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Level 6 – 28th September, 2020

Bomb-detecting rat wins medal for bravery

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A rat has been given a distinguished award for bravery for his services to humanity. The valiant rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of duty sniffing out dozens of landmines in Cambodia. He was bestowed the award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals charity. This is a veterinary charity based in the United Kingdom. The charity explained why Magawa was recognised for his courage. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to raise the status of animals in society and honour the incredible contribution they make to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and deserve the highest possible recognition."

Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was used in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the creatures best suited to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a keen sense of smell. In his seven-year stint on the front line, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to clear more than 141,000 square meters of land - an area roughly the size of 20 soccer pitches. This makes him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine detection. The charity's chairman said: "This is the very first time in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable for comment.

Sources: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/rat-awarded-medal-for-sniffing-out-dozens-of-landmines/ar-BB19qqSr>
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/09/25/rat-magawa-gets-pdsa-gold-medal-detecting-landmines-cambodia/3528457001/>
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/12763506/rat-sniffed-out-boms-animal-george-cross/>

WARM-UPS

1. BRAVERY: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about bravery. 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?

rat / award / rodent / duty / charity / courage / status / animals / recognition / skill / programme / creatures / landmines / size / soccer pitch / history / interview / medal

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

3. MEDALS: Students A **strongly** believe medals are good ways of rewarding people (and rats); Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ANIMALS: How can these creatures help us? How effective would they be? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Help	Effectiveness
Elephants		
Ants		
Dolphins		
Eagles		
Cats		
Camels		

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

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

- Bravery
- Empathy
- Intelligence
- Determination
- Honesty
- Cheerfulness
- Punctuality
- Loyalty

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. distinguished | a. A gnawing mammal that includes rats, mice, squirrels, hamsters and porcupines. |
| 2. valiant | b. Strength in the face of pain or grief. |
| 3. rodent | c. Successful, authoritative, and commanding great respect. |
| 4. duty | d. Possessing or showing courage or determination. |
| 5. bestowed | e. A task or action that someone is required to perform. |
| 6. courage | f. Gave or presented an honor, right, or gift. |
| 7. deserve | g. Do something or have or show qualities worthy of reward or punishment. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8. suited | h. A thing made or adapted for a particular purpose, especially a piece of mechanical or electronic equipment. |
| 9. detect | i. Right, best or appropriate for a particular person, purpose, or situation. |
| 10. keen | j. A fixed or allotted period of work. |
| 11. stint | k. Showing high respect; great esteem. |
| 12. device | l. Discover or identify the presence or existence of something or someone. |
| 13. honouring | m. A verbal or written remark expressing an opinion or reaction. |
| 14. comment | n. Highly developed. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

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

- a. A rat was awarded for its services to humanity. **T / F**
- b. The rat spent a total of seven months helping to clear landmines. **T / F**
- c. The award was given by an animal charity based in Thailand. **T / F**
- d. A charity said the rat deserved the highest possible recognition. **T / F**
- e. The rat was chosen because of its ability to smell. **T / F**
- f. The rat helped to find 28 landmines and 39 unexploded devices. **T / F**
- g. The awarding charity first started over seven decades ago. **T / F**
- h. Reporters actually interviewed the rat to get a comment. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. valiant | a. merit |
| 2. sniffing | b. offering |
| 3. status | c. praising |
| 4. contribution | d. smelling |
| 5. deserve | e. discover |
| 6. creatures | f. standing |
| 7. detect | g. shift |
| 8. stint | h. statement |
| 9. honoring | i. brave |
| 10. comment | j. animals |

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. services | a. contribution they make |
| 2. raise | b. size of 20 soccer pitches |
| 3. the incredible | c. possible recognition |
| 4. dedication, skill | d. for comment |
| 5. deserve the highest | e. sense of smell |
| 6. creatures best suited to | f. and bravery |
| 7. have a keen | g. in our 77-year history |
| 8. an area roughly the | h. the status of animals |
| 9. the very first time | i. safely detect landmines |
| 10. he was unavailable | j. to humanity |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A rat has been given a distinguished (1) _____ for bravery for his services to humanity. The (2) _____ rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of (3) _____ sniffing out dozens of landmines in Cambodia. He was (4) _____ the award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (5) _____. This is a veterinary charity based in the United Kingdom. The charity explained why Magawa was recognised for his (6) _____. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to raise the status of animals in society and honour the (7) _____ contribution they make to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and (8) _____ the highest possible recognition."

duty
charity
incredible
bestowed
award
deserve
valiant
courage

Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was used in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the (9) _____ best suited to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a (10) _____ sense of smell. In his seven-year (11) _____ on the front line, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to (12) _____ more than 141,000 square meters of land - an area (13) _____ the size of 20 soccer pitches. This makes him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine (14) _____. The charity's chairman said: "This is the very first time in our 77-year (15) _____ of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable for (16) _____.

detection
keen
clear
comment
history
creatures
roughly
stint

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

- 1) a distinguished award for bravery for his _____
 - a. services to humanly
 - b. services to humanely
 - c. services to human tea
 - d. services to humanity
- 2) He was awarded a gold medal for his seven _____
 - a. years of duly
 - b. years of duty
 - c. years of due tea
 - d. years of dew tea
- 3) The charity explained why Magawa was recognised _____
 - a. for his courageous
 - b. for his encourage
 - c. for his courage
 - d. for his carriage
- 4) It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to raise the _____"
 - a. status of animals
 - b. statues of animals
 - c. stay test of animals
 - d. state us of animals
- 5) an extraordinary example of this and deserve the highest _____
 - a. possible recognition
 - b. possibly precognition
 - c. possible re-cog nation
 - d. possibly recognition
- 6) the mine-clearing programme because rats are the creatures _____
 - a. best suit it
 - b. best sue Ted
 - c. better sue Ted
 - d. best suited
- 7) to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a keen _____
 - a. sense of smell
 - b. scents of smell
 - c. sensible of smell
 - d. séance of smell
- 8) Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 _____
 - a. un explode it device
 - b. non-explode did devices
 - c. unexploded device
 - d. unexploded devices
- 9) 141,000 square meters of land - an area roughly the size of 20 _____
 - a. soccer pitch is
 - b. soccer pitches
 - c. soccer pitch as
 - d. soccer pitchers
- 10) Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable _____
 - a. for commented
 - b. four comment
 - c. for comment
 - d. four comments

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A rat has been given a distinguished (1) _____ for his services to humanity. The valiant rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years (2) _____ out dozens of landmines in Cambodia. He (3) _____ award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals charity. This is a veterinary (4) _____ the United Kingdom. The charity explained why Magawa was recognised for his courage. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to (5) _____ of animals in society and honour the incredible contribution they make to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and (6) _____ possible recognition."

Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was used in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the (7) _____ to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a (8) _____ smell. In his seven-year stint on (9) _____, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to clear more than 141,000 square meters of land - an (10) _____ size of 20 soccer pitches. This makes him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine detection. The charity's chairman said: "This is the (11) _____ in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

1. What is the name of the rodent?
2. What kind of medal did the rat win?
3. Where is the charity that gave the award based?
4. What does the charity want to raise the status of?
5. What did the charity say the rat deserved?
6. What do rats have a keen sense of?
7. How many landmines did the rat help to detect?
8. How many square metres did the rat help to clear of landmines?
9. How old is the charity?
10. What was the rat unavailable to do?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

- 1) What is the name of the rodent?
 - a) Mowgli
 - b) Magawa
 - c) Maga
 - d) Mega
- 2) What kind of medal did the rat win?
 - a) a heart-shaped medal
 - b) a cyber-medal
 - c) an edible medal
 - d) a gold medal
- 3) Where is the charity that gave the award based?
 - a) France
 - b) Thailand
 - c) the UK
 - d) Canada
- 4) What does the charity want to raise the status of?
 - a) animals
 - b) landmines
 - c) victims
 - d) Cambodia
- 5) What did the charity say the rat deserved?
 - a) a year off
 - b) the highest possible recognition
 - c) free food for life
 - d) lots more medals
- 6) What do rats have a keen sense of?
 - a) smell
 - b) taste
 - c) sight
 - d) danger
- 7) How many landmines did the rat help to detect?
 - a) 49
 - b) 32
 - c) 39
 - d) 28
- 8) How many square metres did the rat help to clear of landmines?
 - a) 141,000
 - b) 147,000
 - c) 149,000
 - d) 140,000
- 9) How old is the charity?
 - a) 74 years old
 - b) 79 years old
 - c) 70 years old
 - d) 77 years old
- 10) What was the rat unavailable to do?
 - a) pose for photos
 - b) sniff a landmine
 - c) comment
 - d) accept his medal

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

Role A – Bravery

You think bravery is the most important characteristic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their characteristics. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): empathy, intelligence or honesty.

Role B – Empathy

You think empathy is the most important characteristic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their characteristics. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): bravery, intelligence or honesty.

Role C – Intelligence

You think intelligence is the most important characteristic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their characteristics. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): empathy, bravery or honesty.

Role D – Honesty

You think honesty is the most important characteristic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their characteristics. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): empathy, intelligence or bravery.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

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

rat	bravery
------------	----------------

- 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">• services• duty• based• raise• incredible• deserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• used• keen• 39• 20• 77• tried
--	--

BRAVERY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bravery 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.

BRAVERY 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 'rat'?
3. What is your idea of bravery?
4. Have you ever received a reward?
5. What is the bravest thing you have ever done?
6. What's the bravest thing you've ever heard of?
7. What do you think of the rat getting an award?
8. What do you know about landmines in Cambodia?
9. How important is it that animals help us?
10. What other animals do we need to recognise?

Bomb-detecting rat wins medal for bravery – 28th September, 2020
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BRAVERY 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 'bravery'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Who is the bravest person you know?
15. What do you think of rats?
16. How dangerous are landmines?
17. What other things could rats help us do?
18. What three adjectives best describe this story?
19. How important is it to be brave?
20. What questions would you like to ask Magawa?

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/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A rat has been given a distinguished award for (1) _____ for his services to humanity. The valiant rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of (2) _____ sniffing out dozens of landmines in Cambodia. He was (3) _____ the award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals charity. This is a veterinary charity based in the United Kingdom. The charity explained why Magawa was (4) _____ for his courage. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to raise the status of animals in society and honour the incredible contribution they (5) _____ to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and (6) _____ the highest possible recognition."

Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was used in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the creatures best (7) _____ to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a (8) _____ sense of smell. In his seven-year stint on the front line, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to clear more than 141,000 square meters of land - an area (9) _____ the size of 20 soccer pitches. This (10) _____ him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine detection. The charity's chairman said: "This is the (11) _____ first time in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable for (12) _____.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) bravado | (b) bravery | (c) bribery | (d) brevity |
| 2. | (a) duly | (b) duty | (c) jury | (d) fury |
| 3. | (a) widowed | (b) browsed | (c) avowed | (d) bestowed |
| 4. | (a) sighted | (b) comprehended | (c) seen | (d) recognised |
| 5. | (a) have | (b) make | (c) do | (d) take |
| 6. | (a) conserve | (b) deserve | (c) reserve | (d) serve |
| 7. | (a) booted | (b) clothed | (c) suited | (d) costumed |
| 8. | (a) keep | (b) keel | (c) keen | (d) keyed |
| 9. | (a) violently | (b) regionally | (c) forcibly | (d) roughly |
| 10. | (a) makes | (b) tales | (c) takes | (d) fakes |
| 11. | (a) very | (b) real | (c) total | (d) too |
| 12. | (a) post | (b) say | (c) comment | (d) speech |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

Paragraph 1

1. given a ensiguihistdd award for bravery
2. The tnlavia rodent is called Magawa
3. He was edseobwt the award
4. recognised for his auerogc
5. an natarrdoixeyr example
6. desreve the highest possible recognition

Paragraph 2

7. rats are the uaeectsrr
8. best suited to safely etetcd landmines
9. 28 xepdudlneo devices
10. the size of 20 soccer shpicet
11. our 77-year history of hnrnoiog animals
12. ealiaulvban for comment

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () society and honour the incredible contribution they make to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill
- () and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and deserve the highest possible recognition."
- () charity. This is a veterinary charity based in the United Kingdom. The charity explained
- () of landmines in Cambodia. He was bestowed the award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals
- () detection. The charity's chairman said: "This is the very first time in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have
- () presented a medal to a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable for comment.
- () unexploded devices. He helped to clear more than 141,000 square meters of land - an area
- (**1**) A rat has been given a distinguished award for bravery for his services to humanity. The valiant
- () creatures best suited to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a keen sense
- () Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was used in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the
- () rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of duty sniffing out dozens
- () roughly the size of 20 soccer pitches. This makes him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine
- () why Magawa was recognised for his courage. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to raise the status of animals in
- () of smell. In his seven-year stint on the front line, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

1. distinguished rat award . given a A been has
2. of medal gold years his for A duty .
3. Cambodia . out dozens of Sniffing in landmines
4. charity UK . This a in based the is
5. to incredible The they our lives . contribution make
6. used mine-clearing was programme . He in the
7. to The detect safely landmines . suited creatures best
8. pitches . An 20 size the soccer of area
9. makes This the rodent . him successful most
10. medal We to a rat . a presented have

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A rat has been given a *distinguished / distinguish* award for bravery for his services to humanity. The *vacuum / valiant* rodent is called Magawa. He was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of *duty / duly* sniffing out dozens of landmines in Cambodia. He *was / has* bestowed the award by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals charity. This is a veterinary charity *basted / based* in the United Kingdom. The charity explained *why / what* Magawa was recognised for his *entourage / courage*. It wrote: "The PDSA...seeks to *rise / raise* the status of animals in society and honour the incredible contribution they *make / did* to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary *specimen / example* of this and deserve the highest possible recognition."

Magawa is an African Giant Pouched Rat. He was *use / used* in the mine-clearing programme because rats are the *creatures / creature* best *suited / clothed* to safely detect landmines. They are light and have a *acute / keen* sense of smell. In his seven-year stint on the *back / front* line, Magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to clear more than 141,000 square meters of land - an area *rough / roughly* the size of 20 soccer pitches. This *means / makes* him the most successful rodent in the *history / historian* of landmine detection. The charity's chairman said: "This is the very *first / last* time in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal *of / to* a rat." Reporters tried to interview Magawa but he was unavailable for *post / comment*.

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/2009/200928-bravery.html>

A r_t h_s b__ n g_v_n _ d_s t_n g__ s h_d _w_r d
f_r b_r_v_r_y f_r h_s s_r v_c_s t_ h_m_n_t_y . Th_
v_l__ n t r_d_n t _s c_l_l_d M_g_w_. H_ w_s _w_r
d_d _ g_l_d m_d_l f_r h_s s_v_n y__ r_s f_d_t_y
s_n_f_f_n_g __ t d_z_n_s _f l_n d m_n_s _n C_m b_d__
. H_ w_s b_s t_w_d th_ _w_r d b_y th_ P__ p_l_'s
D_s p_n s_r_y f_r S_c_k A_n_m_l_s c_h_r_t_y . Th_s
_s _ v_t_r_n_r_y c_h_r_t_y b_s_d _n th_ U_n_t_d
K_n g_d_m . Th_ c_h_r_t_y _x_p_l__ n_d w_h_y M_g_w_
w_s r_c_g_n_s_d f_r h_s c__ r_g_. It w_r_t_: " T
h_ P D S A . . . s__ k_s t_ r__ s_ th_ s t_t_s _f
_n_m_l_s _n s_c__ t_y _n_d h_n__ r th_ _n c_r_d_b_l_
c_n t_r_b_t__ n th_y m_k_ t__ r l_v_s . M_g_w_'s
d_d_c_t__ n , s_k_l_l _n_d b_r_v_r_y _r__ n _x_t_r__ r
d_n_r_y _x_m_p_l_ _f th_s _n_d d_s_r_v_ th_ h_g h_s
t p_s_s_b_l_ r_c_g_n_t__ n . "

M_g_w_ _s _n A_f_r_c_n G__ n_t P__ c_h_d R_t . H_
w_s _s_d _n th_ m_n_-c_l__ r_n_g p_r_g_r_m_m_
b_c__ s_r_t_s _r_ th_ c_r__ t_r_s b_s t_s__ t_d t_
s_f_l_y d_t_c_t l_n d m_n_s . Th_y _r_ l_g_h_t _n_d
h_v_ _ k__ n s_n_s _f s_m_l_l . In h_s s_v_n - y__
r_s t_n_t _n th_ f_r_n_t l_n_ , M_g_w_ h_l_p_d t_
d_t_c_t 39 l_n d m_n_s _n_d 28 _n_x_p_l_d_d
d_v_c_s . H_ h_l_p_d t_ c_l__ r m_r_ th_n 141,0
00 s_q__ r_m_t_r_s _f l_n_d - _n _r__ r__ g_h_l_y
th_ s_z_ _f 20 s_c_c_r_p_t_c_h_s . Th_s m_k_s
h_m th_ m_s_t s_c_c_s_s_f_l_r_d_n_t _n th_ h_s_t_r
y _f l_n d m_n_ d_t_c_t__ n . Th_ c_h_r_t_y's c_h__
r_m_n s__ d: " Th_s _s th_ v_r_y f_r_s_t t_m__ n
__ r 77 - y__ r h_s_t_r_y _f h_n_r_n_g _n_m_l_s t
h_t w_ h_v_ p_r_s_n_t_d _m_d_l t__ r_t . " R_p_r
t_r_s t_r__ d t_ _n t_r_v__ w M_g_w_ b_t h_ w_s
_n_v__ l_b_l_ f_r c_m_m_n_t .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

a rat has been given a distinguished award for bravery for his services to humanity the valiant rodent is called magawa he was awarded a gold medal for his seven years of duty sniffing out dozens of landmines in cambodia he was bestowed the award by the peoples dispensary for sick animals charity this is a veterinary charity based in the united kingdom the charity explained why magawa was recognised for his courage it wrote the pdsaseeks to raise the status of animals in society and honour the incredible contribution they make to our lives magawas dedication skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and deserve the highest possible recognition

magawa is an african giant pouched rat he was used in the mineclearing programme because rats are the creatures best suited to safely detect landmines they are light and have a keen sense of smell in his sevenyear stint on the front line magawa helped to detect 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices he helped to clear more than 141000 square meters of land an area roughly the size of 20 soccer pitches this makes him the most successful rodent in the history of landmine detection the charitys chairman said this is the very first time in our 77year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat reporters tried to interview magawa but he was unavailable for comment

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery.html>

Arathasbeengivenadistinguishedawardforbraveryforhisservicestohumanity.ThevaliantrodentiscalledMagawa.Hewasawardedagoldmedalforhissevenyearsofdutysniffingoutdozensof landminesinCambodia.HewasbestowedtheawardbythePeople'sDispensaryforSickAnimalscharity.This isaveterinarycharitybasedintheUnitedKingdom.ThecharityexplainedwhyMagawawasrecognisedforhiscourage.Itwrote:"ThePDSA...seekstoraisethestatusofanimalsinsocietyandhonourtheircrediblecontributiontheymaketoourlives.Magawa'sdedication,skillandbraveryareanextraordinaryexampleofthisanddeservethehighestpossible recognition."MagawaisanAfricanGiantPouchedRat.Hewasusedinthemine-clearingprogrammebecause ratsarethecreaturesbestsuitedtosafelydetectlandmines.Theyarelightandhaveakeensenseofsmell.Inhisseven-yearstintonthefrontline,Magawahelpedtodetect39landminesand28unexplodeddevices.Hehelpedtoclearmorethan141,000squaremetersofland-anarearoughlythesizeof20soccerpitches.This makeshimthemostsuccessfulrodentinthehistoryoflandminedetection.Thecharity'schairmansaid:"Thisistheveryfirsttimeinour77-yearhistoryofhonouringanimalsthatwehavepresentedamedaltoarat."ReporterstriedtointerviewMagawabutthewasunavailableforcomment.

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

4. MEDALS: Write a magazine article about giving more medals to animals. 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 bravery. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on what bravery is. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Magawa
2. A gold medal
3. The UK
4. Animals
5. The highest possible recognition
6. Smell
7. 39
8. 141,000
9. 77 years old
10. Comment

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A rat has been given a distinguished award.
2. A gold medal for his years of duty.
3. Sniffing out dozens of landmines in Cambodia.
4. This is a charity based in the UK.
5. The incredible contribution they make to our lives.
6. He was used in the mine-clearing programme.
7. The creatures best suited to safely detect landmines.
8. An area the size of 20 soccer pitches.
9. This makes him the most successful rodent.
10. We have presented a medal to a rat.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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 ;-)