

**READING
ZONE**

Grade 12



PRIVILEGE

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ISBN

978-605-7767-55-4

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READING PASSAGE



How long do birds live? There is no definite answer to this question. Some **species** can live for more than 30 years while others may live for only two or three years. Birds that live longer than the expected or the usual **lifespan** of their species have often become world-famous.

The flamingo named Greater was one of those famous birds. Before its death in 2014, it was the world's oldest bird. Greater was 83 years old when it died at the Adelaide Zoo in Australia. It had arrived at this zoo in 1933 and was **named after** its species, Greater Flamingo. This is the most **common** and biggest species of the flamingo family.

Greater was a star attraction at the Adelaide Zoo. Many people went there just to see the old bird. However, in 2008, Greater had a very bad experience. It nearly died when three teenage boys, who were visitors at the zoo, beat it badly. They were able to get close to the bird because the flamingo section of the zoo was open, and Greater often **approached** visitors **willingly** and let them take its pictures.

After this **brutal** attack, Greater was in great shock and wasn't able to breathe easily. Its head was seriously injured, and there was a lot of blood around its beak. The vets at the zoo hospital were **concerned** about a broken bone on its head, so they thought that Greater wouldn't **survive**. Luckily, after a successful operation, it **pulled through** and had a fast **recovery**. In two months, the bird's health was back to normal.

In April 2013, the bird keepers noticed that Greater's health was **declining** due to old age. The old bird was suffering pain in its bones and could hardly move. They tried to cure Greater with some medicines, but they didn't help. It had also become completely blind by this time. Greater could survive for just another year and **passed away** in January the following year. Greater was the last of its species in Australia at the time of its death.

INTRODUCTION TO
VOCABULARY

A Guess the meanings of the following and mark the correct choice for each.

1. **approach** (paragraph 3)
 - a) to move or come near
 - b) to run away from
 - c) to attack
2. **concerned** (paragraph 4)
 - a) glad
 - b) worried
 - c) tired
3. **survive** (paragraph 4)
 - a) to have pain
 - b) to continue to live
 - c) to suffer badly
4. **pull through** (paragraph 4)
 - a) to get better
 - b) to become weak
 - c) to be in pain due to illness
5. **decline** (paragraph 5)
 - a) to get smaller
 - b) to improve
 - c) to become worse

B Find the correct words/phrases in the text for the definitions below.

- existing in large numbers: _____
- the length of time that an animal or plant lives: _____
- in a way that shows you are pleased to do something: _____
- to give someone or something the name of another person, thing or place (2 words): _____
- a certain type of animal or plant that has the same main characteristics: _____

COMPREHENSION CHECK**C What do the underlined words in the text refer to? Mark the correct choice.**

- others** (line 4)
 - birds
 - species
- They** (line 18)
 - Three teenage boys
 - Zoos
- it** (line 26)
 - the bird
 - broken bone
- they** (line 32)
 - bird keepers
 - medicines

D Mark the following sentences T (True) or F (False).

- ___ The lifespan of birds differs according to their species. (*paragraph 1*)
- ___ Greater died in 2014. (*paragraph 2*)
- ___ In 2008, Greater attacked three boys who were visiting the zoo. (*paragraph 3*)
- ___ Greater was kept in a cage at the Adelaide Zoo. (*paragraph 3*)
- ___ There were several other Greater flamingos at the Adelaide Zoo when Greater died. (*paragraph 5*)

E Tick (✓) the option which could be the best title for the text.

- ☐ The Adventurous Life Story of a Flamingo
- ☐ A Bird Well-Known for Its Long Life
- ☐ A Brutal Attack on the World's Oldest Bird

F Tick (✓) the option(s) that can be inferred from the text.

- ☐ Greater was not afraid of people.
- ☐ Flamingos live longer than other birds.
- ☐ The zoo personnel did not look after Greater well enough.

G Answer the questions.

1. When did Greater begin living at Adelaide Zoo?

2. What species did Greater belong to?

3. Why did the vets at the zoo hospital think Greater would not live?

4. How long did it take Greater to fully recover after the operation?

5. Why did Greater's health decline in 2013?

H Mark the best choice.

1. **Why was Greater world-famous?**
 - a) It was attacked brutally at the zoo where it lived.
 - b) It was the world's oldest bird.
 - c) It was a bird of a very rare species.
 - d) It was the last flamingo of its species.
2. **According to the text, Greater ----.**
 - a) spent most of its life as a blind bird
 - b) had health problems throughout its whole life
 - c) was not allowed to go near visitors
 - d) attracted many visitors to the Adelaide Zoo
3. **It can be concluded from the text that Greater passed away because of ----.**
 - a) wrong medication given by the zoo bird keepers
 - b) old age, which caused health problems
 - c) blindness, which got worse in its old age
 - d) a serious head injury that it had got in 2008

MORE ABOUT VOCABULARY

I Underline the correct option in each sentence below.

1. The footballer had a lot of **pain** / **injury** after the operation on his knee.
2. Their life quality **declined** / **developed** fast after their father lost his job.
3. Many animal **lifespans** / **species** are endangered today because of climate change and habitat loss.
4. We were very distressed when my uncle **pulled through** / **passed away** in a car crash.
5. No one can **survive** / **suffer** for more than a week without having anything to eat.
6. You should take a short break when you have difficulty **surviving** / **breathing** during a hard workout.
7. As the train **attracted** / **approached** the station, my sister and I kissed our parents goodbye.
8. The professor thanked the students who **willingly** / **brutally** took part in his research experiments.

J Complete the sentences with the words in the box below.

pull through

brutal

decline

approach

willingly

recovery

1. After the age of forty, your muscle strength and function both start to _____ even if you exercise regularly.
2. The man who was seriously injured in the crash has been in a coma for ten days, and doctors say he has little chance for _____.
3. Young children often go to sleep more _____ when parents lie down with them in their bed and read to them.
4. The company was having great financial difficulty, but it managed to _____.
5. Some dogs may be unfriendly and may get aggressive if you _____ them.
6. Children should not be allowed to watch films or TV series that contain _____ scenes with a lot of violence.

K Write the antonyms of the following words. Choose from the options given in the box. One is extra.

1. live X _____
2. improve X _____
3. kind X _____
4. rare X _____
5. calm, relaxed X _____

brutal

concerned

decline

survive

common

pass away

L Study the table below and then complete each sentence with a word given in the table.

VERB	NOUN	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
expect	expectation	expected	expectedly
injure	injury	injured	--
survive	survival; survivor	--	--
will	will	willing; wilful	willingly; wilfully

1. It is the _____ of nearly all parents that their child will have the chance to go to university.
2. Many reporters tried to interview the only _____ of the plane crash at the hospital where he was taken due to the _____ on his head.
3. He was very _____ to help me move house although I hadn't asked for his help.
4. When my order didn't arrive at the _____ time, I called the salesperson with whom I had talked to when placing my order.
5. In his book *Into Thin Air*, American writer and mountaineer Jon Krakauer wrote about his _____ on Everest during the harsh storm that killed the other climbers in his group.
6. People who witnessed the car crash say it wasn't an accident; the driver _____ crashed into the car in front of him.

QUICK GRAMMAR REVIEW

See the use of 'while' in the sentence below.

"Some species can live for more than 30 years **while** others may live for only two or three years."

As seen in this sentence, '**while**' can be used to connect two contrasting ideas and has the same meaning as other contrast conjunctions like *although*, *though*, *even though* and *whereas*.

Examples:

- 1) The Arctic is home to polar bears **while** Antarctica is home to penguins.
- 2) **While** most bacteria are good for our health, there are a few types that cause disease.

Note: 'While' is also used to introduce a time clause, where it means "at the same time" or "during the time". In this case, it cannot be replaced with other contrast conjunctions.

Compare the two sentences below.

While Galileo was examining Jupiter through a telescope, he discovered four of its moons. (*while expressing time*)

While Galileo had failed to complete his university education, he gained a teaching post at the University of Pisa in his late years. (*while expressing contrast*)

M Rewrite the following sentences using 'while'.

1. Though there's no cure for asthma, its symptoms can be lessened through quick-relief medications.

2. There are signs of ancient floods on Mars, yet now water only exists in icy dirt and thin clouds.

3. Home-schooling may offer many advantages for children, but it also has some drawbacks.

4. Whereas antibiotics are effective against bacteria, they do not fight infections caused by viruses.

N Read the following four sentences and choose the one in which 'while' expresses time.

1. The southern region has a hot and dry climate while the climate in the north is milder and wetter.
2. Tom spends the weekends watching football games on TV while his wife hates football.
3. While people are in prison, they can engage in creative activities like art or handicrafts.
4. Ms Taylor spent her 80s looking after her son's kids while most of her friends had already died.



READING PASSAGE

SECTION 2



The Arctic and the Antarctic are located at exactly opposite points on the Earth. The Arctic is the region around the Earth's North Pole while the Antarctic is located around the South Pole. Many of the **features** of these regions are also **opposites**. Yet, they are both **inhospitable** places due to their **harsh** and **extremely** cold climates.

However, the Antarctic is much colder than the Arctic. The temperatures are so low that snow never melts in many parts of the region. In fact, the Antarctic is the coldest place on Earth with an average year-long temperature of -49°C . The lowest temperature in the world was measured at the Russian research station of Vostok near the South Pole. It was -89.6°C on July 21, 1983. **In contrast**, the average temperature in the Arctic winter is -34°C . It goes up in the summer months but is still between -13°C and $+10^{\circ}\text{C}$.

The biggest difference between these two polar regions is that the Arctic **consists of** a frozen ocean and lands that **surround** it. These lands are large rocky plains with no trees or grass. Antarctica, on the other hand, is a **vast**, icy continent surrounded by the ocean. It has many valleys, lakes and mountains. One of these is the active volcano Mount Erebus.

Although both the Arctic and Antarctic are inhospitable places, the Arctic has a population of more than four million, living on the lands around the Arctic Ocean. Some areas have been **inhabited** by Inuits (Eskimos) and other **indigenous** groups for ten thousand years. They have **adapted** to the harsh conditions of the region and still inhabit some parts. There have been many **expeditions** to the Arctic by explorers and **adventurers** since the 1400s.

In contrast, no humans had travelled to or **set foot** on the Antarctic continent until the expeditions in the 19th century. Antarctica has a very small population. The only people who live there are the scientists working in the research stations of different countries. They work in Antarctica for just a certain period of time. The average population of the continent is 1,000 in winter. It goes up to about 4,000 in the **milder** summer months of October to February, when the continent is visited by thousands of tourists.



INTRODUCTION TO VOCABULARY

A Guess the meanings of the following and mark the correct choice for each.

1. **feature** (paragraph 1)
 - a) activity
 - b) similarity
 - c) characteristic
2. **inhospitable** (paragraph 1)
 - a) interesting for visitors
 - b) very difficult to live in
 - c) suitable for life
3. **surround** (paragraph 3)
 - a) to be all around
 - b) to be very far away from
 - c) to contain
4. **inhabit** (paragraph 4)
 - a) to build
 - b) to live in
 - c) to use up
5. **adapt** (paragraph 4)
 - a) to get used to
 - b) to be afraid of
 - c) to die of illness



B Find the correct words/phrases in the text for the definitions below.

1. severe; very difficult or unpleasant: _____
2. a journey to a distant place, especially to find out about it: _____
3. something completely different from something else: _____
4. belonging to the place; native: _____
5. to go to or arrive in a place (2 words): _____

➡ COMPREHENSION CHECK

C What do the underlined words in the text refer to? Mark the correct choice.

1. they (line 8)
a) regions b) features
2. They (line 27)
a) Some areas b) Indigenous groups
3. They (line 34)
a) Scientists b) Research stations
4. It (line 36)
a) The continent b) The population

D Mark the following sentences T (True) or F (False).

1. ____ The Arctic and the Antarctic regions are very similar in a lot of ways. (*paragraph 1*)
2. ____ The Arctic is warmer than the Antarctic. (*paragraph 2*)
3. ____ The Arctic Ocean is surrounded by green forests. (*paragraph 3*)
4. ____ Expeditions to the Arctic began in the 15th century. (*paragraph 4*)
5. ____ The Antarctic has more people in its summer months. (*paragraph 5*)

E Tick (✓) the option which could be the best title for the text.

1. ☐ The Arctic and the Antarctic: Two Polar Opposites
2. ☐ The North Pole and the South Pole
3. ☐ Twin Poles of the Earth

F Tick (✓) the option(s) that can be inferred from the text.

1. ☐ Most of the mountains in the Antarctic region are active volcanoes.
2. ☐ The Antarctic region has no indigenous people.
3. ☐ The Antarctic attracts more tourists than the Arctic region does.

G Answer the questions.

1. Why are the Arctic and the Antarctic regions inhospitable places?

2. What is the coldest place in the world?

3. What is the population of the Arctic region?

4. When did the Inuit groups settle in the Arctic region?

5. Why does the population of the Antarctic go up during its summer months?

H Mark the best choice.

1. Which of the following is true about the Antarctic region?

- a) The researchers working there are mostly local people.
- b) Most of its parts are covered with snow all year long.
- c) It is not as inhospitable as the Arctic.
- d) It was discovered before the 19th century.

2. It is clear from the text that ----.

- a) there are no Inuit people living in the Arctic now
- b) the summer temperatures in the Arctic are often higher than 10°C
- c) some Arctic areas were first inhabited 10,000 years ago
- d) the discovery of both the Arctic and the Antarctic occurred at about the same time

3. The text is mainly about ----.

- a) the similar features of the regions at the Earth's poles
- b) some of the differences between the Arctic and the Antarctic
- c) the harsh climatic conditions of the Arctic and the Antarctic
- d) living conditions of the Antarctic and the Arctic regions

MORE ABOUT VOCABULARY

I Underline the correct option in each sentence below.

1. Athens, one of the oldest cities in the world, has been **approached** / **inhabited** for 5000 years.
2. Anteaters that live in the wild are active during the day and rest during the night. **While** / **In contrast**, the ones that live in zoos are active during the night and rest in the daytime hours.
3. The capital of the Mariana Islands is Capitol Hill, which is **surrounded** / **located** on the island of Saipan.
4. The surface of Mars is **inhospitable** / **brutal** to life, but there may be some microorganisms living below the planet's surface.
5. Sir Ranulph Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes is an English **survivor** / **explorer** who has led over 30 expeditions to the North and South Poles, the Sahara Desert, the Nile and many other places.
6. Last night, I had to drive nine hours without a break. It was **exactly** / **extremely** tiring.
7. Going to college is a big change for many young people, and it is not easy for them to **survive** / **adapt** to college life.
8. We've had a **harsh** / **mild** winter this year with freezing temperatures, thunderstorms and a lot of snow.

J Complete the sentences with the words in the box below.

consist of indigenous set foot vast surrounded feature

1. The main _____s of the Sahara Desert include sand dunes, sand-covered plains, rocky plateaus and mountains.
2. Most of the _____ peoples of the Americas were hunter-gatherers, but a few groups practised agriculture.
3. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin were the first men to _____ on the Moon.
4. The Pyramids of Giza in Egypt _____ three great pyramids that were built by different pharaohs in different years.
5. Our country is _____ by seas on three sides: the Aegean Sea in the west, the Black Sea in the north and the Mediterranean Sea in the south.
6. The universe is a(n) _____ space. It is so big that its exact size is not known.

K Write the antonyms of the following words. Choose from the options given in the box. One is extra.

1. gentle X _____
2. foreign X _____
3. small X _____
4. slightly X _____
5. similar, like X _____

opposite extremely
harsh mild
indigenous vast

L Study the table below and then complete each sentence with a word given in the table.

VERB	NOUN	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
surround	surroundings	surrounded; surrounding	--
inhabit	inhabitant	inhabited; uninhabited	--
explore	exploration; explorer	--	--
--	adventure; adventurer	adventurous	adventurously

1. In 1957, the Soviet Union took the first step to space _____ by launching a small satellite, called Sputnik 1.
2. Iceland was a(n) _____ island until some people from Norway came and settled there.
3. We stayed at a good hotel with beautiful _____.
4. I like our new house and the _____ area, which is very clean and quiet.
5. People who are _____ travel to new places so that they can _____ them.
6. Some researchers say that the first _____s of America came from Siberia in around 7500 BC.

QUICK GRAMMAR REVIEW

See the use of 'so' and 'that' in the sentence below.

"The temperatures are **so** low **that** snow never melts in many parts of the region."

In the first clause of this sentence, 'so' is followed by an adjective. It emphasizes the extent (degree) of the adjective. The second clause begins with 'that' and expresses the effect (result) of the situation in the first clause.

CAUSE	EFFECT /RESULT
...temperatures are so low	that snow never melts...

This sentence is the same as "The temperatures are very low. Therefore, snow never melts ..."

Examples:

- 1) The food was **so** bad **that** no one could eat it.
- 2) The stories he told us in class were **so** interesting **that** I still remember many of them.

This structure is also used with adverbs.

e.g. He drove **so slowly** **that** I was late to school.

NOTE: When we want to emphasize the quantity of the object-noun in the cause-clause, we use: **so many**; **so few** (with countable nouns) and **so much**; **so little** (with uncountable nouns).

Examples:

- 1) She sends me **so many** messages that I can't read them all.
- 2) There was **so little** money left in my purse that I stopped shopping and went home.

M Fill in the blanks with 'many', 'few', 'much', 'little'.

1. The shop has had so _____ customers in the past six months that it may have to close down.
2. There is so _____ old stuff in his room that he can never find what he is looking for.
3. Nowadays, so _____ people are unemployed that demand for goods has gone down.
4. There was so _____ traffic on the roads that I got to work in just ten minutes for the first time.

N Rewrite the following sentences using 'so Adj / Adv that'.

1. She spoke very fast; therefore, it was very difficult to understand her. _____
2. It was a very long and boring show, so I lost interest in it after a while. _____
3. He asked a very odd question, so I didn't know how to answer it. _____
4. I have a lot of free time during the week; that's why I want to get a part-time second job. _____

READING PASSAGE



The history of chocolate begins with the **ancient civilizations** of Central America and southern Mexico. They made chocolate from the fruit of cacao trees, which were **native** to these places. Studies show that the Olmecs, who lived in southern Mexico from 1200 to 400 BCE, were the first people to make and **consume** chocolate. The

Olmec people **passed on** their cacao knowledge to the Mayans, who later **settled** on their lands and inhabited them until 900 CE.

In the Olmec society, chocolate was a valuable **beverage**. It was consumed at religious ceremonies. The Mayans drank chocolate in ceremonies too. It was also **available** to everyone and was enjoyed with every meal in all Mayan homes. The Olmec and Mayan chocolate was made with **roasted ground** cacao seeds, water, cornmeal and chili or other spices.

After the Mayans, the Aztecs, who inhabited Central America and southern Mexico from about 1200 to 1500 CE, continued to consume chocolate. They believed that the cacao fruit was a gift from their gods. They even considered cacao beans more valuable than gold and used them as **currency** to buy food and goods. In the Aztec society, chocolate was a special drink, which only the upper class people could **afford**. The lower-class people drank it **occasionally** at weddings and celebrations. The Aztec chocolate was also mixed with chili, sumac or other spices.

Then in the early 1500s, when Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés arrived in southern Mexico, he was offered the valuable drink. He liked it so much that he introduced cacao beans and the chocolate drink to the Spanish people when he returned in 1528. The Spanish replaced the chili and other spices with sugar and honey to **sweeten** this naturally **bitter** drink.

Eventually, the **custom** of drinking chocolate, which was now sweet and tastier, spread across Europe, first among the upper classes and then among the common people. And in the 1650s, chocolate reached England, where it was greatly enjoyed by the upper class at first.

INTRODUCTION TO
VOCABULARY

A Guess the meanings of the following and mark the correct choice for each.

1. **native** (paragraph 1)
 - a) new
 - b) indigenous
 - c) unfamiliar
2. **pass on** (paragraph 1)
 - a) to give
 - b) to send
 - c) to receive
3. **settle** (paragraph 1)
 - a) to change a place
 - b) to leave a place
 - c) to start living in a place
4. **available** (paragraph 2)
 - a) obtainable
 - b) hard to get
 - c) very expensive
5. **eventually** (paragraph 5)
 - a) immediately
 - b) finally, in the end
 - c) suddenly and quickly

B Find the correct words/phrases in the text for the definitions below.

1. the money used in a certain country: _____
2. to eat or drink something: _____
3. to be able to buy or do something because you have enough money for it: _____
4. a human society with its own social organization and culture: _____
5. any kind of drink (but not water): _____

COMPREHENSION CHECK**C What do the underlined words in the text refer to? Mark the correct choice.**

1. **They** (line 3)
 - a) Ancient civilizations
 - b) Central America and southern Mexico
2. **them** (line 11)
 - a) the Olmec people
 - b) lands
3. **who** (line 18)
 - a) the Mayans
 - b) the Aztecs
4. **them** (line 22)
 - a) gods
 - b) cacao beans

D Mark the following sentences T (True) or F (False).

1. ___ Cacao trees grew naturally in Central and South America. (*paragraph 1*)
2. ___ The Mayans were an older civilization than the Olmecs. (*paragraph 1*)
3. ___ Only the wealthy Mayan families could afford to drink chocolate. (*paragraph 2*)
4. ___ The Aztecs used cacao beans as money. (*paragraph 3*)
5. ___ Chocolate was not sweet in ancient times. (*paragraph 4*)

E Tick (✓) the option which could be the best title for the text.

1. ☐ Chocolate: Sweet or Bitter?
2. ☐ What is Chocolate?
3. ☐ Where Does Chocolate Come From?

F Tick (✓) the option(s) that can be inferred from the text.

1. ☐ In ancient times, spices were very rare both in Central America and in Mexico.
2. ☐ There were no cacao trees in Europe or England.
3. ☐ In its first years in Europe and England, the chocolate drink was a luxury.

G Answer the questions.

1. Where was chocolate first made?

2. What ingredients did the Mayans use in their chocolate?

3. Why was the cacao very important for the Aztecs?

4. When was chocolate introduced to the Spanish and by whom?

5. What did the Spanish use in their chocolate instead of chili and other spices?

H Mark the best choice.

1. It is clear from the text that ----.
 - a) chocolate was a bitter beverage until the 16th century
 - b) cacao was a rare plant species in Central America and in Mexico
 - c) the cacao tree began to be grown in Europe after Cortés brought cacao seeds to Spain
 - d) the ancient people of southern Mexico used raw cacao seeds to make chocolate
2. According to the text, chocolate was a common, everyday beverage in----.
 - a) Spain and the rest of Europe
 - b) England
 - c) the Aztec society
 - d) the Mayan society
3. Which of the following cannot be concluded from the text?
 - a) Originally, chocolate was a symbol of wealth in a society.
 - b) When chocolate reached Spain, it changed from a bitter drink to a sweet one.
 - c) Europeans liked especially the bitter, spicy taste of the chocolate drink.
 - d) Until the 16th century, the cacao tree was unknown to Europeans.

MORE ABOUT VOCABULARY

I Underline the correct option in each sentence below.

1. I wasn't very good at playing tennis at first, but **eventually** / **occasionally** I became a better player.
2. The books which the teacher wants us to read during the summer break are **valuable** / **available** at the school library.
3. When their children got married and left home, they left the city and **inhabited** / **settled** in a village by the sea.
4. The World Health Organization suggests that we shouldn't **consume** / **afford** more than 25 grams of sugar per day.
5. I don't like the **bitter** / **ground** taste of coffee. I can only drink it with some sugar and cream.
6. The cotton plant is **available** / **native** to tropical and subtropical regions, where the climate is warm and humid.
7. Before the use of the *euro* in 2002, Spain used the *peseta* as its **currency** / **custom**.
8. In most countries, beer and other alcoholic **species** / **beverages** cannot be sold to people who are under 18.

J Complete the sentences with the words in the box below.

pass on

occasionally

ground

afford

ancient

native

1. In today's industrialized societies, cancer is a common disease whereas in _____ times, it was extremely rare.
2. Most of the vegetable dishes in our country contain _____ meat, onions and tomato paste.
3. I _____ go to the cinema and that's when friends invite me. I normally watch films at home.
4. A society must _____ its customs, social values and beliefs to the next generations.
5. The language centre that I am attending is looking for two _____ speakers of English to teach English in the evenings.
6. He could not _____ to pay the rent, so he had to move back to his parents' home.

K Write the antonyms of the following words. Choose from the options given in the box. One is extra.

1. sweet X _____
2. immediately X _____
3. worthless X _____
4. foreign X _____
5. frequently X _____

native

eventually

valuable

occasionally

bitter

available

L Study the table below and then complete each sentence with a word given in the table.

VERB	NOUN	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
consume	consumption; consumer	--	--
settle	settlement; settler	settled X unsettled	--
grind	grinder (device)	ground	--
value	value	valuable X valueless; invaluable	valuably; invaluablely

- The first Spanish _____ in North America was the city of Veracruz, which was established in 1519.
- In the past, flour mills used stones to _____ wheat, but modern-day mills use high-speed steel rollers for that.
- Red meat _____ has fallen in the past 10 years, as more and more people are consuming chicken or fish instead.
- Gold was always _____ d in every ancient civilization around the world.
- The first _____ s of Australia arrived on the continent about 50,000 - 30,000 years ago.
- Candy advertisements mostly try to attract children because they are the biggest _____ s of candy.

QUICK GRAMMAR REVIEW

Several sentences in the text have **relative clauses**. Three of these clauses are given below.

- ... the fruit of *cacao trees*, **which were native to these places**.
- ..., *the Aztecs*, **who inhabited Central America and ... 1200 to 1500 CE, continued to consume ...**
- ... in *the early 1500s*, **when Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés arrived ...**, he was offered ...
- ... chocolate reached *England*, **where it was greatly enjoyed by the upper ...**.

The relative clauses above (in coloured letters) and the others in the text are all **non-defining**. **Non-defining relative clauses** give additional (extra) information or detail(s) about the person, thing, place or time mentioned in the sentence. So, they are separated with commas. If the non-defining relative clause is removed, the meaning of the sentence remains the same.

e.g. Art experts are studying the *Mona Lisa* painting, which is kept at the Louvre Museum. (**non-defining**)

BUT defining relative clauses are NOT set off with commas because they define (describe / explain) the nouns that they refer to. The defining relative clause is an essential part of the sentence.

e.g. Art experts are studying the symbols which/that are hidden in the *Mona Lisa* painting. (**defining**)

NOTE: In non-defining relative clauses, *relative pronouns and adverbs (*which, who(m), whose, where, when*) cannot be omitted and the relative pronoun 'that' cannot be used.

M Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the correct relative pronouns or adverbs.

- After June 17, 1789, _____ the middle classes formed a National Assembly, King Louis XVI lost control of both the government and his army.
- Researchers in Ecuador have found a strange frog _____ species was thought to be extinct for more than 20 years.
- The popular TV series *Game of Thrones*, _____ was shown for the first time in 2011, ended with its 8th season in April 2019.
- The term *Antarctic*, _____ refers to the opposite of the Arctic Circle, was created in the 2nd century CE.

N Tick (✓) the sentences that have a non-defining relative clause and insert the missing commas.

- Twitter* has announced its list of celebrities that were the most popular this year. ____
- The modern Olympic Games were inspired by the ancient Olympic Games which were held in Greece about three thousand years ago. ____
- Low-fat foods are those whose natural fat has been removed. ____
- Scott Lee who has been our gym teacher for two years is going to coach the school team in the next season. ____



While horses and donkeys have been successfully **domesticated**, their close relatives, zebras, have **remained** wild. Almost all the **attempts** in history to domesticate them ended unsuccessfully. Therefore, unlike horses and donkeys, zebras have not been used for riding or for doing other work.



The first attempts were made in the 19th century by the European colonists in South Africa, who had transportation problems as they lost their horses to deadly diseases that were spread by the *Tsetse* flies. So, they **turned to** zebras, which were indigenous to Africa and were **abundant** in the plains there. Using the zebra would be much easier and less expensive than **importing** horses from Europe. More importantly, zebras were **resistant** to the diseases that killed horses.

The colonists' attempts to **tame** and train a number of zebras for riding may have been successful. However, **domestication** was not possible. All attempts **failed** due to the **aggressive** behaviour of these animals. Unlike horses and donkeys, zebras panic when they feel danger, and they become violent. They may bite and kick humans that approach them. In fact, a zebra's kick is so strong that it can kill a lion that attempts to attack it. And although they are slower than horses, zebras are hard to catch when they **flee**. And due to their small size, it is very uncomfortable to ride them. Another problem with riding zebras is that they attract **predators** like leopards, cheetahs and lions, which **prey on** them.

Attempts to tame and train zebras continued into the 20th century too. The most successful one was made by British zoologist Walter Rothschild. He drove a carriage which was pulled by six **tamed** zebras. But he never **attempted** to train his zebras for riding. The first man to ride a zebra was Doctor Rosendo Ribeiro in Kenya in the year 1907.

And in 2000s, an old horse racing trainer, Bill Turner, would ride a zebra in Dorset, England. Turner, who used to be a horse jockey, paid 4500 pounds for the zebra and named it *Zebedee*. He trained *Zebedee* for riding in just two weeks and even tried training the animal for racing.



INTRODUCTION TO VOCABULARY

A Guess the meanings of the following and mark the correct choice for each.

1. **remain** (paragraph 1)
 - a) to stay in the same condition or place
 - b) to stop doing something
 - c) to change into something else
2. **attempt** (paragraph 1)
 - a) research, a series of studies
 - b) an effort, a try
 - c) an invention
3. **abundant** (paragraph 2)
 - a) not common, rare
 - b) strange, odd
 - c) plentiful, in large numbers or amounts
4. **resistant** (paragraph 2)
 - a) pleased with something
 - b) suitable for anything
 - c) not affected by something dangerous
5. **aggressive** (paragraph 3)
 - a) violent, ready to attack
 - b) kind, gentle
 - c) easy to control

B Find the correct words/phrases in the text for the definitions below.

1. to go to something or someone for support or for help (2 words): _____
2. to bring wild animals under control and use them for work or other human needs: _____
3. an animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals: _____
4. to teach a wild animal to be around humans without fear: _____
5. (of an animal) to hunt and kill another animal for food (2 words): _____

COMPREHENSION CHECK




C What do the underlined words in the text refer to? Mark the correct choice.

1. **they** (line 13)
 - a) colonists
 - b) *Tsetse* flies
2. **there** (line 14)
 - a) Europe
 - b) Africa
3. **them** (line 28)
 - a) zebras
 - b) predators
4. **one** (line 30)
 - a) attempt
 - b) zebra

D Mark the following sentences T (True) or F (False).

1. ____ There were many attempts to domesticate the zebra with no success. (*paragraph 1*)
2. ____ The colonists' horses died from diseases which were spread by the *Tsetse* flies of Africa. (*paragraph 2*)
3. ____ In the 19th century, there weren't very many zebras in South Africa. (*paragraph 2*)
4. ____ Zebras cannot run as fast as horses. (*paragraph 3*)
5. ____ No one tried to tame or train zebras after the 19th century. (*paragraph 4*)

E Tick (✓) the option which could be the best title for the text.

1.  History of the Zebra
2.  Attempts to Domesticate and Tame the Zebra
3.  Differences between Zebras and Horses

F Tick (✓) the option(s) that can be inferred from the text.

1. ☐ Zebras were probably able to fight away any *tsetse* fly that flew nearby.
2. ☐ There were probably no horses in South Africa in the 19th century.
3. ☐ *Tsetse* flies are probably indigenous to South Africa.