

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

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| 1. common knowledge | a. An animal, rather than a human being. |
| 2. creature | b. A thin, flexible leg on a creature like an octopus or squid. |
| 3. remarkable | c. Relating to or found in the sea. |
| 4. marine | d. Worthy of attention; impressive. |
| 5. tentacle | e. Something known by most people. |
| 6. genome | f. Relating to the mental action of getting knowledge and understanding through thought, experience, and the senses. |
| 7. cognitive | g. The complete set of genes or genetic material in a cell or organism. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 8. amend | h. The process by which life is believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth. |
| 9. stimuli | i. Make small changes to something. |
| 10. plasticity | j. A warm-blooded animal with a backbone, hair or fur, milk, and the birth of live young. |
| 11. analogous | k. An animal without a backbone. |
| 12. mammal | l. The adaptability of an organism to changes in its environment. |
| 13. evolution | m. Comparable in many ways. |
| 14. invertebrate | n. Things that arouse activity or energy in someone or something. |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220704-octopus.html>

It is common knowledge that sea (1) _____ like dolphins have a high level of intelligence. Scientists have now discovered that octopuses also have "(2) _____" intelligence. A team of Italian marine biologists have revealed that octopi have a (3) _____ that also determines the intelligence of (4) _____. The eight-tentacled sea creature has short (5) _____ of DNA called "jumping genes". These same genes make up 45 per cent of the human (6) _____. The researchers said the DNA sequences are important for learning and for creating and (7) _____ memories in the brain. The scientists say the DNA may give octopuses cognitive abilities that are (8) _____ to those humans have.

remarkable
sequences
similar
creatures
humans
storing
gene
genome

The scientists say their research (9) _____ are important as they give an insight into how octopuses (10) _____ their behaviour in response to different stimuli. Scientists describe this process as "behavioural (11) _____". Biologist Graziano Fiorito suggested that the research could help us understand more about intelligence in humans. He said: "The brain of the octopus is (12) _____ analogous in many of its characteristics to that of (13) _____....For this reason [the DNA] represents a very interesting candidate to study to (14) _____ our knowledge of the evolution of intelligence." He says the brain (15) _____ of octopuses may mean the creatures are more similar to mammals than invertebrates and other sea (16) _____.

amend
improve
functionally
life
findings
structure
plasticity
mammals

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220704-octopus.html>

- 1) It is common knowledge that sea creatures like dolphins have a _____ intelligence
 - a. height level of
 - b. highly evil of
 - c. hail evil of
 - d. high level of
- 2) The eight-tentacled sea creature has short _____
 - a. sequins says of DNA
 - b. seek consequences of DNA
 - c. sequences of DNA
 - d. sea quinces of DNA
- 3) These same genes make up 45 per cent of _____
 - a. the human jean gnome
 - b. the human genome
 - c. the human g-gnome
 - d. the human gee numb
- 4) DNA sequences are important for learning and for creating _____
 - a. and store ring memories
 - b. and store in memories
 - c. and stowing memories
 - d. and storing memories
- 5) The scientists say the DNA may give octopuses _____
 - a. cognitive abilities
 - b. cog native abilities
 - c. agog native abilities
 - d. cog knitting abilities
- 6) scientists say their research findings are important as they _____
 - a. give an insight
 - b. giver an insight
 - c. gives an insight
 - d. give a nine sight
- 7) how octopuses amend their behaviour in response _____
 - a. too different stimuli
 - b. two different stimuli
 - c. to different stimuli
 - d. tool different stimuli
- 8) suggested that the research could help us understand more about intelligence _____
 - a. on humans
 - b. inhumane
 - c. in humans
 - d. in human
- 9) candidate to study to improve our knowledge of the _____
 - a. revolution of intelligence
 - b. evolution of intelligence
 - c. involution of intelligence
 - d. evolving of intelligence
- 10) octopuses may mean the creatures are more similar to _____
 - a. mammals than in vertebrates
 - b. mammals than invert vibrates
 - c. mammals than in verticals
 - d. mammals than inverted beets

Animal Intelligence

Conversation Questions

1. What are some examples of highly intelligent animals you've heard of? (They can be species of animals or famously intelligent animals that are known by name.)
2. Do you believe humans are the only animals that are capable of communicating their thoughts and feelings?
3. Do you believe animals have souls and an afterlife?
4. Have you ever heard of CRISPR technology?
5. Have you ever had a pet that you thought was quite intelligent?
6. If you could be an animal, what would you choose to be? Why?
7. Have you ever known anyone who had an unusual animal for a pet?
8. What do you think are some of the differences between people who like having a pet and people who don't like having a pet?
9. Some people (like Steven Hawking and Albert Einstein) are extremely intelligent. Maybe there are dogs and cats that are as intelligent as a dog or cat can possibly be. Would you like to have as a pet the most intelligent dog or cat who's ever lived? Why or why not?
10. Which dog breed do you think is the most intelligent and which the dumbest?