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Level 6 – 3rd May, 2019

Could a friendly beluga whale be a spy?

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor at a university in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost point could be part of Russia's spy network. Local residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed being petted. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was involved." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written on the harness in English. A local said: "The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military facility or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language text."

There is much speculation online as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on military missions. A Russian naval analyst, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any links the beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy purposes, they are unlikely to be belugas." A Russian military official agreed. He told the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd attach a mobile phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

Sources: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/beluga-whale-linked-to-russian-military-is-affectionate-fetches-rings-for-locals-in-norway/>
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/norway-thinks-captured-beluga-whale-030744381.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-48090616>

WARM-UPS

1. WHALES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about whales. 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?

professor / Arctic Ocean / whale / spy / network / tame / news / images / military / speculation / journalists / divers / missions / marine / official / animal / message

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

3. SPYING: Students A **strongly** believe spying is beneficial; Students B **strongly** believe its isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SPY ANIMALS: How could these animals be used for spying? What might the drawbacks be of using these animals? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Uses	Drawbacks
Dog		
Dolphin		
Rabbit		
Snake		
Parrot		
Mouse		

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

6. SPY GADGETS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best spy gadgets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- invisibility cloak
- X-Ray glasses
- pen recorder
- thought recorder
- fingerprint recorder
- voice copier
- contact lens camera
- password finder

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. resident | a. To a very great degree; very, vey, very. |
| 2. extremely | b. An arrangement of straps for fastening something to a person's body, such as a parachute, or for restraining a young child. |
| 3. tame | c. Stroke or patted an animal affectionately. |
| 4. petted | d. Not dangerous or frightened of people; domesticated. |
| 5. harness | e. A person who lives somewhere permanently or on along-term basis. |
| 6. military | f. A place, amenity, or piece of equipment provided for a particular purpose. |
| 7. facility | g. Relating to or characteristic of soldiers or armed forces. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. speculation | h. Made something appear less important than it really is. |
| 9. diver | i. The forming of a theory or conjecture without firm evidence. |
| 10. mission | j. A person who conducts investigations, examinations and research. |
| 11. naval | k. Of, found in, or produced by the sea; relating to shipping or naval matters. |
| 12. analyst | l. An important assignment carried out for political, religious, or commercial purposes, usually involving travel. |
| 13. downplayed | m. About the ships and operations of armed forces at sea or of commercial shipping businesses. |
| 14. marine | n. A person who wears a special waterproof suit to work under water. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

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

- a. A professor at a Finnish university said a beluga whale could be a spy. **T / F**
- b. Local people said the beluga whale was totally wild. **T / F**
- c. The beluga whale was fitted with equipment to hold a camera. **T / F**
- d. The city name of St Petersburg was written on a harness in Russian. **T / F**
- e. Some people think the whale came from St Petersburg in Florida. **T / F**
- f. The US Navy does not use dolphins to help their missions. **T / F**
- g. A Russian official said Russia would be unlikely to use beluga whales. **T / F**
- h. A Russian official said Russia would not write down phone numbers. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. found | a. docile |
| 2. tame | b. village |
| 3. likely | c. reasons |
| 4. hamlet | d. conjecture |
| 5. escaped | e. probable |
| 6. speculation | f. affix |
| 7. missions | g. discovered |
| 8. purposes | h. representative |
| 9. official | i. assignments |
| 10. attach | j. broke free |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. a beluga whale that was found | a. for navy purposes |
| 2. the beluga was extremely | b. fitted with a harness |
| 3. the creature was | c. online |
| 4. It is most | d. a mobile phone number |
| 5. it could have | e. in the Arctic Ocean |
| 6. There is much speculation | f. programs |
| 7. downplayed any | g. tame |
| 8. military | h. likely |
| 9. using marine animals | i. links |
| 10. we'd attach | j. escaped |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor at a university in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost (1) _____ could be part of Russia's spy network. Local (2) _____ reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed being (3) _____. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a (4) _____ and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was (5) _____." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written on the harness in English. A local said: "The (6) _____ in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military (7) _____ or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language (8) _____."

residents
involved
facility
petted
text
point
talk
harness

There is much speculation (9) _____ as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training (10) _____ in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on (11) _____ missions. A Russian naval (12) _____, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any links the beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs for using (13) _____ animals for navy purposes, they are (14) _____ to be belugas." A Russian military official agreed. He told the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd (15) _____ a mobile phone number with the (16) _____ 'please call this number?'"

analyst
online
attach
military
message
marine
facilities
unlikely

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

- 1) Local residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed _____
 - a. being pet it
 - b. being patted
 - c. be in pet it
 - d. being petted
- 2) Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness _____
 - a. and meant
 - b. and mound
 - c. and mount
 - d. amount
- 3) It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk _____
 - a. was involve
 - b. was involved
 - c. was involving
 - d. was solved
- 4) The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian _____
 - a. militia facility
 - b. millet tree facility
 - c. miller tree facility
 - d. military facility
- 5) could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English- _____
 - a. language text
 - b. language texts
 - c. language texted
 - d. language textual
- 6) There is much speculation online _____ the whale came from
 - a. was to where
 - b. as to where
 - c. has to where
 - d. is to where
- 7) The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on _____
 - a. military emissions
 - b. military missions
 - c. military mission
 - d. military machines
- 8) programs for using marine animals for navy purposes, they are _____ belugas
 - a. unliked to be
 - b. unlikely to be
 - c. unlikely too be
 - d. unlikely to been
- 9) He told the BBC: "If we were using this _____
 - a. animals for spying
 - b. animal four spying
 - c. animal for spying
 - d. animal form spying
- 10) do you really think we'd attach a mobile phone number _____
 - a. with the massage
 - b. with the messy
 - c. with the mass sage
 - d. with the message

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor (1) _____ in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost point could (2) _____ Russia's spy network. Local residents reported that the beluga was (3) _____ enjoyed being petted. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is (4) _____ the Russian Navy in Murmansk was involved." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written (5) _____ in English. A local said: "The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military facility or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the (6) _____."

There is much speculation online (7) _____ the whale came from. Journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy (8) _____ use dolphins to help divers on military missions. A Russian naval analyst, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed (9) _____ beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs (10) _____ animals for navy purposes, they are unlikely to be belugas." A Russian (11) _____. He told the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd (12) _____ phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

1. In what part of Norway was the whale discovered?
2. Who said the beluga whale was tame?
3. Who did a professor say was involved?
4. What was written on a harness?
5. Where did people in a hamlet say the whale could have swum from?
6. What is there much of online regarding the whale?
7. Who do dolphins help in the U.S. Navy?
8. Who is Mikhail Barabanov?
9. Which news agency did a Russian military official talk to?
10. What did an official say Russia's military would not attach to the whale?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

- 1) In what part of Norway was the whale discovered?
 - a) the southernmost point
 - b) the northernmost point
 - c) the easternmost point
 - d) the westernmost point
- 2) Who said the beluga whale was tame?
 - a) the navy
 - b) divers
 - c) a zoologist
 - d) local residents
- 3) Who did a professor say was involved?
 - a) the Russian Navy
 - b) Greenpeace
 - c) the US Navy
 - d) Norway's navy
- 4) What was written on a harness?
 - a) "Made in Russia"
 - b) "Top Secret"
 - c) "Equipment of St. Petersburg"
 - d) "My Name is Bel"
- 5) Where did people in a hamlet say the whale could have swum from?
 - a) the North Pole
 - b) St. Petersburg, Florida
 - c) the South Pole
 - d) Moscow
- 6) What is there much of online regarding the whale?
 - a) speculation
 - b) Facebook likes
 - c) discussion
 - d) anger
- 7) Who do dolphins help in the U.S. Navy?
 - a) surfers
 - b) trainers
 - c) divers
 - d) beluga whales
- 8) Who is Mikhail Barabanov?
 - a) a Russian naval analyst
 - b) a Russian journalist
 - c) a Russian navy diver
 - d) a Russian marine biologist
- 9) Which news agency did a Russian military official talk to?
 - a) the BBC
 - b) CNN
 - c) Russia Today
 - d) Norway Today
- 10) What did an official say Russia's military would not attach to the whale?
 - a) great importance
 - b) a serial number
 - c) a Russian flag
 - d) a mobile phone number

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

Role A – Invisibility Cloak

You think an invisibility cloak is the best spy gadget. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their gadgets. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): thought recorder, contact lens camera or password finder.

Role B – Thought Recorder

You think a thought recorder is the best spy gadget. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their gadgets. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): invisibility cloak, contact lens camera or password finder.

Role C – Contact Lens Camera

You think a contact lens camera is the best spy gadget. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their gadgets. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): thought recorder, invisibility cloak or password finder.

Role D – Password Finder

You think a password finder is the best spy gadget. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their gadgets. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): thought recorder, contact lens camera or invisibility cloak.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

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

spy	whale
------------	--------------

- 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">• found• extremely• fitted• most• talk• text	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• whether• divers• help• marine• official• number
---	--

SPYING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

Write five GOOD questions about spying 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.

SPYING DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'whale'?
3. What do you know about beluga whales?
4. What do you think of petting a beluga whale?
5. Why do you think the whale had a camera harness?
6. Who do you think put the harness on the whale, and why?
7. Do you think the St Petersburg in the text is in Russia or the USA?
8. What do you think of whales being used to spy?
9. How can governments get animals to spy for them?
10. Could you become a spy?

Could a friendly whale be a spy? – 3rd May, 2019
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SPYING 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 'spy'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about spying?
15. Why don't authorities know where the whale came from?
16. What is the best way to spy?
17. Why do governments spy on each other?
18. Would Russia put text in English on a spy whale?
19. What would change if the whale was found to be a Russian spy?
20. What questions would you like to ask a whale expert?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor at a university in Norway (1) _____ a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost point could be (2) _____ of Russia's spy network. Local residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed being (3) _____. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness and (4) _____ for a spy camera. He said: "It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was involved." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written on the harness in English. A local said: "The (5) _____ in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military facility or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language (6) _____."

There is (7) _____ speculation online as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training (8) _____ in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on military missions. A Russian (9) _____ analyst, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any links the beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy (10) _____, they are unlikely to be belugas." A Russian military official (11) _____. He told the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd (12) _____ a mobile phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) believe | (b) believes | (c) beliefs | (d) believing |
| 2. | (a) party | (b) parted | (c) partner | (d) part |
| 3. | (a) potted | (b) petted | (c) pitted | (d) putted |
| 4. | (a) amount | (b) surmount | (c) mount | (d) remount |
| 5. | (a) talk | (b) speak | (c) speech | (d) voice |
| 6. | (a) text | (b) article | (c) tome | (d) prose |
| 7. | (a) any | (b) most | (c) many | (d) much |
| 8. | (a) facilities | (b) frailties | (c) fragilities | (d) faculties |
| 9. | (a) revel | (b) naval | (c) gavel | (d) bevel |
| 10. | (a) porpoises | (b) proposes | (c) purposes | (d) prospers |
| 11. | (a) concur | (b) matched | (c) agreed | (d) conformed |
| 12. | (a) fixate | (b) attach | (c) fastener | (d) sticky |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Norway's tnrhenoomrst point
2. the beluga was terxmeley tame
3. the reatucre was fitted with a harness
4. Murmansk was vilonved
5. upiqmenet of St. Petersburg
6. it could have scapeed

Paragraph 2

7. There is much peustalicon online
8. dolphin training aclftiies
9. A Russian naval nlaayst
10. help divers on ilitamry missions
11. using marine animals for navy rpopuses
12. ttacah a mobile phone number

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () facility or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language text."
- () with a harness and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was
- () involved." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written
- (**1**) A professor at a university in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's
- () northernmost point could be part of Russia's spy network. Local residents reported that the beluga was extremely
- () help divers on military missions. A Russian naval analyst, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any links the beluga might have
- () There is much speculation online as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking
- () whether it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to
- () on the harness in English. A local said: "The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military
- () with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy
- () purposes, they are unlikely to be belugas." A Russian military official agreed. He told
- () tame and enjoyed being petted. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted
- () the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd attach a mobile
- () phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

1. beluga in found whale the A Arctic Ocean .
2. reported the Residents was beluga that extremely tame .
3. fitted was creature with The a harness .
4. is likely It Russia that most was involved .
5. escaped have It from could military Russia's facility .
6. to Speculation the where as whale came from .
7. to use dolphins Known help to divers
8. beluga Links have might the with the military .
9. are military programs for using There marine animals .
10. we this using were animal If for spying .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor at a university in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost point could be *party* / *part* of Russia's spy network. Local *residence* / *residents* reported that the beluga was *extremely* / *extreme* tame and enjoyed being *petted* / *potted*. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a *hairnet* / *harness* and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is most *likely* / *liking* that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was *involvement* / *involved*." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written on the harness in English. A local said: "The *talk* / *speak* in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military *facility* / *faculty* or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language *textual* / *text*."

There is *much* / *many* speculation online as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking *weather* / *whether* it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is *knowing* / *known* to use dolphins to help divers on military *missions* / *mission*. A Russian naval *analysis* / *analyst*, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any *linked* / *links* the beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are *militia* / *military* programs for using marine animals for navy purposes, they are unlikely to *being* / *be* belugas." A Russian military official agreed. He told the BBC: "If we were *using* / *used* this animal for spying, do you really think we'd *attachment* / *attach* a mobile phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A p_r_f_s_s_r _t _ _n_v_r_s_t_y _n N_r_w_y b_l__v_s
_ b_l_g_ w_h_l_ t_h_t w_s f__nd _n t_h_ A_r_c_t_c
O_c__n n__r N_r_w_y 's n_r_t_h_r_n_m_s_t p__n_t
c__ld b_ p_r_t _f R_s_s__ 's s_p_y n_t_w_r_k .
L_c_l_r_s_d_n_t_s r_p_r_t_d t_h_t t_h_ b_l_g_ w_s _x
t_r_m_l_y t_m__nd _n_j_y_d b__ng p_t_t_d . P_r_f_s
s_r A_d_n R_k_r_d_s_n s__d t_h_ c_r__t_r_ w_s f_t
t_d w_t_h _ h_r_n_s_s _n_d m__nt f_r _ s_p_y
c_m_r_ . H_ s__d : " I_t _s m_s_t l_k_l_y t_h_t t
h_ R_s_s__ n N_v_y _n M_r_m_n_s_k w_s _n_v_l_v_d . "
H_w_v_r , n_w_s _m_g_s s_h_w t_h_r_ _s " E_q__p
m_n_t _f S_t . P_t_r_s_b_r_g " w_r_t_t_n _n t_h_ h_r
n_s_s _n E_n_g_l_s_h . A_l_c_l s__d : " T_h_ t_l_k
_n t_h_s h_m_l_t_s t_h_t t_c__ld h_v_ _s_c_p_d
f_r_m _ R_s_s__ n m_l_t_r_y f_c_l_t_y _r c__ld
h_v_ s_w_m f_r_m S_t . P_t_r_s_b_r_g , F_l_r_d_ ,
b_c__s_ _f t_h_ E_n_g_l_s_h - l_n_g__g_ t_x_t . "

T_h_r_ _s m_c_h s_p_c_l_t__n _n_l_n_ _s t_ w_h_r_ t
h_ w_h_l_ c_m_ f_r_m . J__r_n_l_s_t_s _r_ _s_k_n_g w
h_t_h_r_ t c_m_ f_r_m w_h_l_ _n_d d_l_p_h_n t_r__
n_n_g f_c_l_t__s _n S_t . P_t_r_s_b_r_g , F_l_r_d_ . T
h_ U . S . N_v_y _s k_n_w_n t_ _s_ d_l_p_h_n_s t_
h_l_p d_v_r_s _n m_l_t_r_y m_s_s__n_s . A R_s_s__
n n_v_l _n_l_y_s_t , M_k_h__l B_r_b_n_v , d_w_n_p
l_y_d _n_y l_n_k_s t_h_ b_l_g_ m_g_h_t h_v_ w_t_h t
h_ R_s_s__ n m_l_t_r_y . H_ s__d : " E_v_n _f t
h_r_ _r_ m_l_t_r_y p_r_g_r_m_s f_r _s_n_g m_r_n_
_n_m_l_s f_r n_v_y p_r_p_s_s , t_h_y _r_ _n_l_k_l_y
t_ b_ b_l_g_s . " A R_s_s__ n m_l_t_r_y _f_f_c__l_g
r__d . H_ t_l_d t_h_ B_B_C : " I_f w_ w_r_ _s_n_g t
h_s _n_m_l f_r s_p_y_n_g , d_ y__ r__l_l_y t_h_n_k
w_ 'd _t_t_c_h _ m_b_l_ p_h_n_ n_m_b_r w_t_h t_h_
m_s_s_g_ ' p_l__s_ c_l_l t_h_s n_m_b_r ? ' "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

a professor at a university in norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the arctic ocean near norways northernmost point could be part of russia's spy network local residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed being petted professor audun rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness and mount for a spy camera he said it is most likely that the russian navy in murmansk was involved however news images show there is equipment of st petersburg written on the harness in english a local said the talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a russian military facility or could have swum from st petersburg florida because of the english language text

there is much speculation online as to where the whale came from journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in st petersburg florida the us navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on military missions a russian naval analyst mikhail barabanov downplayed any links the beluga might have with the russian military he said even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy purposes they are unlikely to be belugas a russian military official agreed he told the bbc if we were using this animal for spying do you really think we'd attach a mobile phone number with the message please call this number

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190503-beluga-whale.html>

A professor at a university in Norway believes a beluga whale that was found in the Arctic Ocean near Norway's northernmost point could be part of Russia's spy network. Local residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame and enjoyed being petted. Professor Audun Rikardsen said the creature was fitted with a harness and mount for a spy camera. He said: "It is most likely that the Russian Navy in Murmansk was involved." However, news images show there is "Equipment of St. Petersburg" written on the harness in English. A local said: "The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military facility or could have swum from St. Petersburg, Florida, because of the English-language text." There is much speculation online as to where the whale came from. Journalists are asking whether it came from whale and dolphin training facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida. The U.S. Navy is known to use dolphins to help divers on military missions. A Russian naval analyst, Mikhail Barabanov, downplayed any link the beluga might have with the Russian military. He said: "Even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy purposes, they are unlikely to be belugas." A Russian military official agreed. He told the BBC: "If we were using this animal for spying, do you really think we'd attach a mobile phone number with the message 'please call this number?'"

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 news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SPYING: Make a poster about spying. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SPY ANIMALS: Write a magazine article about using animals for spying. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 spying. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. found | a. discovered |
| 2. tame | b. docile |
| 3. likely | c. probable |
| 4. hamlet | d. village |
| 5. escaped | e. broke free |
| 6. speculation | f. conjecture |
| 7. missions | g. assignments |
| 8. purposes | h. reasons |
| 9. official | i. representative |
| 10. attach | j. affix |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The northernmost point
2. Local residents
3. The Russian Navy
4. "Equipment of St. Petersburg"
5. St. Petersburg, Florida
6. Speculation
7. Divers
8. A Russian naval analyst
9. The BBC
10. A mobile phone number

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A beluga whale found in the Arctic Ocean.
2. Residents reported that the beluga was extremely tame.
3. The creature was fitted with a harness.
4. It is most likely that Russia was involved.
5. It could have escaped from Russia's military facility.
6. Speculation as to where the whale came from.
7. Known to use dolphins to help divers
8. Links the beluga might have with the military.
9. There are military programs for using marine animals.
10. If we were using this animal for spying.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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