1 Animal instincts

1 Vocabulary

Words in context

a) Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

link harm's free hit erratic safety leading countless revered

1. Terrified at the appearance of a bear in the forest, the trekkers ran to _____ safety _____.
2. Scientists now believe there may be a ____ lead ____ between keeping pets and avoiding heart attacks.
3. In India most people don't eat beef because cows are _____ revered _____.
4. Despite the trapper's attempts to capture it, the rhino broke _____ free _____.
5. There are _____ countless _____ species of insects in the rainforests.
6. Very occasionally, one hears about the _____ erratic behaviour of a lion leading to the death of a keeper.
7. Dangerous pets are best kept somewhere out of _____ way _____.
8. Special care was taken not to disturb the female panda in the days _____ leading up to the birth.
9. The forest fires devastated the area, but local wildlife was by far the worst _____ hit _____.

b) Complete the text with the words in the box.

way worst leading erratic link countless revered broken bolted

Baby Elephant Rescue

Although elephants are highly ______ revered ______ in some parts of the world, they are, in fact, seen as the 'enemy' in some villages in India. The _____ bit are the farmers, who lose _____ wrecked _____ crops to these giant beasts every year. But when an elephant calf got trapped in a well in Jamni village, something unexpected happened.

In the days _____ leading up to the incident, things were the same as ever. A herd of six elephants had caused havoc in nearby villages, once again making the locals wish they lived in a country where elephants simply did not exist. But when a baby elephant, less than a month old, fell into a village well, local villagers could not help but rescue it.

According to eyewitnesses, the calf is thought to have _____ broken _____ free from the herd. When it fell into the well the other elephants tried in vain to rescue it. Luckily, the little elephant and its companions trumpeted so loudly that most of the villagers woke up.

When we saw the elephants encircling the well, we got a dog to drive them away,' said one of the villagers. 'We know how _____ erratic _____ the behaviour of elephants can be, so we needed to get the larger elephants out of the way.'

The trick worked and the elephants calmly walked away, but kept observing the developments from the trees nearby. They were out of harm's _____, so the villagers could stop in and help the calf. Nandkishore Singh entered the 25-foot-deep well and managed to tie a rope around the elephant's body; the villagers above slowly pulled the elephant out. They stood by and watched as the young calf _____ bolted _____.

We know how _____ leading _____ to safety, momentarily forgetting the _____ link between the animal they had just rescued and the regular damage their crops sustained.
2 Grammar

Past perfect passive review

Circle the correct tense, past perfect passive or past perfect continuous.

3 Vocabulary

Animal sounds

a Match the words with the pictures. Write a–e in the boxes.

b Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

1 shark
2 butterfly
3 silkworm
4 chameleon
5 cricket

Toad Alert!

Last spring thousands of toads risked their lives in an amazing journey across busy highways to their chosen breeding ground. When the Cumbrian Wildlife Trust realised that a new ring road had been building on the toads’ traditional route to their breeding ground, they immediately took precautions.

Volunteers had been making preparations for the toads’ migration for weeks before it started. By February, a month before the toads’ migration, road signs had been erected and special underpasses had been digging at busy toad crossing points.

The toads instinctively had been following a centuries-old route to a particular pond, regardless of the dangers involved. David Harpley, a Senior Conservation Manager at Cumbria Wildlife Trust, said: ‘Luckily motorists had been alerting the council to build a nature reserve around the toads’ breeding pond.'
Read the sentences in bold. Tick the sentence (a or b) which best reflects its meaning.

1. The teacher hissed at the class to be quiet.
   a. She spoke in an uncertain voice.
   b. She spoke in an unpleasant voice.  ✓

2. Caroline crowed about her new boyfriend all evening.
   a. She argued about him.
   b. She boasted about him.  ✓

3. I asked a man for directions but he just grunted at me.
   a. He said something in a low unclear voice.
   b. He said something in a loud angry voice.

4. My cousin keeps bleating on about how unlucky she is!
   a. She complains a lot.
   b. She shouts a lot.  ✓

5. The crowd roared as Jackson sped up the field.
   a. They cheered.
   b. They laughed.  ✓

6. Robert continually barks at his children.
   a. He talks politely to them.
   b. He talks loudly and forcefully to them.

7. We could tell from the squeals that they had found their presents.
   a. They were delighted with the presents.
   b. They were disappointed with the presents.  ✓

Vocabulary tip

Using reference books

Understanding vocabulary is fundamental to comprehension and there are many excellent reference materials that can help you learn it.

- A good monolingual learner’s dictionary gives clear definitions of words, including example sentences, examples of usage, grammar, collocations, pronunciation and common errors.

- Bilingual dictionaries are essential for translation work, or if you want to know the exact meaning of a word or phrase in your own language. A good bilingual dictionary also includes cultural notes and indicates false friends.

- A thesaurus gives a list of synonyms, and is useful when writing compositions or reports in order to avoid repetition.

- Vocabulary builders are a combination of reference and practice books which present words in context. They are often a good way of building up and reinforcing vocabulary in a specific area.

Animal Heroes

A new memorial, which is dedicated to the 1) **courageous** animal heroes that helped Britain during the war, has been opened. The monument includes 2) **heroes** horses, dogs, dolphins, pigeons, elephants and even glow worms.

The monument gives a special mention to the 3) **number** animals awarded the PDSA (UK’s leading veterinary charity) Dickin Medal, which is given to animals that have shown courage or heroic 4) **behave** in war. They include Rob, a World War II par-a-dog who made an 5) **believe** 20 parachute drops while serving with the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment), and a pigeon called Mary, who managed to struggle back to 6) **safe** after being attacked by hawks during a mission. PDSA director, General Marilyn Rydstrom, described the memorial as ‘the nation’s long-awaited and very welcome tribute’ to the animals.

‘It will also stand as a testament to the 7) **miracle** bond that animals share with mankind in times of extreme 8) **difficult**.'
4 Literature in Mind

a Read this extract from *The Call of the Wild*. As you read, circle the adjectives in the box that describe Buck.

- clever
- competitive
- careful
- determined
- innocent
- patient
- possessive
- strong
- weak

The dominant primordial beast was strong in Buck, and under the fierce conditions of trail life it grew and grew. Yet it was a secret growth. His newborn cunning gave him poise and control. He was too busy adjusting himself to the new life to feel at ease, and not only did he not pick fights, but he avoided them whenever possible. A certain deliberateness characterized his attitude. He was not prone to rashness and precipitate action; and in the bitter hatred between him and Spitz he betrayed no impatience, shunned all offensive acts.

On the other hand, possibly because he divined in Buck a dangerous rival, Spitz never lost an opportunity of showing his teeth. He even went out of his way to bully Buck, striving constantly to start the fight which could end only in the death of one or the other. Early in the trip this might have taken place had it not been for an unwonted accident. At the end of this day they made a bleak and miserable camp on the shore of Lake Le Barge. Driving snow, a wind that cut like a white-hot knife, and darkness had forced them to grope for a camping place. They could hardly have fared worse. At their backs rose a perpendicular wall of rock, and Perrault and Francois were compelled to make their fire and spread their sleeping robes on the ice of the lake itself. The tent they had discarded at Dyea in order to travel light. A few sticks of driftwood furnished them with a fire that thawed down through the ice and left them to eat supper in the dark.

b Read the text again and find the following words or phrases. What do they describe?

1. bitter (paragraph 1)
2. a white-hot knife (paragraph 2)
3. snug (paragraph 3)

Close in under the sheltering rock Buck made his nest. So snug and warm was it, that he was loath to leave it when Francois distributed the fish which he had first thawed over the fire. But when Buck finished his ration and returned, he found his nest occupied. A warning snarl told him that the trespasser was Spitz. Till now Buck had avoided trouble with his enemy, but this was too much. The beast in him roared. He sprang upon Spitz with a fury which surprised them both, and Spitz particularly; for his whole experience with Buck had gone to teach him that his rival was an unusually timid dog, who managed to hold his own only because of his great weight and size.

c Read the text again. Mark the statements T (true) or F (false).

1. Buck kept his true character hidden from the others.
2. Buck put Spitz into danger.
3. Spitz bullied Buck because he thought Buck was weak.
4. They were not prepared for the bad weather.
5. Spitz ate Buck’s ration of fish.
6. Spitz didn’t expect Buck to attack him so fiercely.

b Find words in the text with these meanings.

1. elegance (para 1)
2. inclined (para 1)
3. imagined (para 2)
4. trying (para 2)
5. unusual (para 2)
6. feel with your hands (para 2)
7. unwilling (para 3)
You are going to listen to five people talking about Steve Irwin, a naturalist and popular television star who died after he was stung by a stingray during a diving expedition off the Australian coast. Listen and match the speakers with the photos.

Speaker 1
Speaker 2
Speaker 3
Speaker 4
Speaker 5

Listen again and answer the questions.

1. Why did Speaker 1 appreciate Irwin’s appearances on chat shows?

2. Why does Speaker 2 say he ‘will always be Crocodile Hunter for me’?

3. How would you describe Speaker 3’s attitude towards Steve putting his children in risky situations?

4. Why did Steve make Speaker 4 feel proud?

5. What lesser-known aspect of Steve’s work does Speaker 5 talk about?

Exam tip

Listening to multiple voices

- This type of question focuses on your general understanding of the content, as well as the opinions and feelings of the speakers. You may hear a variety of accents.
- Before you start, look at any pictures and read through all the questions. This will help you predict what the listening is about.
- While you are listening, note the speaker’s tone and attitude as well as the content. Listen for intonation – does the voice rise or fall? – as well as phrases which indicate feelings or opinions such as I don’t think ..., I really ..., I’m disappointed ...
Unit check

1 Fill in the spaces

Complete the text with the words in the box.

pet instincts starvation survival countless revered wild encouraging buried been

Cats and people have a relationship that goes back many centuries. Scholars believe that people had been 1 ____________ cats into their homes before 500 BC. The first house cat, in fact, may have been a small 2 ____________ cat with a yellow coat and pale stripes not unlike cats found in the wild today. And there is little doubt that even the first cat owners 3 ____________ their pets. Archaeologists uncovering early Egyptian tombs discovered that cats were 4 ____________ with their owners.

Many of today’s 5 ____________ cats aren’t completely domesticated, however. They still retain the ability and the 6 ____________ to hunt and live on their own. Indeed, these 7 ____________ skills have led to a troubling cat population problem in the western world, where millions of unwanted cats roam cities causing 8 ____________ injuries to wild bird populations and other wild animals. The RSPCA started a campaign to cut down on unwanted cats in 2002. Before this, thousands of wild cats had 9 ____________ roaming throughout Britain, facing 10 ____________, maltreatment and often death.

2 Choose the correct answers

Circle the correct answers a, b or c.

1 Many people think that animals can ________ natural disasters.
   a present  b predict  c pretend
2 They heard high-frequency sounds that ________ by the explosion.
   a had been making  b has been made  c had been made
3 She ________ animals long before she became famous.
   a had been studying  b has been studying  c had been studied
4 I wish he would stop ________ about his success!
   a bleating  b croaking  c crowing
5 I’m not going to stop now ________!
   a Not way  b No way  c Way out
6 In India elephants are treated with great ________.
   a revere  b respected  c respect
7 ________ people were made homeless by the hurricane.
   a Counting  b Uncounted  c Countless
8 I ________ about her before she arrived.
   a had been thought  b had been thinking  c have been thinking
9 They ________ in trouble prior to last week’s incident.
   a have been  b had been  c had been being

3 Correct the mistakes

In each sentence there is a mistake with the verb. Underline the mistakes and write the correct word.

1 I had been thought of buying a new mobile phone long before my old one was stolen. thinking
2 The car had parked there for three days before anyone noticed. parked
3 His request had already been refusing twice. refused
4 I was been ready for hours before they came. been
5 He heard that Jane has been promoted the week before. had been
6 My eyes were sore because I have been working at the computer all day. have been
7 The guitar was already sold by the time Mike made his offer. had been
8 The company was closed because it had been lost money for years. losing
9 By the time we got to the station, the last bus had been gone. had been

How did you do?

Total: 25

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