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Level 5 – 23rd February, 2021

Dogs may be self-aware

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

What do animals think about? Scientists in Hungary explored this question by investigating if dogs have self-awareness. Researchers tried to find out whether canines have a sense of body awareness. A researcher explained: "Self-awareness is a rather poorly investigated area of dog cognition." He added: "Body awareness is a mental capacity to organize someone's action by taking in consideration their own body exists." His test put dogs in situations that would make them aware of their body position. His research is published in the journal "Scientific Reports".

The scientists conducted tests on 54 dogs. A toy was attached to a mat and each dog had to give the toy to its owner. The dog had to understand it would not be able to take the toy to its owner unless it got off the mat first. Many of the dogs understood this and completed the task. The researchers said this showed a sense of body awareness. They wrote that body awareness is, "the ability to hold information about one's own body in mind, as an explicit object, in relation to other objects in the world". They called it a fundamental building block of "self-representation".

Sources: <https://www.inverse.com/science/dog-body-awareness-study>
<https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/are-dogs-self-aware-scientists-say-there-s-a-good-chance-1.5317364>
<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/do-dogs-have-self-awareness/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Scientists in Hungary explored | a. consideration |
| 2. investigating if dogs have | b. body position |
| 3. find out whether canines | c. investigated area |
| 4. a rather poorly | d. in the journal |
| 5. a mental | e. self-awareness |
| 6. by taking in | f. capacity |
| 7. make them aware of their | g. this question |
| 8. His research is published | h. have a sense |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. scientists conducted tests | a. the task |
| 2. A toy was attached | b. toy to its owner |
| 3. each dog had to give the | c. block |
| 4. completed | d. awareness |
| 5. showed a sense of body | e. in the world |
| 6. hold information about one's | f. on 54 dogs |
| 7. in relation to other objects | g. to a mat |
| 8. a fundamental building | h. own body |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

What do animals think about? Scientists in Hungary (1) _____ by investigating if dogs have self-awareness. Researchers tried to (2) _____ canines have a sense of body awareness. A researcher explained: "Self-awareness is (3) _____ investigated area of dog cognition." He added: "Body awareness is (4) _____ to organize someone's action by taking in consideration their (5) _____." His test put dogs in situations that would make them aware of their body position. His research is published (6) _____ "Scientific Reports".

The scientists (7) _____ 54 dogs. A toy was attached to a mat and each dog had to give the toy to its owner. The dog had to understand it would not be able to take the toy to (8) _____ it got off the mat first. Many of the dogs understood this and (9) _____. The researchers said this showed a sense of body awareness. They wrote that body awareness is, "the (10) _____ information about one's own (11) _____, as an explicit object, in relation to other objects in the world". They called it a fundamental (12) _____ "self-representation".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

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SELF-AWARENESS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about self-awareness 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210223-self-awareness-5.html>

Write about **self-awareness** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
