

www.Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 6

Cats are just as clever as dogs, says study

28th January, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

Please try Levels 5 and 4 (they are easier).

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

Google +



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For whatever reason, people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This notion has been called into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. Cat lovers, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the felines to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their ability to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where, suggesting they had episodic memory.

The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a whole variety of mental tests, including responding to the gestures, facial expressions and emotions of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she believed cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good news for pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-38665057>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/01/25/cats-dogs-equally-intelligent-new-research/>
<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/miaow-it-turns-out-that-dogs-arent-smarter-than-cats-after-all-122140191.html>

WARM-UPS

1. CATS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about cats. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

reason / intelligent / creatures / memory tests / memory / felines / fifteen minutes / variety / gestures / facial expressions / emotions / consciousness / pet owners

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. INTELLIGENT: Students A **strongly** believe cats are more intelligent than dogs; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. COMPARISON: Compare cats and dogs and how good they are at these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Cats are better because...	Dogs are better because...
Hunting		
Obedying humans		
Working		
Recognising people		
Helping people		
Being cute		

5. DOG: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "dog". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. PETS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best pets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- cat
- parrot
- hamster
- goldfish
- snake
- spider
- horse
- dog

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The article says people assume dogs are more intelligent than cats. **T / F**
- b. Research into cat intelligence was done at a university in Japan. **T / F**
- c. Cats ate from 15 bowls as part of a memory test. **T / F**
- d. The cats could remember which bowl they ate from. **T / F**
- e. Scientists said dogs were better at a whole variety of mental tests. **T / F**
- f. Scientists said cats could not respond to facial gestures. **T / F**
- g. A researcher said cats do not recall past memories like humans. **T / F**
- h. The researcher said the research was good news for pet owners. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. creatures | a. assortment |
| 2. notion | b. cats |
| 3. certain | c. seen |
| 4. felines | d. belief |
| 5. remained | e. feelings |
| 6. variety | f. start |
| 7. emotions | g. specific |
| 8. speculation | h. stayed |
| 9. viewed | i. conjecture |
| 10. establish | j. animals |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. For whatever | a. way humans do |
| 2. This notion has been called | b. to remember |
| 3. as smart as dogs at certain | c. of mental tests |
| 4. cat | d. into question |
| 5. cats were tested on their ability | e. for pet owners |
| 6. a whole variety | f. reason |
| 7. facial | g. human relationships |
| 8. think about past events similar to the | h. memory tests |
| 9. the research is good news | i. expressions |
| 10. establish better cat- | j. lovers |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For (1) _____ reason, people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This (2) _____ has been called into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at (3) _____ memory tests. Cat lovers, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or (4) _____ to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the (5) _____ to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their (6) _____ to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained (7) _____. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where, suggesting they had (8) _____ memory.

notion
ability
episodic
relate
whatever
untouched
felines
certain

The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a (9) _____ variety of mental tests, (10) _____ responding to the gestures, facial expressions and (11) _____ of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she believed cats think about past events (12) _____ to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being (13) _____ to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a (14) _____ of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good (15) _____ for pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human (16) _____."

emotions
whole
news
related
including
relationships
similar
type

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

- 1) For whatever reason, people assume dogs are more _____
 - a. intelligence creatures
 - b. intelligentsia creatures
 - c. intelligently creatures
 - d. intelligent creatures
- 2) This notion has been called into _____ scientists
 - a. questioned by
 - b. question by
 - c. questions by
 - d. questioning by
- 3) conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to an event _____
 - a. from a past
 - b. from that past
 - c. from then past
 - d. from the past
- 4) remember which bowl they had eaten from and which _____
 - a. remained untouched
 - b. remained non-touched
 - c. remained and touched
 - d. remained in touch
- 5) cats could recall what they ate and where, suggesting they had _____
 - a. episodically memory
 - b. episodes memory
 - c. episode memory
 - d. episodic memory
- 6) scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a whole _____ tests
 - a. various of mental
 - b. varied of mental
 - c. variety of mental
 - d. varieties of mental
- 7) responding to the gestures, facial expressions and _____ humans
 - a. emotions off
 - b. emotion of
 - c. emotionally off
 - d. emotions of
- 8) An interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories _____
 - a. of their experiential
 - b. of their experience
 - c. of their experiences
 - d. of their experienced
- 9) Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective _____ mind
 - a. function of the
 - b. functioned of the
 - c. functions of the
 - d. functional of the
- 10) Ms Takagi said the research is good news for _____
 - a. pets owners
 - b. pet owner
 - c. pets owner
 - d. pet owners

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For (1) _____, people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This notion has been (2) _____ by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. (3) _____ course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could (4) _____ to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got (5) _____ from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their ability to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched. The team found the cats could recall what (6) _____, suggesting they had episodic memory.

The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs (7) _____ of mental tests, including responding to the gestures, (8) _____ and emotions of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she believed cats think (9) _____ similar to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation is that they (10) _____ recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory (11) _____ being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research (12) _____ pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

1. What was called into question by scientists?
2. At which university was this research conducted?
3. How many bowls could the cats choose to eat from?
4. What was the interval between cats eating and then being tested?
5. What did the research suggest cats had?
6. What kind of expressions did scientists say cats respond to?
7. What might cats think about in a similar way to humans?
8. What might the study imply exists in cats?
9. For whom did the article say the research was good news?
10. What kind of improved relationships could the research establish?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

- 1) What was called into question by scientists?
 - a) a potion
 - b) a notion
 - c) a motion
 - d) a lotion
- 2) At which university was this research conducted?
 - a) Kyushu
 - b) Tokyo
 - c) Tokai
 - d) Kyoto
- 3) How many bowls could the cats choose to eat from?
 - a) 128
 - b) 7
 - c) 2
 - d) 15
- 4) What was the interval between cats eating and then being tested?
 - a) 15 minutes
 - b) 16 minutes
 - c) 17 minutes
 - d) 18 minutes
- 5) What did the research suggest cats had?
 - a) food
 - b) an episodic memory
 - c) a big appetite
 - d) lots of fun
- 6) What kind of expressions did scientists say cats respond to?
 - a) facial expressions
 - b) fixed expressions
 - c) regular expressions
 - d) gene expressions
- 7) What might cats think about in a similar way to humans?
 - a) future plans
 - b) sleep
 - c) past events
 - d) dinner
- 8) What might the study imply exists in cats?
 - a) a type of consciousness
 - b) a big appetite
 - c) deep intelligence
 - d) a sense of humour
- 9) For whom did the article say the research was good news?
 - a) researchers
 - b) scientists
 - c) cats
 - d) pet owners
- 10) What kind of improved relationships could the research establish?
 - a) dog-researcher relationships
 - b) scientist-cat relationships
 - c) cat-human relationships
 - d) cat-dog relationships

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

Role A – Cats

You think cats make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst pet of these (and why): goldfish, dogs or horses.

Role B – Goldfish

You think goldfish make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst pet of these (and why): cats, dogs or horses.

Role C – Dogs

You think dogs make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst pet of these (and why): goldfish, cats or horses.

Role D – Horses

You think horses make the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst pet of these (and why): goldfish, dogs or cats.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'cat' and 'dog'.

cat	dog
------------	------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• whatever• question• lovers• event• felines• team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• whole• facial• actively• mind• good• establish
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

CATS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cats in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

CATS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'cat'?
3. What do you think of cats?
4. What do you think about what you read?
5. Do you think cats are as intelligent as dogs?
6. In what way are cats intelligent?
7. Why are cats so popular as pets?
8. What is your memory like?
9. What can you do to improve your memory?
10. What is the best name for a cat, and why?

Cats are just as clever as dogs, says study – 28th January, 2017
Thousands more free lessons at www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

CATS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'intelligence'?
13. What do you think of dogs?
14. In what way are dogs intelligent?
15. What things can you remember very well? Why?
16. How good are you at doing mental tests?
17. What past events do you like recalling?
18. What is the best name for a dog, and why?
19. How are relationships with cats different to those with dogs?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com 2017

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For (1) _____ reason, people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This (2) _____ has been called into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at (3) _____ memory tests. Cat lovers, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could (4) _____ or relate to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the felines to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested (5) _____ their ability to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where, (6) _____ they had episodic memory.

The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a (7) _____ variety of mental tests, including responding to the gestures, facial expressions and (8) _____ of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she believed cats think about past events (9) _____ to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively (10) _____ memories of their experience, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function (11) _____ the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness (12) _____ cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good news for pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) whatever | (b) whoever | (c) whomever | (d) however |
| 2. | (a) nation | (b) motion | (c) notion | (d) lotion |
| 3. | (a) curtain | (b) certainly | (c) certain | (d) creating |
| 4. | (a) calculate | (b) calling | (c) call | (d) recall |
| 5. | (a) as | (b) at | (c) on | (d) to |
| 6. | (a) suggests | (b) suggesting | (c) suggested | (d) suggest |
| 7. | (a) entire | (b) whole | (c) all | (d) every |
| 8. | (a) emotive | (b) emotions | (c) emoticons | (d) emotional |
| 9. | (a) same | (b) similarity | (c) similar | (d) similes |
| 10. | (a) recalls | (b) recalled | (c) recall | (d) recalling |
| 11. | (a) as | (b) of | (c) by | (d) at |
| 12. | (a) at | (b) by | (c) on | (d) in |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

Paragraph 1

1. people aeumss dogs are more
2. intelligent racuseert
3. arencit memory tests
4. decudtnco tests
5. got the nleeifs to eat
6. suggesting they had eisodpic memory.

Paragraph 2

7. a whole aivyetr of mental tests
8. responding to the geusrste
9. lafaci expressions
10. interesting teasonpcilu
11. related to an itpisneotrecv function
12. a type of noeisuosccnss in cats

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) For whatever reason, people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This notion has been called
- () is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like
- () humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of
- () what they ate and where, suggesting they had episodic memory.
- () lovers, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could
- () the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good news for pet
- () believed cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation
- () one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their ability to remember
- () which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched. The team found the cats could recall
- () into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. Cat
- () to the gestures, facial expressions and emotions of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she
- () owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."
- () recall or relate to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the felines to eat from
- () The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a whole variety of mental tests, including responding

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

1. dogs than are cats more People intelligent assume creatures .
2. into notion question has by been scientists called This .
3. course always Cat of have this , , known lovers .
4. to tested remember on The their cats ability were .
5. cats what The the recall ate found could they team .
6. tests As on mental a good whole as variety dogs of .
7. the similar think way about humans past do events Cats to .
8. of function introspective an to Related mind the .
9. may type in study a consciousness Our imply of cats .
10. establish to Helps relationships human - cat better .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For *whatever / however* reason, people *resume / assume* dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This *motion / notion* has been called into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at *certain / certainly* memory tests. Cat *loves / lovers*, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to an event from *the / a* past – known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the *canines / felines* to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their *ability / able* to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which *remaining / remained* untouched. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where, *suggests / suggesting* they had episodic memory.

The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a *whole / entire* variety of mental tests, including *response / responding* to the gestures, facial expressions and *emoticons / emotions* of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she *believed / belief* cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting *speculation / speculating* is that they may enjoy *actively / active* recalling memories of their *experience / experiential*, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being *rated / related* to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may *imply / comply* a type of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good news for pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to *establish / establishment* better cat-human relationships."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

F_r wh_t_v_r r__s_n, p__pl_ __ss_m_ d_gs _r_ m_r_
_nt_ll_g_nt cr__t_r_s th_n c_ts. Th_s n_t__n h_s b__n
c_ll_d__nt_ q__st__n by sc__nt_sts _n J_p_n, wh_ h_v_
s__d th_t c_ts _r_ __s sm_rt_s d_gs _t c_rt__n m_m_ry
t_sts. C_t l_v_rs, _f c__rs_, h_v_ __lw_ys kn_wn th_s.
R_s__rch_rs _t Ky_t_ __n_v_rs_ty c_nd_ct_d t_sts _n
h_w w_ll 49 c_ts c__ld r_c_ll _r r_l_t_ t_ __n _v_nt
fr_m th_ p_st - kn_wn _s _n _p_s_d_c m_m_ry. Th_
J_p_n_s_ t__m g_t th_ f_l_n_s t_ __t fr_m _n_ _f tw_
b_wls. F_ft__n m_n_t_s l_t_r, th_ c_ts w_r_ t_st_d _n
th__r_b_l_ty t_r_m_mb_r wh_ch b_wl th_y h_d __t_n
fr_m _nd wh_ch r_m__n_d __nt__ch_d. Th_ t__m f__nd
th_ c_ts c__ld r_c_ll wh_t th_y _t_ __nd wh_r_,
s_gg_st_ng th_y h_d _p_s_d_c m_m_ry.

Th_ sc__nt_sts __s__d th_t c_ts w_r_ __s g__d __s
d_gs _n_ wh_l_ v_r__ty _f m_nt_l t_sts, _ncl_d_ng
r_sp_nd_ng t_ th_ g_st_r_s, f_c__l __xpr_ss__ns __nd
_m_t__ns _f h_m_ns. R_s__rch_r S_h_ T_k_g_ t_ld
r_p_rt_rs th_t sh_ b_l__v_d c_ts th_nk __b__t p_st
_v_nts s_m_l_r t_ th_ w_y h_m_ns d_. Sh_ s__d: "_n
_nt_r_st_ng sp_c_l_t__n __s th_t th_y m_y __nj_y
_ct_v_ly r_c_ll_ng m_m_r__s _f th__r __xp_r__nc_,
l_k_ h_m_ns." Sh_ __dd_d: "_p_s_d_c m_m_ry __s
v__w_d __s b__ng r_l_t_d t_ __n __ntr_sp_ct_v_f_nct__n
f th m__nd. __r st_dy m_y __mply __ typ__ _f
c_nsc__sn_ss _n c_ts." Ms T_k_g_ s__d th_ r_s__rch
_s g__d n_ws f_r p_t __wn_rs, s_y_ng: "_nd_rst_nd_ng
c_ts m_r_ d__ply h_lps t_ __st_b_l_sh b_tt_r c_t-h_m_n
r_l_t__nsh_ps."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

for whatever reason people assume dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats this notion has been called into question by scientists in japan who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests cat lovers of course have always known this researchers at kyoto university conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to an event from the past – known as an episodic memory the japanese team got the felines to eat from one of two bowls fifteen minutes later the cats were tested on their ability to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched the team found the cats could recall what they ate and where suggesting they had episodic memory

the scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a whole variety of mental tests including responding to the gestures facial expressions and emotions of humans researcher saho takagi told reporters that she believed cats think about past events similar to the way humans do she said "an interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience like humans" she added "episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of the mind our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats" ms takagi said the research is good news for pet owners saying "understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1701/170128-cats.html>

For whatever reason, people assumed dogs are more intelligent creatures than cats. This notion has been called into question by scientists in Japan, who have said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. Cat lovers, of course, have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to an event from the past—known as an episodic memory. The Japanese team got the felines to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their ability to remember which bowl they had eaten from and which remained untouched. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where, suggesting they had episodic memory. The scientists also said that cats were as good as dogs on a whole variety of mental tests, including responding to the gestures, facial expressions and emotions of humans. Researcher Saho Takagi told reporters that she believed cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "An interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats." Ms Takagi said the research is good news for pet owners, saying: "Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CATS: Make a poster about cats and intelligence. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. CATS AND DOGS: Write a magazine article about cats being more intelligent than dogs. Include imaginary interviews with people who agree and disagree.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on cats. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three examples showing that cats are more intelligent than dogs. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c F d T e F f F g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. creatures | a. animals |
| 2. notion | b. belief |
| 3. certain | c. specific |
| 4. felines | d. cats |
| 5. remained | e. stayed |
| 6. variety | f. assortment |
| 7. emotions | g. feelings |
| 8. speculation | h. conjecture |
| 9. viewed | i. seen |
| 10. establish | j. start |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The notion that dogs are more intelligent than cats.
2. Kyoto
3. Two
4. 15 minutes
5. Episodic memory
6. Facial expressions
7. Past events
8. A type of consciousness
9. Pet owners
10. Cat-human relationships

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)