

Reading Test 3: The hunters and the hunted: who's for dinner?

1 **A** Australia is a very large and flat country, the highest mountain being only about two thousand metres. The landscape changes a lot from good farming area to the bush, which is often hot and dry. As the country has no neighbours, Australia's wildlife has not changed much for thousands of years. Australia has many interesting species; two of the best known are the large crocodiles and the kangaroos. Both have even appeared in well-known films: Crocodile Dundee and Kangaroo Jack.

15 **B** Australia has two types of crocodiles. One is small and harmless, but the other one is very dangerous and can grow to about seven metres. Although it is called saltwater crocodile, it happily lives in rivers. These crocodiles have no enemies and can live to a very old age; some are thought to be over 100 years old. Being 'croc-wise' is very important for Australians. It means being careful in areas with saltwater crocodiles; if you are not, you may find yourself on the day's menu!

20 **C** Crocodiles attack by staying still in the water and waiting for their dinner to come walking by. They then spring from the water to surprise their prey and take it back with them into the water. One big meal can keep a crocodile happy for days, weeks and even months.

25 **D** There are some simple rules to follow if you are in a crocodile area, so that you do not become the dish of the day. First, you should stay out of the water, and if you are on a boat you must not put your arms or legs into it either. It is a good idea to stay away from riverbanks, too. If you want to camp or have a picnic in the area you should be at least fifty metres from the water and ideally two metres higher than the water surface. Crocodiles watch and wait and they learn routines very quickly. If you camp in an area you must not do the same thing every day near the water's edge.

30 **E** Although saltwater crocodiles are very dangerous they are protected by the

Australian government. Australians like their animals very much. Another protected species is the kangaroo.

35 **F** Kangaroos vary a lot in size from half a kilo to ninety kilos. There are many different types, from small ones that live in trees to kangaroos about the size of an average person. The largest ones can hop at up to 60 kmh and jump nine metres long and three metres high. They also like to live in groups, which often consist of about 100 kangaroos. They live

40 almost everywhere in Australia, since the only thing they really need is water. The Aborigines hunted the kangaroos for their meat and their skins. So did the early Europeans who came to Australia in 1788 and even today, four types of kangaroos can still be hunted. However, even if the idea of killing kangaroos and eating their meat may not seem very nice to many people, the Australians in fact look after their kangaroo population very well.

45 **G** About 19 million people live in Australia, but approximately 50 million kangaroos. Only 28 million of them can be hunted. Although kangaroo meat and skins are exported, kangaroos are not kept on farms. The Australian government only allows kangaroos to be shot by official hunters. Since there are so many kangaroos and they are killed carefully, no one is against shooting them.

50 **H** Crocodiles and kangaroos may well have appeared in the movies, but they are only two of the many special species that live in Australia. Many of them are just as dangerous as the man-eating crocodiles. Others look like every child's dream of a cuddly toy – for example the koala.

Text



Worksheet

1. The text has got 8 paragraphs. In the grid below there are 10 headings. Decide which is the best heading for each paragraph (A–H) and write the letter in the answer space. Two headings are wrong.

- Efficient natural hunters
- Hopping, skipping and jumping
- One species, many sizes
- From bites to cuddles
- Recognizing crocodiles
- Down under
- The Europeans
- Protected species
- Be safe
- The kangaroo business

2. Complete the following statements by ticking (✓) the last part of the sentence.

a) Australia's wildlife has

- been the same for a very long time.
- changed a lot.
- become dangerous.

b) 'Croc-wise' means knowing

- everything about Australia's crocodiles.
- what you must not do in crocodile areas.
- how to be on the day's menu.

c) A crocodile

- can eat just once in a month.
- needs to eat regularly.
- needs to eat for many days.

d) If you are on holiday in a crocodile area, you should

- look out for crocodiles before going swimming.
- picnic on the riverbank.
- stay away from the edge of the water as far as possible.

- e) If you are near a river and see a crocodile, you
- can shoot it because it is dangerous.
 - must leave it alone because it is protected.
 - must run away and get help.
- f) In Australia some kangaroos
- attack in groups.
 - live in trees.
 - are bigger than a man.
- g) An adult kangaroo can
- jump three metres long and hop at 60 mph.
 - jump 9 meters high and hop at 60 kmh.
 - hop at 60 kmh and jump 3 metres high.
- h) Kangaroos were hunted
- because they caused damage.
 - for food and for their skins.
 - because there were too many of them.
- i) In Australia there are
- about two and a half times as many kangaroos as people.
 - twenty-eight million kangaroos.
 - more people than kangaroos.

3. Match the parts of the sentences. Write the letters below the numbers in the answer box.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ① Australian landscapes | A are protected by law. |
| ② Saltwater crocodiles | B should avoid routines. |
| ③ If you stay close to a river for several days, you | C often live in groups. |
| ④ Saltwater crocodiles and some types of kangaroos | D vary a lot. |
| ⑤ Kangaroos | E can be hunted. |
| ⑥ Four types of kangaroos | F eat large animals and also humans. |

①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥

4. Imagine you have to make a list explaining how dangerous things are, or have been, in Australia. Read the text and then write in the grid which category you would put each thing under.

D = dangerous

SD = seldom dangerous

ND = not dangerous.

Australia has a large amount of colourful wildlife. Many species can only be found in this country, for example the kangaroos which are everywhere and damage things but don't hurt anyone. There were no cats, foxes or horses in Australia until the early settlers arrived. These harmless animals came with the Europeans but the early Europeans brought problems themselves. They introduced new illnesses, such as flu, into Australia which killed many Aborigines.

Australians have to be careful about a lot of things, however. Saltwater crocodiles eat many people every year, so do the sharks around the coast. Even sleeping has its dangers. Scorpions can climb up bed legs and give you a life-threatening sting and unless you are covered up in a net when you sleep you can be bitten by mosquitoes, which carry dangerous diseases. Many people worry about the snakes, too, but the few that can hurt people will only attack if they feel threatened.

Many other interesting animals and birds in Australia are never any problem to anyone, such as the cuddly-looking koalas and the emus which can't even fly.

kangaroos	
foxes	
the first white people	
saltwater crocodiles	
sharks	
scorpions	
snakes	
koalas	

Adjectives and

E/Hm

Name: _ _ _

Date: _ _ _

Adverbs (of manner)

○ **Task 1:** Read the statements on the left. Then tick the correct boxes.

- a) Douglas plays the flute *beautifully*.
Minnie, who is seven months old, smiles *happily*.
Attention Kerry, this door opens *automatically*.
- b) Gemma always does her homework very *well*.
Victor never answers his teachers' questions
in a friendly way.
- c) Kira has to work very *hard* to earn a living.
Look, Dwight is cycling *fast* to get home.
You arrived *late* again, Bradley, the train
has left.
- d) Georgia draws *more carefully than* Gina.
Elisha has to work *harder than* ever before.
Adrian can play the guitar *as beautifully as* Cathy.
- Douglas is good at playing the flute.
 The baby looks at her mum thankfully.
 Kerry didn't look. He bumped his head on a door.
- Gemma likes to do her homework every day.
 When Victor's teachers ask him something he reacts
in a rather unfriendly way.
- Kira works busily to make enough money to live.
 Dwight is riding his bike quickly because he wants to
be home.
 Bradley got to the station on time.
- Gina's pictures are worse than Georgia's.
 At present Elisha needn't work as much as before.
 Cathy and Adrian are equally good at playing the guitar.

● **Task 2:** Use the given adjectives as adverbs in the sentences. Fill in the gaps.

- a) loud I can't sleep. Your dog is barking loudly.
- b) careful In winter you must always drive _____.
- c) fantastic The New York Knicks played _____ last weekend.
- d) silly Why do you often laugh _____?
- e) hard When Grandma Rose was young she had to work _____ to earn a living.
- f) good Frank Ocean sings quite _____.

● **Task 3:** Decide if you have to use an adjective or an adverb. Fill in the gaps.

- a) quick The police arrived quickly when we called them.
- b) sad Why do you look so _____, Tom?
- c) angry Martin stamped his feet _____.
- d) lovely I like Emma. She always smiles _____.
- e) simple/easy The test was so _____ that everyone could finish it _____.
- f) pretty/beautiful Svetlana is a _____ girl and she can dance _____.

Don't forget **than** in comparisons. Use **as ... as** in one sentence.

● **Task 4:** Write the correct comparative or superlative form for each of the adverbs.

- a) (fast) Daniel finished his job faster than all the other students in his class.
- b) (well) Jane danced _____ all the other girls in the group.
- c) (slowly) Could you speak _____, please?
- d) (carefully) In the driving test Mary drove _____ out of all.
- e) (beautifully) Finn and Sandra are both good at playing the piano. Finn can play the piano _____ Sandra.
- f) (badly) Barbara performed _____ out of all contestants.