

**YOUTUBE - ISE II**  
**LISTENING 7**

**TASK 1**

The talk is about zoos and the arguments for and against them. (or words to that effect)

**TASK 2**

**ARGUMENTS FOR**


1. Zoos are subject to debate regarding their impact on wildlife conservation, education, and animal welfare.
2. Advocates argue that zoos play a crucial role in conservation efforts, research, and public education.
3. Zoos participate in breeding programs for endangered species and contribute to scientific research.
4. Zoos serve as educational centers, offering visitors opportunities to learn about species and conservation.
5. Zoos can foster empathy and a sense of responsibility toward animals through close encounters.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST**

1. Critics contend that zoos prioritize entertainment over animal welfare and can perpetuate harmful practices.
2. Critics raise concerns about compromised animal welfare due to captive environments and inadequate living conditions.
6. Ethical debates arise regarding the captivity of wild animals for human entertainment, questioning the moral implications.

How many points would you give yourself?

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.



## Tapescript

Zoos have long been a subject of debate, with opinions divided on whether they are a positive or negative institution for wildlife conservation, education, and animal welfare. Advocates argue that zoos play a crucial role in conservation efforts, research, and public education, while critics contend that they prioritize entertainment over animal welfare and can perpetuate harmful practices.

One of the primary arguments in favor of zoos is their role in conservation. Many zoos participate in breeding programs for endangered species, aiming to reintroduce them into the wild and prevent their extinction. Zoos also contribute to scientific research, advancing our understanding of animal behavior, health, and reproduction.

These institutions often serve as educational centers, offering visitors the opportunity to learn about various species, their habitats, and the importance of conservation. Moreover, zoos can foster empathy and a sense of responsibility toward animals. For many people, seeing animals up close sparks an interest in wildlife preservation and environmental issues. Educational programs and guided tours in zoos can inspire visitors, especially children, to appreciate and respect nature.

However, critics argue that the captive environment of zoos may compromise animal welfare. Concerns include inadequate space, limited enrichment, and unnatural social structures, which can lead to stress, behavioral issues, and health problems among animals. While some zoos prioritize animal welfare and implement better living conditions, others may fall short due to financial constraints or inadequate regulations.

Furthermore, there's an ethical debate regarding the captivity of wild animals for human entertainment. Critics argue that confining animals for public display is inherently exploitative, depriving them of their natural freedom and behaviors. This raises questions about the moral implications of using animals for human amusement.

In conclusion, the question of whether zoos are a good thing is complex and multifaceted. While they contribute significantly to conservation efforts and education, concerns about animal welfare and ethical considerations persist. Efforts to prioritize the well-being of animals while maintaining their educational and conservation roles are essential in determining the overall value and ethics of zoos in society.