

## **2E Kwan Hui Ching**

### **Debate Speech**

Ladies and gentlemen, I am Chris Wong. I stand before you today in favour of the motion "All the endangered species should be kept in the zoo." This proposition is not just about captivity, it is about ensuring the survival of our planet's most valuable creatures. Recently, many people have been arguing about this topic as more animals are becoming extinct like elephants and white dolphins.

First and foremost, zoos provide a safe haven for endangered species, protecting them from the immediate threats that they may face in real life and the wild. Poaching, habitat loss, and climate change have pushed many species to the brink of extinction. In the wild, these animals face numerous challenges, but in a zoo, they are safeguarded and shielded from such dangers, allowing them to live and breed in a secure environment. Also, Keeping them in zoos can allow their populations to recover. Successful breeding programmes in zoos have led to the recovery of some species like the California condor and the Arabian oryx, demonstrating the effectiveness of this approach. In zoos, these animals are shielded from dangers, like keeping them away from predators and more, allowing them to live and breed in a secure environment. Therefore, this can prevent them from having risks.

Next, when people visit zoos, they can learn about the challenges these endangered species face. Just like elephants, the government has already banned people from selling products made of elephants, such as chopsticks. This awareness fosters a sense of responsibility and encourages support for conservation, so zoos have played a crucial role in education and awareness. By providing opportunities for the public, zoos foster a sense of responsibility towards conservation. Visitors leave with a greater understanding of the challenges these animals face and are inspired to support conservation efforts. Take my brother as an example. Before, he wasn't really aware of this problem, but after going to the zoos, he started to be aware of this serious problem, and he joined the community group for protecting endangered animals, he also influenced others to help protect them together. Therefore, this can influence others to protect them.

Instead of letting them just be in the forests and no one cares about them, and let them just die? I believe no one wants this tragic ending. Additionally, zoos

contribute to valuable researches that enhance our understanding of endangered species, we can also do more research about this kind of endangered species. This research informs conservation strategies, helping us protect these animals more effectively in the wild. Once they are gone, they will never come back, and we won't have this species forever. Therefore, we shall raise people's awareness by keeping endangered animals in zoos.

Some people may think that keeping these animals in zoos is cruel to them, as they only can live in a limited space to live in every day. But have you ever thought that struggling to find food or being hunted easily will be more crucial to these animals? I know that you may want to maintain biodiversity in nature. However, we can preserve that for other animals, but not these animals as they are already endangered. We can't make a copy of them as easy as copying texts on computers. Therefore, keeping animals in zoos is actually better than letting them live with the threats they face in wildlife. So this motion must stand.

In conclusion, keeping endangered species in zoos is not just a matter of preservation, but a proactive approach to ensuring the survival of our planet's biodiversity. Animals are also part of the world. Together, we can make the world a perfect place for all living things to live. For the sake of our ecosystem and future generations, I urge you to also support this motion and protect the endangered animals and let's make the world a harmonious and better place. Thank you.