laws, reduced demand for ivory, and better protection of natural habitats—elephants could become extinct within the century. Others believe that existing efforts are sufficient, or that the survival of elephants should not outweigh economic or development priorities.

Read and carefully consider the following perspectives. Each suggests a different way to view the issue of human responsibility in elephant conservation.

Perspective One:	Perspective Two:	Perspective Three:
Humans must make major lifestyle and policy changes—including banning ivory trade, reducing deforestation, and investing in conservation. Without these urgent changes, elephants will not survive.	While human activity has harmed elephant populations, current laws and conservation efforts are improving. Instead of expecting drastic changes, we should focus on enforcing and refining existing programs.	The focus on elephants is emotionally driven and distracts from larger human concerns like poverty and economic development. Saving elephants should not come at the expense of human progress.

Essay Task: Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on the statement: **"Elephants will not survive unless humans change their behaviors."**

In your essay, be sure to:

- clearly state your own perspective on the issue
- analyze the relationship between your perspective and at least one other
- develop and support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed examples

Your perspective may be completely in agreement with one of the given ones, partially in agreement, or completely different.