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## **Level 4**

### **Research shows dogs used to be more like cats**

**21st August, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150821-dogs-4.html>

## **Contents**

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150821-dogs-4.html>

Research says climate change changed dogs from animals resembling cats to how they look today. Researchers say that 40 million years ago, dogs ambushed their prey like cats. The changing climate reduced the amount of forests in North America, so the shape and habits of dogs changed. New grasslands meant dogs had fewer places to hide to ambush their prey. They changed their hunting styles and grew longer legs.

Scientists looked at how dogs changed by looking at the elbows and teeth of species that lived up to 40 million years ago. The dogs' elbows and teeth clearly showed evolutionary change. Dogs used to have elbows like those of cats. The front paws swivelled so they could grab their prey. Elbows changed in dogs to let them run farther. This meant they could chase their prey over long distances.

The teeth in dogs became harder so they could hold on to prey.

Sources: <http://www.irisht Examiner.com/examviral/science-world/so-it-turns-out-dogs-used-to-be-quite-similar-to-cats-348926.html>  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3202370/How-climate-change-shaped-DOGS-Man-s-best-friend-cat-like-North-America-hotter-covered-forests.html>  
<http://www.pressexaminer.com/new-discovery-shows-that-dogs-used-to-look-more-like-cats/42298>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150821-dogs-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. climate                    | a. to hide     |
| 2. animals resembling         | b. longer legs |
| 3. dogs ambushed their prey   | c. of forests  |
| 4. reduced the amount         | d. change      |
| 5. fewer places               | e. styles      |
| 6. ambush their               | f. cats        |
| 7. They changed their hunting | g. like cats   |
| 8. grew                       | h. prey        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Scientists looked at how | a. to 40 million years ago |
| 2. elbows and               | b. paws                    |
| 3. species that lived up    | c. long distances          |
| 4. evolutionary             | d. farther                 |
| 5. front                    | e. dogs changed            |
| 6. let them run             | f. harder                  |
| 7. chase their prey over    | g. teeth                   |
| 8. The teeth in dogs became | h. change                  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150821-dogs-4.html>

Research says climate change changed dogs from (1) \_\_\_\_\_ cats to how they look today. Researchers say that (2) \_\_\_\_\_, dogs ambushed (3) \_\_\_\_\_ cats. The changing climate (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of forests in North America, so the shape (5) \_\_\_\_\_ changed. New grasslands meant dogs had fewer places to hide to ambush their prey. They changed their hunting styles and (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Scientists looked at how dogs changed (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the elbows and teeth of species (8) \_\_\_\_\_ 40 million years ago. The dogs' elbows and teeth clearly showed (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Dogs used to have elbows like those of cats. (10) \_\_\_\_\_ swivelled so they could grab their prey. Elbows changed in (11) \_\_\_\_\_ run farther. This meant they could chase their prey (12) \_\_\_\_\_. The teeth in dogs became harder so they could hold on to prey.

# DOGS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150821-dogs-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dogs 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*Research shows dogs used to be more like cats – 21st August, 2015*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

