

FLEX English Communication III

Disk 3 Lesson 7

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Lessons from History of Easter Island - Mistakes We Should Not Repeat

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Listening

Many people feel frustrated with problems like global warming, the loss of wildlife populations, and war. These problems arise from our own selfish behavior. Looking back through time, we can see that Easter Island's culture and history are a mirror of our modern history. Now the island is famous for big stone statues called Moai, which are evidence that there was a great society in the past. It is estimated that the island used to have a population of about 15,000. But the people cut down all the trees, and deforestation and destruction of other natural resources led to the collapse of the island when the same mistakes that Easter Islanders made in the past. 学校用音声 CD のスクリプトを掲載しました。

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Ouestions

- 1 Where are the statues in Picture ①?
- 2 Why are Easter Island's culture and history a mirror of modern history?
- 3 What happened to all of the trees in Picture 4?

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Oral Introduction

People often talk about caring for the environment, but it's sometimes difficult for people to understand the danger of not doing so. Easter Island is a good example of what can happen if people just use natural resources without thinking about the consequences. Because Easter Island is in a very remote location, when the people there used all the trees on the island, they could not get new resources from anywhere and the result was the end of their culture. When you read about Easter Island, think about what you can do to care for the environment in the future.

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