



Every year, people illegally kill at least 20,000 African elephants. They kill them for their **tusks**, which they then sell mainly to Asia.

The work to stop the illegal **ivory** business is difficult, but scientists came up with an idea that could help. Scientists did DNA tests on more than 4,000 tusks that police **seized** in ports. The tests showed that some of the animals belonged to the same family. It helped police know where some of the killings took place.

Most ivory leaves Uganda through Mombasa, but the places change, so it is not easy for police to arrest anyone.

Difficult words: **tusk** (one of the two long teeth of some animals, for example, elephants), **ivory** (the white hard thing which is a part of long elephant's teeth), **seize** (to take hold of something and keep it).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *tusk*, *ivory* and *seize*
2. About how many African elephants are illegally killed each year?
3. Why are these elephants killed?
4. What idea did scientists come up with to help stop the illegal ivory business in Africa?
And how could this help stop the illegal ivory business?
5. Why is it difficult for the police to arrest people who illegally take ivory?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Is ivory business legal in your country?
2. Are you for or against banning ivory trade in your country?
3. Where does ivory in your country generally come from?
4. How popular is collecting ivories for people in your country?
5. Do you own anything that is made from ivory?