

Unit 5 Reading test

True/False

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

Wild Animals in Captivity

Wild animals have entertained people for hundreds of years in zoos, circuses, and in animal parks like SeaWorld in Florida, USA. For the most part, these animals do not attack the people who work with them or care for them. However, there have been several recent examples of animals that have turned against their trainers and caretakers, often with fatal results. And there is no doubt that these attacks are intentional, not accidents. Why do animals that have been in captivity for a long time suddenly attack people?

Three attacks make us think about this question. From 1990 until 2003, *Siegfried & Roy* was the most popular show in Las Vegas. The show was a combination of magic and wild animals, specifically, lions and tigers. On October 3, 2003, one of the tigers attacked and seriously injured Roy during the show. Roy survived but the attack ended his career. In 1994, Tyke, a circus elephant, killed her trainer and injured several other workers who cared for her, and then escaped into the streets of Honolulu. The police shot at Tyke 86 times before she finally collapsed and died. Tilikum, an orca whale at SeaWorld in Florida, entertained thousands of people in shows several times a day. Dawn Brancheau was his trainer. She had a lot of experience with orcas. On February 24, 2010, Tilikum pulled Brancheau into the water and killed her.

Experts do not agree on the reasons for the attacks, but many of them acknowledge that several factors may contribute to them. First, there is the physical environment. Animals in captivity often live in very small spaces, much smaller than in the wild. For example, wild elephants often walk 10 miles or more every day. In captivity, they may live in an area smaller than a football field. Orcas in the wild may swim up to 100 miles a day. In captivity, they live in far smaller spaces.

Perhaps more important is the social environment. Animals in captivity often live alone or with just one or two other animals. In the wild, many of them live in large, complex social groups. This is especially true of elephants and orcas. Without the support of a social group, they are lonely. They may not know how to behave normally.

A third factor is that learning tricks requires a lot of training. Sometimes that training includes force, which may cause the animals pain. Even while they are performing, the animals may be pushed hard to do their tricks. The animals may look like they are having fun, but they probably do not enjoy the entertainment as much as the people who are watching.

Over the centuries, humans have feared wild animals. In the past, they understood that the animals were dangerous. However, we have gotten used to seeing them in captivity. As a result, our image of these animals has changed. Today, in fact, many people feel great affection for them and sometimes forget that the animals are wild. So, they may be surprised when the animals attack. We know that difficult living conditions can lead to both physical and emotional stress for these animals, which can affect their behavior. What we don't know, however, is why animals suddenly change from obedient performers to aggressive killers.

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Instructions: Refer to the reading "Wild Animals in Captivity." For each statement, answer *True* or *False*.

- _____ 1. The main idea of the reading is that animals in captivity attack for reasons we don't completely understand.
- _____ 2. All of animal attacks described in the reading resulted in the death of a trainer or caregiver.
- _____ 3. Dawn Brancheau had worked a lot with orcas before Tilikum attacked her.
- _____ 4. Elephants may walk up to 100 miles a day in search of food.
- _____ 5. Experts agree that the physical environment is more important than social factors for the animal attacks.
- _____ 6. The support of a social group is important for orcas and elephants.
- _____ 7. Animals in captivity love to perform.
- _____ 8. The fact that most of the wild animals we see today are in captivity has given us an unrealistic view of them.

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Instructions: Refer to the reading "Wild Animals in Captivity." Each statement below provides information about animals in captivity. What can you infer from these statements about why some of them attack? Choose the best answer.

- _____ 1. Animals in captivity live in smaller spaces than animals in the wild.
 - a. These animals have become accustomed to captivity.
 - b. It is difficult for zoos and animals parks to provide large spaces for these animals.
 - c. These animals need a significant amount of exercise to remain stable and healthy.
- _____ 2. Animals in captivity often live alone.
 - a. Loneliness leads these animals to behave in strange ways.
 - b. These animals need a leader and without one, they don't know how to behave.
 - c. Social groups are not important to animals in captivity.
- _____ 3. Training often includes force and pain.
 - a. Trainers don't like to use force but they have no choice.
 - b. These animals don't always like to perform.
 - c. The pain involved in training may make the animals angry.

Unit 5 Quiz Vocabulary**Completion***Complete each statement.***Instructions:** Choose the correct word or words to complete each sentence.

captivity	living conditions	offspring	prosperity
source of pride	tone of voice	trait	win-win situation

1. I know which _____ I inherited from my grandfather—his stubbornness.
2. It is often difficult for wild animals to adjust to life in _____.
3. The success of its hockey team is a(n) _____ to this city.
4. The visitors to the zoo were shocked at the _____ of some of the animals.
5. It is important for all residents to share the country's economic _____.
6. Adults often use a special _____ when they are talking to babies or children.
7. Insects produce many more _____ than mammals do. Most mammals only have a few babies.
8. This exciting new program allows students to get real work experience and gives the employer a chance to hire great employees. It is a _____.

Matching**Instructions:** Match each word or phrase with the sentence that best suggests it.

- a. in close proximity
- b. docile
- c. fit the bill
- d. bond with
- e. aggressive
- f. date back to
- g. inflexible
- h. accelerate

- _____ 1. The requirements for the program are fixed. It is not possible to change any part of it.
- _____ 2. This dress is exactly what I needed for my job interview for tomorrow.
- _____ 3. We rented an apartment that is very close to stores and public transportation.
- _____ 4. This ancient bowl was recently found in a cave. Experts think it was used in about 3000 BCE.

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- _____ 5. The dog is very fierce. It barks at strangers and sometimes bites.
- _____ 6. New technology has made the pace of change faster and faster.
- _____ 7. The horse is very gentle and quiet. It even obeys small children.
- _____ 8. It took just a few days for the children to form relationships with other children at their new school.

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- _____ 4. We don't know why animals suddenly change from obedient performers to killers.
- a. No one has studied wild animals in captivity.
 - b. Studies of animals in captivity have not revealed the reasons for their change in behavior.
 - c. There are not enough animals in captivity to be able to study them.