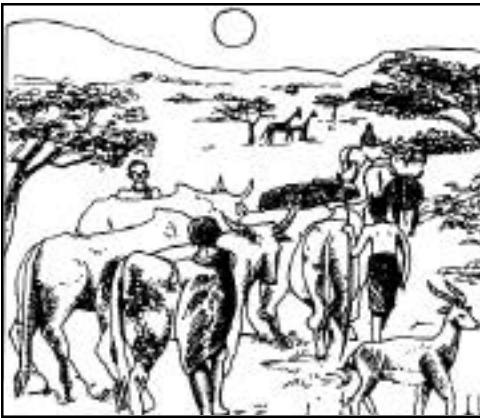


# National Parks

## Maasai evicted from homeland

An area known as Amboseli, situated at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya is home to the Maasai. For centuries the Maasai have had a healthy relationship with the land and its' wildlife.



In 1974, an area covering 392Km<sup>2</sup> in Amboseli was turned into a National Park and the Maasai people were told to leave.

Although the land belonged to the local Maasai people, the Government and wildlife authorities did not give them any of the money that visitors paid to visit the National Park. The Government had also promised free water as the main watering places for the Maasai cattle were within the National Park. Water was provided by a pipeline, but this soon broke down because there was no-one to repair it.

The Maasai became angry at the National Park and the animals, and killed many of the wildlife in Amboseli by spear wounds. The Maasai had lost their land and water for wildlife and tourism and yet were worse off. They thought

that if they killed the wildlife in Amboseli, there would be no tourism and they could move back.

In 1990, newly elected Maasai leaders saw the value of the wildlife and said to their people "Why don't we make use of the wildlife like the authorities are doing in the National Park? Why don't we set aside areas within our own land and welcome tourists?"

Thus areas outside the National Park were set up by the Maasai as wildlife reserves and sanctuaries. Tourists come to visit these sanctuaries and money earned goes straight to the Maasai.



All killing of wildlife has stopped and the Maasai are educating their children that wildlife must be protected as it's part of their future, with the money used to improve their standard of living.

# National Parks

Read through the newspaper article. This tells you about the effects that the Amboseli National Park had on the Maasai people.

**Task 1:** Look at the headings below. (i) Shade the 'action taken by the authorities' heading in **red**. (ii) Shade the 'action taken by the Maasai' heading in **blue**. (iii) Shade 'action taken towards animals' heading in **green**.

**Task 2:** Re-read the article. (i) Using **red**, underline anything about 'action taken by the authorities'. (ii) Using **blue**, underline anything about 'action taken by the Maasai'. (iii) Using **green**, underline anything about 'action taken towards animals'.

**Task 3:** Use the information that you have underlined to write what you can into the correct boxes below.

**Task 4:** On a piece of lined paper, describe the different effects the National Park had in Amboseli and give reasons for these effects.

Try to suggest **other** measures that could be taken to help limit problems cause by any future National Parks in Kenya.

Red	<i>Action taken by authorities</i>
Blue	<i>Action taken by the Maasai</i>
Green	<i>Action taken towards animals</i>