The author presents three reasons, accompanied by three solutions to why some species of frogs have experienced a decline in population and how humans can take actions to deal with this ordeal. The professor, by using well-established facts, tries to argue why the passage does not offer any practical solution.

First of all, the passage suggests that use of pesticides in farms has led to poisoning of frog habitats and therefore, causing severe health problems for the frogs; hence the author proposes the ban of pesticides on the farms near the frog habitats. While the professor agrees with the posed problem, she rebukes the solution by adding that, it would not be economically fair for the farmers to disallow their use of pesticides as they rely heavily on the substances to kill off the insects and banning these will result in the farmers being in disadvantage to their competitors and moreover, the farms would yield lower amounts of crops which is not viable for these farmers.

Secondly, the fact that certain type of fungus can be detrimental to the frogs, which thickens their skins and causes them to be unable to absorb water has been brought to attention by the passage and the author tries to alleviate the problem by proposing that all of affected frogs be vaccinated by antifungal medicine. In contrary, the professor believes that it is not a practical solution as it involves applying medicine individually; meaning, one has to catch the frogs one by one and moreover, the medicine does not pass to the offspring; therefore, the medicine should be applied generation by generation which is not practical at all.

Thirdly and lastly, the author aggravates another reason as he states the destruction of frog’s natural habitats by human activity is a major factor in frogs’ decline in population and proposes that these habitats be left alone. But the lecture dismisses this idea as it states that it is not the humans that damage these habitats, the culprit is global warming and therefore one cannot ban the use of waters for humans as they make use of these landmarks greatly for the improvement of their lives.

Time : 23 min