Content Questions:

1. What are the different ways that introduced species affect our environment?

2. Describe the kinds of species that have been introduced around the world, causing problems with local

species.

3. What things can we do to limit the spread of introduced species?

4. How does the problem of introduced species compare to other environmental problems that we face

today?

5. Why is change of an entire habitat the greatest impact of introduced species?

6. Which introduced species can cause problems in land/terrestrial habitats? In water/aquatic habitats?

7. What is hybridization or cross-breeding, and which introduced species are causing problems by crossbreeding

with native species?

Extension Questions:

1. How have people and their activities helped species move from one part of the world to another?

2. Which introduced species have been beneficial? (think of food, crops, and pets)

3. Why do you think introduced species cost national economies so much? What kinds of costs might be

involved? (an example: U.S. costs are $137 billion per year)

4. Why do you think that some species are beneficial and some are harmful to our environment?

1. Simberloff said that 49% of endangered species are in trouble because of introduced species. What are

ways that introduced species could threaten the continued survival of native populations?

2. What are the types of activities of an introduced species that could cause disruption to a local

environment?

3. Simberloff mentioned that the North American gray squirrel causes disruption in Great Britain and Italy.

Why are they not causing those same problems in their native habitats in North America?

4. The exotic pet business can contribute to the decline of imperiled wildlife populations in their native

habitats. How might the exotic pet trade also become a problem of introduced species in a new habitat?

5. How can the simple human activity of fishing contribute to the introduction of alien species?