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**Level 4 – 28th September, 2020**

## **Bomb-detecting rat wins medal for bravery**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.html>

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**Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.html>

A rat got an award for bravery. The brave rodent is called Magawa. He got a gold medal for his seven years of sniffing out landmines in Cambodia. He was given the award by an animal charity. It explained why Magawa was recognised for his courage. It wrote: "[We] seek to honour the incredible contribution [animals] make to our lives. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and deserve the highest possible recognition."

Rats are the creatures best suited to safely detect landmines. They are light and can smell well. In his seven years of work, Magawa found 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to clear an area the size of 20 soccer pitches. He is the most successful rat in the history of landmine detection. The charity said: "This is the very first time in our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have presented a medal to a rat."

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/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The brave                | a. and bravery          |
| 2. seven years of sniffing  | b. an animal charity    |
| 3. given the award by       | c. possible recognition |
| 4. Magawa was recognised    | d. rodent               |
| 5. honour the incredible    | e. for his courage      |
| 6. dedication, skill        | f. of this              |
| 7. an extraordinary example | g. contribution         |
| 8. deserve the highest      | h. out landmines        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Rats are the creatures | a. unexploded devices   |
| 2. safely detect          | b. animals              |
| 3. They are light and can | c. of 20 soccer pitches |
| 4. 39 landmines and 28    | d. best suited          |
| 5. an area the size       | e. 77-year history      |
| 6. landmine               | f. landmines            |
| 7. in our                 | g. detection            |
| 8. honouring              | h. smell well           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.html>

A rat (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for bravery. The brave rodent is called Magawa. He got a gold medal for his seven years (2) \_\_\_\_\_ landmines in Cambodia. He was given the award by (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It explained why Magawa was recognised (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It wrote: "[We] seek to honour the incredible contribution [animals] make (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Magawa's dedication, skill and bravery are an extraordinary example of this and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ possible recognition."

Rats are the creatures (7) \_\_\_\_\_ safely detect landmines. They are light and (8) \_\_\_\_\_. In his seven years of work, Magawa found 39 landmines and 28 unexploded devices. He helped to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the size of 20 soccer pitches. He is the most successful rat in (10) \_\_\_\_\_ landmine detection. The charity said: "This is the very (11) \_\_\_\_\_ our 77-year history of honouring animals that we have (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to a rat."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.html>

Aratgotanawardforbravery.ThebraverodentiscalledMagawa.Hegota  
goldmedalforhissevenyearsofsniffingoutlandminesinCambodia.He  
wasgiventheawardbyananimalcharity.ItexplainedwhyMagawawasr  
ecognisedforhiscourage.Itwrote:"[We]seektohonourtheincrediblec  
ontribution[animals]maketoourlives.Magawa'sdedication,skillandb  
raveryareanextraordinaryexampleofthisanddeservethehighestposs  
iblerecognition."Ratsarethecreaturesbestsuitedtosafelydetectland  
mines.Theyarelightandcansmellwell.Inhissevenyearsofwork,Maga  
wafound39landminesand28unexplodeddevices.Hehelpedtoclearan  
areathesizeof20soccerpitches.Heisthemostsuccessfulratinthehistor  
yoflandminedetection.Thecharitysaid:"Thisistheveryfirsttimeinour  
77yearhistoryofhonouringanimalsthatwehavepresentedamedaltoar

a

t."

# BRAVERY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200928-bravery-4.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.

## 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) \_\_\_\_\_

