

Graded reading: Animals in the city (level 3) – exercises

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the text and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definitions and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

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|--------|-----------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1..... | a baboon | a. | something that annoys people |
| 2..... | a pest | b. | a species of monkey |
| 3..... | fond (of something) | c. | a species at risk of dying out |
| 4..... | an attitude | d. | a way of thinking |
| 5..... | an endangered species | e. | having been left alone and uncared for by an owner |
| 6..... | abandoned | f. | having affection for something |

1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

- City residents in Cape Town do not like the baboons because **they dig up parks and gardens / they can be aggressive / they beg for food** .
- Groups of wild pigs have been coming into Berlin **since the early twentieth century / in recent times / for hundreds of years** .
- In Moscow, small cute dogs are more likely **to be fed by city residents / to be given shelter in winter / to be the leaders of their packs** .
- In Berlin, the city council changed their policy because **it was unsuccessful / it was unpopular / it was expensive** .
- The relationship between people and animals is most harmonious **in Cape Town / in Berlin / in Moscow** .
- The wild pigs in Berlin are **carnivores / omnivores / herbivores** .

2. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | There have been newspaper reports of bears on the streets of Mumbai. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | In Cape Town, baboons often go into the city centre. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Scientists think the dogs in Moscow use their senses to know when to get off a train. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

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|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 4. | In Berlin, the hunters were employed to shoot young pigs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | It is difficult to stop baboons from coming back to the city to find food. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Some people in Berlin have built shelters to help the pigs survive the cold winters. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | All the wild dogs in Moscow used to be pets. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | It is against the law to feed pigs in Berlin. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

Discussion

Which animals do you see in the town or city where you live? Are any of them dangerous?

Does your town or city have any problems with wild animals?