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Level 6 – 16th April, 2021

World's longest rabbit is 'rabbitnapped'

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits has been stolen from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he measures 129cm in length. Police say he was abducted from his pen late Saturday evening. Local police said in a statement: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in the garden of the property of its owners overnight on Saturday. We are appealing for information following the theft." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the safe return of her beloved pet. She pleaded for his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old to be bred.

Darius' disappearance comes amid a spike in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made an impassioned appeal to those who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an individual that can't be replaced, and it's just so upsetting because he is such a loveable character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile case as the animal was a celebrity in England and has made dozens of TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a potential "ulterior motive," and that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "vile crime" and promised to crack down on it.

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2021/04/13/bunny-missing-england-police-say-giant-rabbit-stolen/7208440002/>
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/apr/12/worlds-biggest-rabbit-stolen-from-home-in-worcestershire>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/worlds-biggest-rabbit-stolen-b1830420.html>

WARM-UPS

1. RABBITS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about rabbits. 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?

rabbit / home / record / nose / tail / stolen / garden / information / owner / pet / coronavirus / pandemic / individual / high-profile / TV / criminals / commercial

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

3. PUNISHMENTS: Students A **strongly** believe pet thieves should receive very long prison sentences; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. GUINNESS RECORDS: What do you think these record animals might be? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Animal	What?	Why?
Cutest		
Most dangerous		
Most useful		
Laziest		
Most fun		
Best pet		

5. NOSE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "nose". 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 at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Rabbit
- Horse
- Dog
- Goldfish
- Cat
- Tortoise
- Parrot
- Beetle

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. abducted | a. The action or crime of stealing. |
| 2. pen | b. A building or buildings and the land belonging to it or them. |
| 3. property | c. A small enclosure in which sheep, pigs, cattle, or other domestic animals are kept. |
| 4. appealing | d. (of an animal) made to produce young for commercial or other reasons. |
| 5. theft | e. Taken someone away illegally by force or deception; kidnap. |
| 6. distraught | f. Making a serious or urgent request, typically to the public. |
| 7. bred | g. Deeply upset and troubled. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 8. spike | h. Having or showing the capacity to become or develop into something in the future. |
| 9. impassioned | i. Extremely unpleasant. |
| 10. made off with | j. A hidden or secret reason for something. |
| 11. potential | k. Filled with or showing great emotion. |
| 12. ulterior motive | l. Take severe measures or actions against something. |
| 13. vile | m. A sharp increase in the scale or concentration of something. |
| 14. crack down on | n. Stole or took away. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

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

- a. The world's largest rabbit was stolen from the continent. **T / F**
- b. The rabbit is 1.29 metres long from its tail to its nose. **T / F**
- c. The rabbit was stolen from a high-class pet shop last week. **T / F**
- d. There is a \$2.7 million reward for the rabbit's safe return. **T / F**
- e. The article says there has been a recent spike in rabbit thefts in the UK. **T / F**
- f. The rabbit was a celebrity in the UK and had been on TV. **T / F**
- g. The police think organized criminals may have stolen the rabbit. **T / F**
- h. The UK's policing minister promised to tackle animal theft. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. current | a. secret |
| 2. abducted | b. upset |
| 3. appealing | c. precious |
| 4. distraught | d. made off with |
| 5. beloved | e. reason |
| 6. spike | f. present |
| 7. celebrity | g. nasty |
| 8. ulterior | h. increase |
| 9. motive | i. star |
| 10. vile | j. begging |

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

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. the current Guinness record | a. an impassioned appeal |
| 2. From nose to tail, | b. a spike in pet thefts |
| 3. We are appealing | c. criminals |
| 4. a \$2,750 reward for the safe | d. he measures 129cm |
| 5. Darius' disappearance comes amid | e. motive |
| 6. Darius' owner has made | f. down on it |
| 7. upsetting because he is such a | g. holder |
| 8. the abductors have a potential ulterior | h. loveable character |
| 9. it could be the work of organized | i. for information |
| 10. promised to crack | j. return of her beloved pet |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits has been stolen from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the (1) _____ Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he measures 129cm in (2) _____. Police say he was abducted from his pen late Saturday evening. Local police said in a statement: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its (3) _____ in the garden of the property of its owners (4) _____ on Saturday. We are appealing for information following the (5) _____." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 (6) _____ for the safe return of her beloved pet. She (7) _____ for his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old to be (8) _____.

Darius' disappearance comes amid a (9) _____ in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made an impassioned (10) _____ to those who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an (11) _____ that can't be replaced, and it's just so upsetting because he is such a (12) _____ character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile case as the animal was a (13) _____ in England and has made dozens of TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a (14) _____ "ulterior motive," and that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial (15) _____. The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "(16) _____ crime" and promised to crack down on it.

overnight

pleaded

current

theft

bred

enclosure

reward

length

loveable

vile

appeal

celebrity

value

spike

individual

potential

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

- 1) Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current _____
 - a. Guinness record beholder
 - b. Guinness wreck cord holder
 - c. Guinness wreck chord holder
 - d. Guinness record holder
- 2) From nose to tail, he measures _____
 - a. 129cm on length
 - b. 129cm in length
 - c. 129cm of length
 - d. 129cm at length
- 3) It is believed the rabbit was stolen _____
 - a. from its sin closure
 - b. from its Zen closure
 - c. from it sent closure
 - d. from its enclosure
- 4) We are appealing for information _____
 - a. following the theft
 - b. following the thief
 - c. following the thiefe
 - d. following the deft
- 5) and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old _____
 - a. to be bred
 - b. to be bread
 - c. to be bled
 - d. to be braid
- 6) Every animal is an individual that _____
 - a. can't be replace
 - b. can't be rip placed
 - c. can't be reap laced
 - d. can't be replaced
- 7) The police said Darius' abduction was a _____
 - a. height-profile case
 - b. hi-profile case
 - c. hype-profile case
 - d. high-profile case
- 8) They believe the abductors have a potential _____
 - a. ulterior motif
 - b. ulterior moat tiff
 - c. ulterior motive
 - d. ulterior emotive
- 9) and that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew _____
 - a. his commercial valued
 - b. his commercial values
 - c. his commercial valuer
 - d. his commercial value
- 10) The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft _____
 - a. a "file crime"
 - b. a "vile crime"
 - c. a "bile crime"
 - d. a "rile crime"

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits (1) _____ from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From (2) _____, he measures 129cm in length. Police say he was abducted from his pen late Saturday evening. Local police said (3) _____: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in the garden of the property of its (4) _____ Saturday. We are appealing for information following the theft." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the (5) _____ her beloved pet. She pleaded for his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old (6) _____.

Darius' disappearance comes (7) _____ in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made an impassioned (8) _____ who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an individual that can't be replaced, and it's just so upsetting because he is (9) _____ character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile case as the animal was a celebrity in England and has (10) _____ TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a potential (11) _____ that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "vile crime" and promised (12) _____ on it.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

1. What kind of rabbit is the one that was stolen?
2. How long is the rabbit?
3. How much is the reward that is on offer for the return of the rabbit?
4. How does the rabbit's owner feel about the theft of her rabbit?
5. What did the rabbit's owner say he is too old to do?
6. What did the rabbit's owner call every animal?
7. What has the rabbit made dozens of?
8. What kind of motive do police think the abductors had?
9. What did the UK's policing minister call animal theft?
10. What did the UK's policing minister say he would do?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

- 1) What kind of rabbit is the one that was stolen?
 - a) a Netherland dwarf rabbit
 - b) a pygmy rabbit
 - c) a continental giant rabbit
 - d) a Mexican cottontail
- 2) How long is the rabbit?
 - a) 129cm
 - b) 192cm
 - c) 291cm
 - d) 912cm
- 3) How much is the reward that is on offer for the return of the rabbit?
 - a) \$2,570
 - b) \$7,250
 - c) \$5,720
 - d) \$2,750
- 4) How does the rabbit's owner feel about the theft of her rabbit?
 - a) pleading
 - b) distraught
 - c) impassioned
 - d) beloved
- 5) What did the rabbit's owner say he is too old to do?
 - a) run
 - b) live outdoors
 - c) breed
 - d) be a pet
- 6) What did the rabbit's owner call every animal?
 - a) cute
 - b) an individual
 - c) precious
 - d) loveable
- 7) What has the rabbit made dozens of?
 - a) young
 - b) happy hearts
 - c) holes in the garden
 - d) TV appearances
- 8) What kind of motive do police think the abductors had?
 - a) a clear motive
 - b) an ulterior motive
 - c) a strong motive
 - d) a selfish motive
- 9) What did the UK's policing minister call animal theft?
 - a) a vile crime
 - b) unacceptable
 - c) heart-breaking
 - d) sad
- 10) What did the UK's policing minister say he would do?
 - a) start a security company
 - b) protect rabbits
 - c) find the rabbit
 - d) crack down on animal theft

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

Role A – Rabbits

You think rabbits are the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which are 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 are the worst of these (and why): rabbits, 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 are the worst of these (and why): goldfish, rabbits 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 are the worst of these (and why): goldfish, parrots or rabbits.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

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

giant	rabbit

- 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">• largest• current• pen• garden• information• safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• during• appeal• such• dozens• knew• vile
---	---

RABBITS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rabbits 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.

RABBITS 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 'giant'?
3. What do you think of rabbits?
4. Are there any creatures on Earth that are cuter than rabbits?
5. What kind of pets do rabbits make?
6. What part do rabbits play in your culture?
7. What do you think of a 129cm-long rabbit?
8. What do you know about rabbits?
9. Why might someone have stolen the rabbit?
10. What do you think the life of a rabbit is like?

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RABBITS 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 'rabbit'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What can we do to stop people from stealing pets?
15. What are the good and bad things about being a rabbit?
16. What dangers do rabbits have to face?
17. What celebrity rabbits do you know of?
18. What do you think has happened to the rabbit?
19. What should the punishment be for rabbitnapping?
20. What questions would you like to ask the rabbit's owner?

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/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits has been (1) _____ from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current Guinness record (2) _____ as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he measures 129cm in length. Police say he was abducted from his (3) _____ late Saturday evening. Local police said in a statement: "It is (4) _____ the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in the garden of the property of its owners overnight on Saturday. We are (5) _____ for information following the theft." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the safe return of her beloved pet. She pleaded for his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old to be (6) _____.

Darius' disappearance comes amid a (7) _____ in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made an impassioned appeal (8) _____ those who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an individual that can't be replaced, and it's (9) _____ so upsetting because he is such a loveable character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile (10) _____ as the animal was a celebrity in England and has made dozens of TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a (11) _____ "ulterior motive," and that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "vile crime" and promised to (12) _____ down on it.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) steal | (b) stolen | (c) steals | (d) stealing |
| 2. | (a) behold | (b) holder | (c) holding | (d) holds |
| 3. | (a) marker | (b) ballpoint | (c) biro | (d) pen |
| 4. | (a) belief | (b) believed | (c) believer | (d) believing |
| 5. | (a) appalling | (b) appealing | (c) apparel | (d) application |
| 6. | (a) toast | (b) loaf | (c) bred | (d) slice |
| 7. | (a) speck | (b) spick | (c) spike | (d) spoke |
| 8. | (a) on | (b) of | (c) to | (d) at |
| 9. | (a) only | (b) simple | (c) easy | (d) just |
| 10. | (a) jacket | (b) container | (c) box | (d) case |
| 11. | (a) potential | (b) residence | (c) allergic | (d) contractual |
| 12. | (a) open | (b) fissure | (c) crack | (d) bang |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a nentntcoila giant rabbit
2. he was dacuetbd from his pen
3. the rabbit was stolen from its rnueoeslc
4. Darius' dhtrsugait owner
5. the safe return of her veodebl pet
6. She leeddpa for his safe return

Paragraph 2

7. made an nspdoaimies appeal
8. Every animal is an ddalinuvii
9. the animal was a etbecyrli
10. dozens of TV paaescprnea
11. have a potential rtoirelu motive
12. romlcmicea value

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a potential "ulterior motive," and that it could
- () pandemic. Darius' owner has made an impassioned appeal to those who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an
- () theft." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the safe return of her
- () individual that can't be replaced, and it's just so upsetting because he is such a loveable character." The police said Darius'
- (**1**) One of the world's largest rabbits has been stolen from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current
- () beloved pet. She pleaded for his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old to be bred.
- () of its owners overnight on Saturday. We are appealing for information following the
- () abduction was a high-profile case as the animal was a celebrity in England and has made dozens of
- () be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing
- () Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he measures 129cm in
- () Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "vile crime" and promised to crack down on it.
- () length. Police say he was abducted from his pen late Saturday evening. Local police said in a
- () Darius' disappearance comes amid a spike in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus
- () statement: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in the garden of the property

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

1. the world's rabbits stolen . was One of largest
2. as the The holder longest world's record rabbit .
3. from pen . was Police abducted he his say
4. information appealing for are We following the theft .
5. return pet . of for A the her reward
6. her with Those made off who rabbit .
7. was a celebrity England . The in animal
8. the abductors ulterior have motive . They an believe
9. criminals . could of work be the organized It
10. crime . police vile a called theft The animal

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits has been *stealing / stolen* from his home in England. Darius, a *continental / incontinent* giant rabbit, is the current Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he *measurements / measures* 129cm in length. Police say he was *redacted / abducted* from his *pen / pencil* late Saturday evening. Local police said in a statement: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its *enclosure / envelope* in the garden of the property of its owners overnight on Saturday. We are *appalling / appealing* for information following the theft." Darius' *draught / distraught* owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the safe return of her beloved pet. She pleaded *on / for* his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that Darius was too old to be *breed / bred*.

Darius' disappearance comes *mid / amid* a spike in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made an *impassioned / passionate* appeal to those who made *on / off* with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an individual that can't be replaced, and it's just so *upsetting / setting* because he is *such / so* a loveable character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile *bag / case* as the animal was a celebrity in England and has made *dozen / dozens* of TV appearances. They believe the abductors have a potential "ulterior motive," and that it could be the work *of / to* organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing Minister Kit Malthouse called animal theft a "*vile / file* crime" and promised to *crack up / down* on it.

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/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

n _f th_ w_rld's l_rg_st r_bb_ts h_s b__n st_l_n fr_m h_s h_m_ _n _ngl_nd. D_r__s, _ c_nt_n_nt_l g__nt r_bb_t, _s th_ c_rr_nt G__nn_ss r_c_rd h_ld_r _s th_ l_ng_st r_bb_t _n th_ w_rld. Fr_m n_s_ t_ t__l, h_ m__s_r_s 129cm _n l_ngth. P_l_c_ s_y h_ w_s _bd_ct_d fr_m h_s p_n l_t_ S_t_rd_y _v_n_ng. L_c_l p_l_c_ s__d _n _ st_t_m_nt: "_t _s b_l__v_d th_ r_bb_t w_s st_l_n fr_m _ts _ncl_s_r_ _n th_ g_rdn _f th_ pr_p_rty _f _ts _wn_rs _v_rn_ght _n S_t_rd_y. W_ _r_ _pp__l_ng f_r _nf_rmt__n f_ll_w_ng th_ th_ft." D_r__s' d_str__ght _wn_r h_s _ff_r_d _ \$2,750 r_w_rd f_r th_ s_f_ r_t_rn _f h_r b_l_v_d p_t. Sh_ pl_d_d f_r h_s s_f_ r_t_rn _nd t_ld th_ r_bb_tn_pp_rs th_t D_r__s w_s t__ _ld t_ b_ br_d.

D_r__s' d_s_pp__r_nc_ c_m_s _m_d _ sp_k_ _n p_t th_fts _n th_ _K d_r_ng th_ c_r_n_v_r_s p_nd_m_c. D_r__s' _wn_r h_s m_d_ _n _mp_ss__n_d _pp__l t_ th_s_ wh_ m_d_ _ff w_th h_r r_bb_t. Sh_ s__d: "_v_ry _n_m_l _s _n _nd_v_d__l th_t c_n't b_ r_pl_c_d, _nd _t's j_st s_ _ps_tt_ng b_c__s_ h_ _s s_ch _ l_v__bl_ ch_r_ct_r." Th_ p_l_c_ s__d D_r__s' _bd_ct__n w_s _ h_gh-pr_f_l_ c_s_ _s th_ _n_m_l w_s _ c_l_br_ty _n _ngl_nd _nd h_s m_d_ d_z_ns _f TV _pp__r_nc_s. Th_y b_l__v_ th_ _bd_ct_rs h_v_ _ p_t_nt__l "_lt_r__r m_t_v_," _nd th_t _t c__ld b_ th_ w_rk _f _rg_n_z_d cr_m_n_ls wh_ kn_w h_s c_mm_rc__l v_l___. Th_ _K's p_l_c_ng M_n_st_r K_t M_lth__s_ c_ll_d _n_m_l th_ft _ "v_l_ cr_m_" _nd pr_m_s_d t_ cr_ck d_wn _n _t.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

one of the worlds largest rabbits has been stolen from his home in england
darius a continental giant rabbit is the current guinness record holder as the
longest rabbit in the world from nose to tail he measures 129cm in length
police say he was abducted from his pen late saturday evening local police
said in a statement it is believed the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in
the garden of the property of its owners overnight on saturday we are
appealing for information following the theft darius distraught owner has
offered a 2750 reward for the safe return of her beloved pet she pleaded for
his safe return and told the rabbitnappers that darius was too old to be bred
darius disappearance comes amid a spike in pet thefts in the uk during the
coronavirus pandemic darius owner has made an impassioned appeal to
those who made off with her rabbit she said every animal is an individual
that cant be replaced and its just so upsetting because he is such a loveable
character the police said darius abduction was a highprofile case as the
animal was a celebrity in england and has made dozens of tv appearances
they believe the abductors have a potential ulterior motive and that it could
be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value the uks
policing minister kit malthouse called animal theft a vile crime and promised
to crack down on it

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210416-rabbit.html>

One of the world's largest rabbits has been stolen from his home in England. Darius, a continental giant rabbit, is the current Guinness record holder as the longest rabbit in the world. From nose to tail, he measures 129 cm in length. Police say he was abducted from his pen late Saturday evening. Local police said in a statement: "It is believed the rabbit was stolen from its enclosure in the garden of the property of its owners overnight on Saturday. We are appealing for information following the theft." Darius' distraught owner has offered a \$2,750 reward for the safe return of her beloved pet. She pleaded for his safe return and told the rabbit napper that Darius was too old to be bred. Darius' disappearance comes amid a spike in pet thefts in the UK during the coronavirus pandemic. Darius' owner has made a impassioned appeal to those who made off with her rabbit. She said: "Every animal is an individual that can't be replaced, and it's just so upsetting because he is such a loveable character." The police said Darius' abduction was a high-profile case as the animal was a celebrity in England and has made dozens of TV appearances. They believe the abductor has a potential "ulterior motive," and that it could be the work of organized criminals who knew his commercial value. The UK's policing minister Kit Malthouse called the animal theft a "vile crime" and promised to crack down on it.

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

4. PET THEFT: Write a magazine article about making sentences for pet theft the same as those for kidnapping. 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 rabbits. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on rabbits. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A continental giant rabbit
2. 129cm
3. \$2,750
4. Distraught
5. Breed
6. An individual
7. TV appearances
8. An ulterior motive
9. A vile crime
10. Crack down on animal theft

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. One of the world's largest rabbits was stolen.
2. The record holder as the world's longest rabbit.
3. Police say he was abducted from his pen.
4. We are appealing for information following the theft.
5. A reward for the return of her pet.
6. Those who made off with her rabbit.
7. The animal was a celebrity in England.
8. They believe the abductors have an ulterior motive.
9. It could be the work of organized criminals.
10. The police called animal theft a vile crime.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 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 ;-)