

**READING ACTIVITY****Read about ANIMAL COMMUNICATION.****INSTRUCTIONS TO DO IT**

1. You have to read the text from pages 48-49 of your classbook. If you don't have your book with you, it's pasted in this document.
2. Do exercises 1, 3 and 4.
3. Do exercise 6 like a short text of 60 words.
When you do it, you can send it to your English teacher.



1 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Look at the photos and decide which you think are the two most intelligent and the two least intelligent animals. Then compare your answers with other pairs and give reasons for your choices.

Reading Strategy
For multiple matching tasks, quickly skim the texts to get a general idea of what they are about. Then read the questions you will have to match with them. Finally, read each text carefully and try to match the questions with them as you go.

2 Read the Reading Strategy, then skim texts A–D. How many of the texts talk about animals understanding human language? What are the others about?

3 Read questions 1–10 below. Then read texts A–D carefully and match them with the questions.

Which text ...

1 is about understanding an animal's emotions?	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 is about an animal that knows more than 200 words?	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 describes how an electronic voice was used to communicate with animals?	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 mentions a toy that was popular with pet owners in a particular country?	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 describes how a pet caused the end of a relationship.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 mentions a pet-owner's negative reaction to his pet's communication?	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 shows that some animals have names for each other, just like humans?	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 proves that animals can learn new words and remember them for weeks?	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 is about wild animals rather than pets?	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 describes an ability which was acquired during an illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>

4 VOCABULARY Match the animals below with the noises (1–9). (They are all both nouns and verbs.) Which noises are mentioned in the texts?

bee	cat	dog	dolphin	lion	monkey	mouse	parrot
snake							
1 roar	<input type="checkbox"/>	4 hiss	<input type="checkbox"/>	7 chatter	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2 miaow	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 whistle	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 squeak	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3 bark	<input type="checkbox"/>	6 squawk	<input type="checkbox"/>	9 buzz	<input type="checkbox"/>		

2.06
Talk to the animals

A Dolphins communicate like humans by calling each other by 'name', scientists from Scotland have found. The mammals are able to recognise themselves and other members of the same species as individuals with separate identities, using whistles.

Dr Vincent Janik of St Andrew's University said they conducted the research on wild dolphins. 'We captured wild dolphins using nets when they came near the shore. Then we recorded their whistles before synthesising them on a computer. When we played back the computer voice saying the 'names', we found that the dolphins responded. This showed us that the dolphins know each other's signature whistle, not just the voice. I think it is a very exciting discovery because it means that these animals have evolved the same abilities as humans. Now we know they have labels for each other like we do.'

B A new hi-tech backpack for dogs could allow owners to communicate with their pets. The backpack senses the dog's movements, as well as the sounds it makes, because body language is a very important aspect of communication – especially for dogs. It also detects physical changes like heart rate and body temperature, and these provide information about the dog's emotional state.

Gadgets for translating dog barks into human language have existed for more than a decade. For example, more than 300,000 Japanese dog owners have bought a device called BowlLingual, made by the Takara company. But in reality, this is a toy rather than a piece of scientific equipment. The backpack, which was developed by a team of researchers at North Carolina State University, has a more serious goal. In particular, it aims to improve communication between humans and working dogs. These include guide dogs, who provide help for blind people, and rescue dogs, who search for survivors after earthquakes and other natural disasters.



C A border collie from Germany named Rico has proven what many pet owners intuitively know – dogs can be exceptionally clever. Rico has a vocabulary of more than 200 words, and has demonstrated that he can learn the names of new toys easily, and remember the names weeks later.

The collie's vocabulary is on a par with other trained animals like apes, dolphins, sea lions and parrots. He managed to retrieve 37 of 40 randomly chosen toys from his collection of 200 toys. Most impressive is Rico's ability to learn the names of new toys. When the researchers placed a new toy among his familiar toys and asked him to retrieve it, using a word he'd never heard before, Rico usually retrieved the new toy. Later, after not seeing the new toy for a month, he successfully retrieved it half the time.

Border collies are famous for their intelligence. Traditionally used as herding dogs, collies need plenty of intellectual activity and exercise. Rico's owners started training him to learn the names of toys when he was ill at ten months old and could not leave the house. He is now a healthy nine-year-old.

D A parrot owner was alerted to his girlfriend's misdeeds when his talkative pet let the cat out of the bag by squawking, 'I love you Gary.'

Suzi Collins had been secretly meeting a colleague from work called Gary for four months in the flat in Leeds which she shared with her boyfriend, Chris Taylor. Mr Taylor apparently became suspicious after his parrot, Ziggy, croaked 'Hiya, Gary' when Ms Collins answered her mobile phone. The parrot also made kissing sounds whenever the name Gary was said on TV.

Mr Taylor, 30, a computer programmer, confronted the woman he had lived with for a year, who admitted the truth about Gary and moved out. Mr Taylor also gave up his eight-year-old African Grey parrot after the bird continued to call out Gary's name. 'I wasn't sorry to see the back of Suzi, but it really broke my heart to let Ziggy go,' he said. 'I love him and I really miss having him around, but it was torture hearing him repeat that name over and over again.'

Ziggy has now found a new home, thanks to a local parrot dealer.

5 SPEAKING Look at the photo below and read the newspaper headlines. Then answer the questions.

- 1 What do all the stories have in common?
- 2 Which do you find most surprising and why?
- 3 Are studies like these important? Why? / Why not?



Blocks boost octopus brain power

Sheep can recognise hundreds of faces, study shows

Fast-learning fish have memories that put their owners to shame

6 SPEAKING Imagine that you could have conversations with animals. What do you think you might learn from them? Discuss your ideas with the class.

We hope you will be able to read it properly in case you don't have the book!