

GRADE 5

ENGLISH LISTENING COMPREHENSION

PROCEDURE FOR TASK 1

Look at Task One

(Allow 15 seconds pause while students familiarise themselves with the page.)

Listen carefully. You will listen to the passage twice.

This is a children's programme about animals. In today's programme we're going to discuss two very different types of animals: elephants and mice.

Elephants

Elephants are the largest living land mammals. The largest elephant recorded was one killed in Angola, 1974. It weighed more than 12,000 kilograms and stood at more than 4 metres tall. Their skin colour is grey.

At birth, an elephant calf may weigh 100 kg. The baby elephant develops for 20 to 22 months inside its mother. No other land animal takes this long to develop before being born.

In the wild, elephants have strong family relationship. Their ways of acting toward other elephants are hard for people to understand. They "talk" to each other with very low sounds. Most elephants sounds are so low, people cannot hear them. But elephants can hear these sounds far away.

Mice

A mouse (plural mice) is a kind of mammal. It has a pointed snout, small rounded ears, a body-length scaly tail. Usually mice have lots of babies. The best known mouse species is the common house mouse. It is also a popular pet. In some places, certain kinds of field mice are also common. They are known to invade homes for food and occasionally shelter.

These small animals are often used in science experiments, or sometimes kept as pets. Some mice carry diseases. This causes some people to think of mice as pests. Many other people think mice are cute and fun animals. Mice are rodents, therefore they are related to squirrels, rats, and beavers. Mice eat weeds, seeds, berries, and more. They are eaten by owls, foxes, and cats, amongst others.

Listen carefully to the exercises related to the passage.

Number 1: Tick the column T if it's true, the column F if it's false or the column NIG if no information is given.

Elephants

- a. A baby elephant is called a cub.
- b. Elephants have strong family relationships.
- c. Elephants produce no sounds at all.
- d. A baby elephant can walk as soon as it is born.

Mice

- e. The only known mouse species is the common house mouse.
- f. Some people keep mice as pets.
- g. Mice can be eaten by hyenas.
- h. Some mice can carry diseases.

You will now listen to the information again. Listen carefully.

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These small animals are often used in science experiments, or sometimes kept as pets. Some mice carry diseases. This causes some people to think of mice as pests. Many other people think mice are cute and fun animals. Mice are rodents, therefore they are related to squirrels, rats, and beavers. Mice eat weeds, seeds, berries, and more. They are eaten by owls, foxes, and cats, amongst others.

Now, Listen again to the exercises related to the passage. You may finish any questions as you listen.

Number 1: Tick the column T if it's true, the column F if it's false or the column NIG if no information is given.

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This is the end of Task One.

(Allow a 30 second pause between Task 1 and Task 2.)

PROCEDURE FOR TASK 2

Look at the exercises for Task 2.

(Allow 50 seconds while the students familiarise themselves with the pages.)

Now listen to this story. If you wish you may start answering the questions as you listen.

The Mice and the Elephants

Long ago in India there was an old deserted village. Empty were the old houses, streets and shops. The windows were open, the stairs broken. Making it one very fine place for mice to run around, you can be sure

of that!

In fact, the mice were happily living in this old deserted village that had been there for hundreds of years, even before the people had come in the first place and then left. But now was the best time yet for the mice. They made tunnels all through those fine old homes and buildings, forming great mazes. What good times they had, with their many dinner parties and festivals, weddings and feasts.

And so the time passed.

One day, a herd of elephants, numbering in the thousands, stamped through the village on their way to a big lake in the west. All the elephants were thinking about as they marched was how good it would be to jump in that lake for a cool swim. They did not know (and how could they?) that as they marched through the village, those big elephant feet were stamping down the mazes and tunnels the mice made. What a mess those elephants left behind!

The mice quickly held a meeting.

“If the herd comes back this way again, our community is doomed!” cried one mouse.

“We won’t stand a chance!” cried another.

There was only one thing to do. A group of brave mice followed those elephant footprints all the way to the lake. There they found the King of the Elephants. Bowing before him, one mouse spoke for the others and said, “O King, not far from here is our mice community. It’s in that old deserted village you passed through. You may remember it?”

“Of course I remember it,” said the Elephant King. “But we did not know a mice community was there.”

“How could you?” said this mouse. “But your herd stamped out many of the homes where we have lived for hundreds of years. If you were to return the same way, that would surely be the end of us! We are small and you are big, but we ask you, please. Won’t you find another way to go home? Who knows, maybe someday we mice can help you, too.”

The Elephant King smiled. Imagine – how could tiny mice ever help an elephant?! But he felt truly sad his herd had crushed the village of the mice, without even knowing it. He said, “There is no need for you to worry. I will lead the herd home in another way.”

It so happens that nearby lived a certain king who ordered his hunters to trap as many elephants as they could. Knowing that the elephants came from far and wide to jump in the big lake to swim, they made a water trap there. As soon as the Elephant King and his herd jumped into that lake they were caught in the trap, all but one.

Two days later the hunters dragged the Elephant King and his herd out of the lake with large ropes and tied the elephants to big trees in the forest.

When the hunters had gone, the Elephant King tried to think. What could they do? They were all tied to the trees but one elephant. She was free because she did not jump in the lake. The Elephant King called to her.

He told her that she must go back to the old deserted village and bring back the mice who lived there.

When the mice found out the trouble that the Elephant King and his herd were in, they raced over to the lake. Seeing the King and his herd tied up, they quickly ran over to the ropes and began chewing. They chewed and chewed as quickly as they could. Soon, the ropes were chewed all the way through and the mice set their large friends free. The elephant herd found a new way home and the mice community lived on for many years to come.

Now, listen carefully to the exercises related to passage:

Number 1: Underline the best answer from the brackets.

- a. In the village, there were (many, a few, no) people.
- b. The mice have been living in the village for (tens, hundreds, thousands) of years.
- c. The elephants (stamped, walked carefully, ran) through the village of the mice.
- d. (Some, No, A lot) of the mazes made by the mice were destroyed.
- e. The King Elephant (was sad, was happy, did not care) that the elephants destroyed the mice's place.
- f. The hunters made a (rope, water, net) trap to catch the elephants.
- g. The hunters tied (all, almost all, most) of the elephants to the trees.
- h. The mice (did not help, shouted at, helped) the elephants.

Number 2: Put these sentences in order. The first one was done for you.

The elephants agreed to go back through another way.

A herd of elephants walked through the mice village.

A group of mice went to speak to the elephants.

The mice received a message that the elephants were in trouble.

The mice lived happily in an empty Indian village.

Some hunters caught the elephants.

The mice chewed all the ropes.

The mice held a meeting.

The elephants were free.

The first sentence should be: The mice lived happily in an empty Indian village. So I put number 1 next to it. Now you can continue the sequence by putting numbers next to the rest of the sentences.

Number 3: Choose the correct answer:

a. Where did the story happen?

in Tanzania

in India

in Brazil

b. Why were the elephants going to the lake?

to drink

to have a cool swim

to find the mice

c. Why did the King Elephant smile when the mice told him that they could help them?

Because he didn't think that a mouse could ever help an elephant.

Because he was happy that he stamped on the mice's houses.

Because he was fresh from jumping in the lake.

d. How did the mice know that the elephants were in trouble.

The elephants were making a lot of noises.

The mice found them while they were on a walk.

The King Elephant sent them a message.

Now listen to the story again:

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