Compare and Contrast: “Easter’s End” and “The Lorax”

 In between these 2 stories, one being fictional and one being on the verge of our reality, there is a moral. We need to pay attention and react to the moral that these events explain. In this comparison and contrasting of events, there will be explanations of the different and similar actions that led to the destruction of these 2 environments.

 The similarities that these two stories share are majorly important because their similarities involve many environmental topics. One similarity I found was that both populations had run out of resources. They ran out of these resources because they were both being careless about the amount and the demand rate that these resources had in their population and did not mind to even think about the possibility of making more of their resources. Even if they did try and renew their resources, those resources took too long to grow so that the population could keep up with the demand. Another similarity that caught my eye was the fact that most species in these environments depended on these trees. When the population was using these resources at an alarming rate, the species depending on these trees lost their food sources and shelters, bringing them to extinction. Since these populations did not care to make sure to not harm the species, they went extinct or they fled to another place where there might be resources for them. One last similarity that I found to be very important was that **both** these regions were very fertile paradises, flourishing with abundance. But, when the human population, or the oncelers, arrived at the regions and they saw the resources that could be used for their purposes, they took advantage and overused the resources and greed and competition overtook these populations and they became careless of the future effects it would have on them. This is happening in real life, in our world, where the corporate industries are overusing the resources they use at an alarming pace, and not letting the resources replenish, or some of the resources used cannot replenish at all, but yet they overuse and ignore the environmental and future consequences.

 The Lorax and Easter Island have many differences, but I will first explain what The Lorax events expresses that are different from the events at Easter Island. One major difference that I found was that the onceler, the antagonist, used the truffula trees, the resource, for economical purposes, or for a product or products that he would later sell for the local currency. Another difference that I found between these two ignorance tales is that this specific tale is fiction, meaning that it is not true, a story that never really happened. One last difference that I found interesting was that in The Lorax, the onceler had no competition at all with another product or company, which was surprising because most industries have competition in their production.

 Once difference that the Easter Island events have against The Lorax events is that the populations that lived on the island, or the Polynesians, used the trees on the island to transport statues that had been carved out from a crater on the island to the coastline of the island. In The Lorax, the onceler uses the truffula trees to make a multi-use fabric that could be used on basically anything and everything. Another difference that intrigued me was that the reason they had used up all their essential resources was because their culture required it and is was part of a competition that the Polynesians on the island participated in to see which tribe could build the biggest and most majestic statues on the island, or so said. In The Lorax, the onceler used the trees to make a product, which would later be sold for the local currency. One last difference that I found important was that because the Polynesians had maxed out all of their resources and they were not able to hunt for food, since they had no wood to make the tools, they turned to the idea of cannibalism, that later lead to the extinction of humans on Easter Island. This can be considered to be a punishment or a consequence, respectively, to the Polynesians for being careless about their resources.

 There are many stories like these where carelessness and greed take over a population and they lead themselves to destruction and downfall, but one thing seems to persist. This thing is that we always make the same mistake over and over again, environmental ignorance and intriguing greed for many resources. Even is we are educated and we are told the causes and effects of these revolving events, we seem to never pay attention and learn as the human race. I fear that the human race is headed the same way again, especially here in the United States, but we are the generation that needs to interrupt this cycle of destruction and learn that we need to take care of our environment and nurture it because it is our lifeline to the world and without it, we do not exist. The Easter Island events are trying to teach up to take care of our environments and to not be ignorant and greedy over resources, and The Lorax was Dr. Seuss’s attempt at spreading the message to the younger crowd of this world so that they too are informed.