



Pre-Reading Activities

A: What Do You Think?

Work in groups of three. Read each question aloud. Listen and then try to agree on an answer to each question.

1. A forestry company in a developed country wants to log trees in an area of high unemployment. Logging will bring employment and other benefits to this area. A new type of snail, previously unknown, is found living in the forest. It has never been found anywhere else. Should the company be allowed to log trees in this area? If it should, what, if any, guidelines should there be?
2. People living near a nature reserve which has groups of monkeys complain that the monkeys are becoming increasingly aggressive. Some have attacked residents who were trying to take photos and others have been going into people's gardens and stealing fruit and vegetables. Residents are calling for the monkeys to be controlled, or even shot. What should happen?
3. In a poor country the local people are burning and cutting down rainforest trees to turn it into farmland. The country has unique animals and plants but they are gradually disappearing. Should other countries or community groups intervene to stop this eradication of the rainforest? If they should, what should they do?

Reading Activities

A: Gap Fill

Some words have been removed from the article. Look at the words in the box and use them in the numbered gaps in the article.

baboons, humans, leftovers, monitors, pantries, pine trees, stories, tourist

Cape baboons: Hairy, hungry and in the house

CAPE TOWN (Reuters) - Wed May 24, 2006 Unruly gangs are raiding the expensive homes that line the spectacular coast of South Africa's Cape Peninsula, clearing out 1. _____, emptying fridges and defecating on the designer furnishings. It's baboon versus human in a string of wealthy oceanfront communities 30 minutes from the trendy center of Cape Town, a top tourist destination.

Jenni Trethowan is among those trying to defuse the conflict raging along the picket fences between suburbia and the rugged mountain slopes of the peninsula -- a jagged tooth of rock projecting into the Atlantic ocean. She takes groups of paying tourists and residents on walks in a nature reserve to see the wild animals as they forage, scratch for fleas and squabble among themselves. Her aim is to demonstrate that the baboons are worth protecting because of their tourism revenue potential.

"There's George," she said on a recent walk as the first baboon came into sight, slouched on a rock with a clear view of newly built homes about 300 yards away. George is one of the biggest 2. _____ in a troop of about 20, an adult male weighing some 110 pounds. He yawns languidly, displaying wickedly curved canine teeth. "If you think how easily a baboon could rip a person apart, the fact that they don't is quite remarkable," Trethowan said. She led the group through a grove of 3. _____. Baboons perched in the branches overhead, breaking cones apart to get at the seeds and occasionally dropping a surprisingly heavy cone onto the tourists below. The baboons appeared indifferent to the humans, although some of the younger ones approached a boy in the group and pawed at him tentatively before losing interest.

Trethowan has names for all the baboons and 4. _____ about many. Two females are missing a hind leg; one was shot and the other was chased off the top of a high-rise apartment block. "That's Quizzy," Trethowan said, indicating a lone male, named for his quizzical expression. "He's the nicest baboon you could ever hope to meet. I love that baboon." Quizzy turned at the approach of the tourists, regarding them with profound melancholy. "Poor boy, he's sick," Trethowan said. "But we have no idea what's wrong with him."

Trethowan works with a team of baboon monitors, nine men whose job it is to shepherd the animals away from built-up areas. But the baboons know they will find garbage cans full of 5. _____ in the suburban yards and that an open window can mean there is a bowl of tempting fruit within easy reach.

The troop splits into two and they charge across a road toward the houses. The monitors drive some of them back to the reserve, but others hurdle garden walls and grab what they can. "They're getting used to getting easy food," said Trethowan. "The way to stop it is for people to install baboon-proof garbage cans, put burglar bars on their windows and avoid growing fruit trees in their gardens."

Cases of baboons attacking humans in the peninsula are rare, although earlier this year a child was reported to have been mauled by a baboon scavenging for food at a picnic site on the coast about 20 miles away.

Many residents have anecdotes about baboons. "I was sitting outside one day, the kids were swimming in the pool, when Eric just flew through the burglar bars and into the house," said Debbie Ellis, who lives in the Imhoff's Gift district. Eric is the alpha male of the local troop. "It was a bit frightening to see a 5-foot-4 male baboon standing behind my 3-year-old goddaughter." She said Eric had also "sauntered" into the home of a neighbor, opened the fridge, scattered eggs on the floor and left droppings everywhere.

6. _____-FED PROBLEM Donald Garlick, another homeowner, said baboons and humans had lived in harmony for decades. But in recent years baboons had become problematic, partly because of tourists feeding them. One resident who did not want to be named said he had tried in vain to drive off a big male baboon with a powerful catapult -- against the law because the animals are protected. "I also hit him with a wooden pole, and he didn't flinch," the resident said. "He was totally fearless. You can be sitting in your front room with a bowl of fruit on the table, and a baboon will come through the door and steal it."

Trethowan said the introduction of 7. _____ had helped but many more would be needed to keep watch over the baboons in the peninsula -- 253 divided into 11 troops.

Researcher Esme Beamish, who conducted the latest baboon census, said the population had increased 1.6 percent since last year, thanks partly to the the monitors who were reducing conflict. "Baboons in southern Africa are not currently at risk ... but the Cape Peninsula troops are under threat," she said. She said the troops that had the most contact with 8. _____ had suffered a string of deaths in the last year -- four were shot dead, two were killed by dogs, one was clubbed to death, two were run over by vehicles, and one was electrocuted.

B: Who Are They?

Use the article to complete this table of information about different characters in the article.

Name	Who they are	Information about them
		known for his slightly confused expression
		has broken into houses and gone through the refrigerator
		has seen a baboon entering her house through metal bars
		blames the increasing problems with baboons on tourists giving them food
		counted the number of baboons most recently

C: True or False

Read the whole article and mark the following statements **T** if they are true or **F** if they are false:

1. Wealthy homes on the Cape Peninsula are under attack from baboons.
2. Baboon watching may encourage tourists to visit the area.
3. Baboons eat pine seeds.
4. There have been a number of complaints about baboons attacking tourists visiting reserves.
5. Residents have the legal right to defend themselves against the baboons.
6. Human monitors are now employed to supervise all the baboons on the peninsula.

D: What Does It Mean?

Work in pairs. Read each excerpt below and say what it means using your own words.

1. *Jenni Trethowan is among those trying to defuse the conflict raging along the picket fences...*

2. *"If you think how easily a baboon could rip a person apart, the fact that they don't is quite remarkable," Trethowan said.*

3. *Trethowan works with a team of baboon monitors, nine men recruited from a poor community whose job it is to shepherd the animals away from built-up areas.*

4. *...the population had increased 1.6 percent since last year, thanks partly to the work of the monitors who were reducing conflict.*



Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language

Here is an excerpt from the last part of today's article. The punctuation has been removed from these sentences.

Decide where the sentences begin and end and then punctuate them. They need **capital letters** to show the beginnings of sentences, opening and closing quotation marks (" "), **full stops (.)**, **hyphens (-)** and **commas (,)**. (Note: capital letters for names have not been removed.) Do not add any other punctuation.

After you have punctuated the sentences divide the excerpt in **five** paragraphs. Use / to show where each paragraph begins.

Donald Garlick another homeowner said baboons and humans had lived in harmony for decades but in recent years baboons had become problematic partly because of tourists feeding them one resident who did not want to be named said he had tried in vain to drive off a big male baboon with a powerful catapult against the law because the animals are protected I also hit him with a wooden pole and he didn't flinch the resident said he was totally fearless you can be sitting in your front room with a bowl of fruit on the table and a baboon will come through the door and steal it Trethowan said the introduction of monitors had helped but many more would be needed to keep watch over all the baboons in the peninsula 253 divided into 11 troops researcher Esme Beamish, who conducted the latest baboon census said the population had increased 1.6 percent since last year thanks partly to the work of the monitors who were reducing conflict

B: Word Families

1. Complete the table with the different parts of speech for each word.

Noun	Verb	Adjective
demonstration		
anecdote	X	
	harmonize	
shepherd		X
		tempting

2. Now choose one word from each row and write your own sentence using it.

Be ready to share your sentences with a partner.

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TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: What Do You Think? - Notes

One of the three students in each group takes a turn to read one of the questions aloud. The students brainstorm their answer and then one student could report their answer to the class in a feedback session.

Reading Activities

A: Gap Fill - Answers

1. pantries, 2. baboons, 3. pine trees, 4. stories, 5. leftovers, 6. tourist, 7. monitors, 8. humans.

B: Who Are They? - Suggested Answers

Name	Who they are	Information about them
Quizzzy	male baboon	known for his slightly confused expression
Eric	alpha male of baboon troop	has broken into houses and gone through the refrigerator
Debbie Ellis	resides in Imhoff's Gift district	has seen a baboon entering her house through metal bars
Donald Garlick	homeowner	blames the increasing problems with baboons on tourists giving them food
Esme Beamish	researcher	counted the number of baboons most recently

C: True or False - Answers

1. T, 2. T, 3. T, 4. F, 5. F, 6. F.

D: What Does It Mean? - Sample Answers

- Trethowan is one of the people involved in trying to stop the problems between baboon colonies and residents of the peninsula's suburbs.
- It is amazing that although baboons are strong enough to kill a human savagely, they choose not to.
- A group of men from a poor area have been employed to keep the baboons away from residential areas.
- Since 2005 the number of baboons has grown partly because the monitors are successful in keeping the baboons away from the residential areas (so the baboons do not get into trouble.)

Post Reading Activities

A: Language - Answers

Donald Garlick, another homeowner, said baboons and humans had lived in harmony for decades. But in recent years baboons had become problematic, partly because of tourists feeding them.

One resident who did not want to be named said he had tried in vain to drive off a big male baboon with a powerful catapult -- against the law because the animals are protected.

"I also hit him with a wooden pole, and he didn't flinch," the resident said. "He was totally fearless. You can be sitting in your front room with a bowl of fruit on the table, and a baboon will come through the door and steal it."

Trethowan said the introduction of monitors had helped but many more would be needed to keep watch over all the baboons in the peninsula -- 253 divided into 11 troops.

Researcher Esme Beamish, who conducted the latest baboon census, said the population had increased 1.6 percent since last year, thanks partly to the work of the monitors who were reducing conflict.

B: Word Families - Answers

Noun	Verb	Adjective
demonstration	demonstrate	demonstrative
anecdote	X	anecdotal
harmony	harmonize	harmonious
shepherd	shepherd	X
temptation	tempt	tempting