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Level 6 – 6th July, 2020

Scientists change how we calculate dog years

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For decades, dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have traditionally worked out their dog's age in "human years" by multiplying by seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come up with a new formula. They say it more precisely determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple mental arithmetic to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the genomes of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the ageing speed of mammals.

The researchers analysed blood samples from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number crunching, they created a graph to show the different rates at which canines and humans age. They said a one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is comparable to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "This makes sense. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully address the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

Sources: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/12011713/dog-age-in-human-years-formula/>
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/07/03/dog-days-scientists-work-accurate-way-find-fidos-age-12938804/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/07/03/us/new-study-updates-dog-years-to-human-years-formula-trnd-scn/index.html>

WARM-UPS

1. DOG YEARS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about dog years. 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?

decades / calculating / pet / age / formula / arithmetic / comparison / mammals / researchers / blood samples / human / ageing / puppies / measure / dog breeds

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

3. DOGS: Students A **strongly** believe dogs are the best pets; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. AGE: What are the best and worst things about these ages? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | Best Things | Worst Things |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Early years | | |
| Early teens | | |
| Late Teens | | |
| Thirties | | |
| Sixties | | |
| Eighties | | |

5. FORMULA: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "formula". 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.

- dogs
- hamsters
- goldfish
- tarantulas
- rabbits
- parrots
- iguana
- horses

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. decade | a. A period of ten years. |
| 2. calculating | b. Simple maths involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. |
| 3. multiplying | c. Finding out the amount of something by using maths. |
| 4. formula | d. Exactly (used to emphasize the complete accuracy or truth of a statement). |
| 5. precisely | e. Obtaining from a number another that contains the first number a specified number of times. |
| 6. arithmetic | f. A mathematical relationship or rule. |
| 7. mammal | g. A warm-blooded animal with a backbone, hair or fur, milk for the young, and the birth of live young. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 8. number crunching | h. A reasonable or easy-to-understand reason. |
| 9. graph | i. Of a person or thing able to be likened to another; similar. |
| 10. canine | j. Performing lots of different calculations. |
| 11. comparable | k. Think about and begin to deal with an issue or problem. |
| 12. sense | l. A diagram that shows the relation between different, changing things. |
| 13. address | m. A sort or kind of dog or thing. |
| 14. breed | n. Relating to or resembling a dog or dogs. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

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

- a. The article said we have miscalculated dogs' ages for centuries. **T / F**
- b. The way of finding a dog's age in human years is to divide by seven. **T / F**
- c. A new way of finding a dog's age involves comparisons of DNA. **T / F**
- d. Scientists say analysing DNA is the best way to age marsupials. **T / F**
- e. Researchers analysed blood samples of 105 different breeds of dog. **T / F**
- f. Researchers said a one-year-old dog has a human age of 30. **T / F**
- g. A researcher says the rate of dogs' ageing slows down from seven. **T / F**
- h. Different breeds of dogs age at different rates. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. lovers | a. recipe |
| 2. worked out | b. basic |
| 3. come up with | c. specimens |
| 4. simple | d. calculated |
| 5. analyse | e. precise |
| 6. samples | f. equivalent |
| 7. graph | g. enthusiasts |
| 8. comparable | h. examine |
| 9. accurate | i. chart |
| 10. formula | j. devised |

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

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. dog | a. arithmetic |
| 2. worked out their dog's age in "human years" | b. of dog |
| 3. They say it more precisely | c. speed of mammals |
| 4. simple mental | d. crunching |
| 5. measure the ageing | e. ratio |
| 6. The researchers analysed blood | f. by multiplying by seven |
| 7. After a bit of number | g. samples |
| 8. a four-year-old hound is comparable | h. determines canine age |
| 9. the 1:7 | i. to a 52-year-old person |
| 10. different breeds | j. lovers |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For decades, dog lovers have been incorrectly (1) _____ the age of their pet pooches. People have (2) _____ worked out their dog's age in "human years" by multiplying by seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come up with a new (3) _____. They say it more (4) _____ determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple mental (5) _____ to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the (6) _____ of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists regard such DNA (7) _____ as the best way to measure the ageing speed of (8) _____.

formula
genomes
precisely
mammals
traditionally
analysis
calculating
arithmetic

The researchers analysed blood (9) _____ from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number (10) _____, they created a graph to show the different rates at which (11) _____ and humans age. They said a one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is (12) _____ to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing (13) _____. He said: "This makes sense. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have (14) _____, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate (15) _____ of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully (16) _____ the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

measure
canines
address
slows
samples
puppies
crunching
comparable

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

- 1) For decades, dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of _____
 - a. their pet pooches
 - b. their pet broaches
 - c. their pet poachers
 - d. their pet poaches
- 2) traditionally worked out their dog's age in "human years" by _____
 - a. multiplying at seven
 - b. multiplying by seven
 - c. multiplying bye seven
 - d. multiplying buy seven
- 3) School of Medicine in the USA have come up with _____
 - a. a newly formula
 - b. a new formula
 - c. a news formula
 - d. anew formula
- 4) Their new method requires a little more than _____
 - a. simple mentally arithmetic
 - b. simples mental arithmetic
 - c. simple men tall arithmetic
 - d. simple mental arithmetic
- 5) scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the ageing _____
 - a. speed off mammal
 - b. speed of mammalian
 - c. speed off mammals
 - d. speed of mammals
- 6) After a bit of number crunching, they created a graph to show _____
 - a. the difference rates
 - b. the different rates
 - c. the differential rates
 - d. the differently rates
- 7) a one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old _____
 - a. bound is compare able
 - b. hounds is compare a ball
 - c. found is con parable
 - d. hound is comparable
- 8) Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, _____
 - a. its age in slows
 - b. its ageing shows
 - c. its age in shows
 - d. its ageing slows
- 9) a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that _____
 - a. the 1:7 ratios
 - b. then 1:7 ratio
 - c. the 127 ratio
 - d. the 1:7 ratio
- 10) The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully _____
 - a. addresses the fact
 - b. addressed the fact
 - c. address the fact
 - d. add dress the fact

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For (1) _____ have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have traditionally worked out their dog's age in "human years" (2) _____ seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come up with (3) _____. They say it more precisely determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple (4) _____ work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of (5) _____ dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to (6) _____ speed of mammals.

The researchers (7) _____ from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number crunching, they (8) _____ to show the different rates at which canines and humans age. They said a one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old (9) _____ to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "(10) _____. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that (11) _____ wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully address the fact that (12) _____ dog age at different speeds.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

1. Who did the article say had been incorrectly calculating dogs' ages.
2. What number did people traditionally use to find a dog's age?
3. What does a new formula to find a dog's age require more than?
4. What does a new method compare between dogs and humans?
5. What animals does DNA analysis best measure the ageing speed of?
6. How many dogs did researchers test blood samples of?
7. What kind of crunching did the researchers do?
8. What human age did researchers compare a four-year-old dog to?
9. What did researchers say wasn't an accurate measure of age?
10. What did researchers say age at different rates?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

- 1) Who did the article say had been incorrectly calculating dogs' ages.
 - a) pet shop owners
 - b) dog lovers
 - c) vets
 - d) historians
- 2) What number did people traditionally use to find a dog's age?
 - a) nine
 - b) six
 - c) eight
 - d) seven
- 3) What does a new formula to find a dog's age require more than?
 - a) simple mental arithmetic
 - b) a calculator
 - c) a smartphone
 - d) numbers
- 4) What does a new method compare between dogs and humans?
 - a) IQ
 - b) hairs
 - c) genomes
 - d) skin condition
- 5) What animals does DNA analysis best measure the ageing speed of?
 - a) marsupials
 - b) mammals
 - c) molluscs
 - d) moths
- 6) How many dogs did researchers test blood samples of?
 - a) 105
 - b) 106
 - c) 107
 - d) 108
- 7) What kind of crunching did the researchers do?
 - a) gravel crunching
 - b) crispy crunching
 - c) number crunching
 - d) data crunching
- 8) What human age did researchers compare a four-year-old dog to?
 - a) 52
 - b) 7
 - c) 30
 - d) 4
- 9) What did researchers say wasn't an accurate measure of age?
 - a) the 1:7 ratio
 - b) a calculator
 - c) IQ
 - d) simple mental arithmetic
- 10) What did researchers say age at different rates?
 - a) cats and dogs
 - b) small dogs and big dogs
 - c) people
 - d) different breeds of dogs

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

Role A – Dogs

You think dogs are 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 of these (and why): goldfish, parrots or horses.

Role B – Goldfish

You think goldfish are 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 of these (and why): dogs, parrots or horses.

Role C – Parrots

You think parrots are 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 of these (and why): goldfish, dogs or horses.

Role D – Horses

You think horses are 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 of these (and why): goldfish, parrots or dogs.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

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

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| dog | year |
|------------|-------------|

- 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">• decades• however• more• method• involves• best | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• blood• 30• reaches• sense• ratio• fact |
|---|---|

DOG YEARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dog years 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.

DOG YEARS 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 'dog'?
3. How happy are you with your age?
4. What do you think of dogs?
5. How good are dogs as pets?
6. What is the best age to be?
7. In what ways can dogs help humans?
8. How good are you at simple arithmetic?
9. How do you feel about getting older?
10. How much of a dog lover are you?

Scientists change how we calculate dog years – 6th July, 2020
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DOG YEARS 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 'age'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What breeds of dog do you like best?
15. How much do you like number crunching?
16. Why is it important to know how quickly dogs age?
17. What were you doing when you were seven years old?
18. Do humans age at different rates?
19. What are the downsides of ageing?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

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/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For decades, dog (1) _____ have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have traditionally worked out their dog's age (2) _____ "human years" by multiplying by seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come (3) _____ with a new formula. They say it more precisely determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple (4) _____ arithmetic to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the (5) _____ of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the (6) _____ speed of mammals.

The researchers analysed blood samples from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a (7) _____ of number crunching, they created a graph to show the different rates at which canines and humans age. They said a one-year-old dog is similar (8) _____ a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is (9) _____ to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "This (10) _____ sense. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 (11) _____ wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully address the fact that different (12) _____ of dog age at different speeds.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) loves | (b) lovelies | (c) love-ins | (d) lovers |
| 2. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) at | (d) in |
| 3. | (a) down | (b) up | (c) on | (d) in |
| 4. | (a) physical | (b) spiritual | (c) mental | (d) cosmic |
| 5. | (a) gnomes | (b) gnus | (c) genomes | (d) gnostic |
| 6. | (a) ageing | (b) ageless | (c) aged | (d) agelong |
| 7. | (a) bite | (b) bit | (c) byte | (d) bitt |
| 8. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) as | (d) on |
| 9. | (a) compare | (b) comparable | (c) comparison | (d) comparability |
| 10. | (a) wakes | (b) takes | (c) makes | (d) fakes |
| 11. | (a) rational | (b) rationale | (c) ratio | (d) ration |
| 12. | (a) beads | (b) beets | (c) bleeds | (d) breeds |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

Paragraph 1

1. by myliplingut by seven
2. it more lryespeic determines canine age
3. simple mental ritemichat
4. It involves a isanmpocro of the genomes
5. DNA nilaysas
6. measure the ageing speed of Immsaa

Paragraph 2

7. The researchers analysed blood spsalem
8. After a bit of number ncihugcr
9. a four-year-old hondu
10. merlapcoba to a 52-year-old person
11. the 1:7 ratio wasn't an caucrtea measure
12. different rebdse of dog age at different speeds

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () formula. They say it more precisely determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple mental
- (**1**) For decades, dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have traditionally worked
- () sense. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7
- () The researchers analysed blood samples from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number
- () out their dog's age in "human years" by multiplying by seven. However, researchers at
- () of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs
- () ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully
- () age. The scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the ageing speed of mammals.
- () address the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.
- () crunching, they created a graph to show the different rates at which canines and humans age. They said a one-
- () year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is comparable to a 52-year-old
- () arithmetic to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the genomes
- () the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come up with a new
- () person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "This makes

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

1. age the pet of their pooches . Incorrectly calculating
2. age . out their traditionally dog's People worked have
3. precisely canine They it more age . determines say
4. how Scientists changes . DNA to analyse had
5. measure The best way to the speed . ageing
6. analysed from samples Labradors . The 105 blood researchers
7. to graph Created a different rates . the show
8. an ratio The wasn't 1:7 accurate measure .
9. new address the fully doesn't Their formula fact .
10. of Different age dog breeds at different speeds .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For *decades / decadence*, dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have *tradition / traditionally* worked out their dog's age in "human years" *at / by* multiplying by seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come *up / down* with a new formula. They say it more *precisely / precision* determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple *physical / mental* arithmetic to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the *genomes / gnomes* of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse *that / how* DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists *regard / regarding* such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the ageing speed of *marsupials / mammals*.

The researchers analysed blood *stamps / samples* from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number *crushing / crunching*, they created a graph to show the *different / difference* rates at which canines and humans *old / age*. They said a one-year-old dog is *similarity / similar* to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is comparable to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog *wretches / reaches* seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "This makes *nonsense / sense*. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have *purpose / puppies*, so we already knew that the 1:7 *ration / ratio* wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully *location / address* the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

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/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

F_r d_c_d_s , d_g l_v_r_s h_v_ b__ n _n c_r_r_c_t_l_y
c_l_c_l_t_n_g t_h_ g_ _f t_h__ r p_t p__ c_h_s . P__
p_l_ h_v_ t_r_d_t__ n_l_l_y w_r_k_d __ t t_h__ r d_g '
s _g_ _n " h_m_n y__ r_s " b_y m_l_t_p_l_y_n_g b_y
s_v_n . H_w_v_r , r_s__ r_c_h_r_s _t t_h_ U_n_v_r_s_t_y
_f C_l_f_r_n__ S_n D__ g_ S_c_h__ l _f M_d_c_n_ _n
t_h_ U_S_A h_v_ c_m_ _p w_t_h _ n_w f_r_m_l_ . T
h_y s_y _t m_r_ p_r_c_s_l_y d_t_r_m_n_s c_n_n_ _g_ .
T_h__ r n_w m_t_h_d r_q__ r_s _ l_t_t_l_ m_r_ t_h_n
s_m_p_l_ m_n_t_l_ _r_t_h_m_t_c t_ w_r_k __ t _ d_g 's
g . I_t _n_v_l_v_s _ c_m_p_r_s_n _f t_h_ g_n_m_s _f
d_g_s _n_d h_m_n_s . S_c__ n_t_s_t_s h_d t_ _n_l_y_s_
h_w D_N_A c_h_n_g_s _s h_m_n_s _n_d d_g_s _g_ . T
h_ s_c__ n_t_s_t_s r_g_r_d s_c_h D_N_A _n_l_y_s_s _s
t_h_ b_s_t w_y t_ m__ s_r_ t_h_ _g__ n_g s_p__ d _f
m_m_m_l_s .

T_h_ r_s__ r_c_h_r_s _n_l_y_s_d b_l__ d s_m_p_l_s f_r_m
1_0_5 l_b_r_d_r r_t_r__ v_r_s . A_f_t_r _ b_t _f n_m
b_r c_r_n_c_h_n_g , t_h_y c_r__ t_d _ g_r_p_h t_ s
h_w t_h_ d_f_f_r_n_t r_t_s _t w_h_c_h c_n_n_s _n_d
h_m_n_s _g_ . T_h_y s__ d _n_- y__ r_-l_d d_g _s
s_m_l_r t_ _ 3_0_- y__ r_-l_d h_m_n , w_h_l_ _ f__ r_-
y__ r_-l_d h__ n_d _s c_m_p_r_b_l_ t_ _ 5_2_- y__ r_-l
d p_r_s_n . R_s__ r_c_h_r T_r_y I_d_k_r s__ d b_y t
h_ t_m_ _ d_g r__ c_h_s s_v_n y__ r_s _l_d , _t_s
_g__ n_g s_l_w_s . H_ s__ d : " T_h_s m_k_s s_n_s_ .
W_h_n y__ t_h_n_k _b__ t _t , _n_n_- m_n_t_h_-l_d
d_g c_n h_v_ p_p_p__ s , s_ w_ _l_r__ d_y k_n_w t
h_t t_h_ 1 : 7 r_t__ w_s_n 't _n _c_c_r_t_ m__ s_r_
_f _g_ . " T_h_ r_s__ r_c_h_r_s s__ d t_h__ r n_w f_r
m_l_ d__ s_n 't f_l_l_y _d_d_r_s_s t_h_ f_c_t t_h_t d_f
f_r_n_t b_r__ d_s _f d_g _g_ _t d_f_f_r_n_t s_p__ d_s .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

for decades dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches people have traditionally worked out their dogs age in human years by multiplying by seven however researchers at the university of california san diego school of medicine in the usa have come up with a new formula they say it more precisely determines canine age their new method requires a little more than simple mental arithmetic to work out a dogs age it involves a comparison of the genomes of dogs and humans scientists had to analyse how dna changes as humans and dogs age the scientists regard such dna analysis as the best way to measure the ageing speed of mammals the researchers analysed blood samples from 105 labrador retrievers after a bit of number crunching they created a graph to show the different rates at which canines and humans age they said a oneyearold dog is similar to a 30yearold human while a fouryearold hound is comparable to a 52yearold person researcher trey ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old its ageing slows he said this makes sense when you think about it a ninemonthold dog can have puppies so we already knew that the 17 ratio wasnt an accurate measure of age the researchers said their new formula doesnt fully address the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

For decades, dog lovers have been incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches. People have traditionally worked out their dog's age in "human years" by multiplying by seven. However, researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in the USA have come up with a new formula. They say it more precisely determines canine age. Their new method requires a little more than simple arithmetic to work out a dog's age. It involves a comparison of the genomes of dogs and humans. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes as humans and dogs age. The scientists regard such DNA analysis as the best way to measure the ageing speed of mammals. The researchers analysed blood samples from 105 Labrador retrievers. After a bit of number crunching, they created a graph to show the different rates at which canines and humans age. They said a one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old hound is comparable to a 52-year-old person. Researcher Trey Ideker said by the time a dog reaches seven years old, its ageing slows. He said: "This makes sense. When you think about it, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age." The researchers said their new formula doesn't fully address the fact that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years.html>

Dogs are the best pets. Discuss.

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. DOG YEARS: Make a poster about dog years. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PETS: Write a magazine article about everyone needing a pet. 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 dogs. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on dogs as pets. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 2. d | 3. j | 4. b | 5. h |
| 6. c | 7. i | 8. f | 9. e | 10. a |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Dog lovers
2. Seven
3. Simple mental arithmetic
4. Genomes
5. Mammals
6. 105
7. Number crunching
8. 52
9. The 1:7 ratio
10. Different breeds of dogs

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Incorrectly calculating the age of their pet pooches.
2. People have traditionally worked out their dog's age.
3. They say it more precisely determines canine age.
4. Scientists had to analyse how DNA changes.
5. The best way to measure the ageing speed.
6. The researchers analysed blood samples from 105 Labradors.
7. Created a graph to show the different rates.
8. The 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure.
9. Their new formula doesn't fully address the fact.
10. Different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

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 ;-)