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Level 6 – 11th August 2025

Zoo asks for unwanted pets to feed to big cats

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual request to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited as part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the natural food chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing goes to waste, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" before being fed to other animals.

The zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be used as feed was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the opportunity to contribute." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was put down "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a tax deduction based on the animal's value.

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/08/04/europe/denmark-aalborg-zoo-pets-predators-intl-hnk>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/aug/04/danish-zoo-asks-pet-owners-to-donate-rabbits-and-horses-to-feed-its-predators>
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/denmark-zoo-donate-small-pets-horses-feed-captive-predators/>

WARM-UPS

1. ZOOS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about zoos. 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?

zoo / unusual request / donate / rabbits / horses / big cats / predators / food chain / guests / partners / euthanasia / protest / satisfied / calm / peaceful / list / tax

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

3. BANNED: Students A **strongly** believe zoos should be banned; Students B **strongly** believe they shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PREDATORS: What do you know about these predators? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Tiger		
Crocodile		
Hyena		
Eagle		
Python		
Giant squid		

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

- Rabbit
- Goldfish
- Dog
- Parrot
- Cat
- Hamster
- Horse
- Chicken

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. donate | a. A person or animal that lives in a place. |
| 2. exhibited | b. Give something to help someone or something. |
| 3. resident (noun) | c. Animals that kill and eat other animals. |
| 4. predators | d. Copy the way someone or something acts. |
| 5. imitate | e. Shown in public so people can see it. |
| 6. nutrition | f. Helped someone (or an animal) to die in a kind and gentle way (usually for animals). |
| 7. euthanized | g. The food needed to be healthy and grow. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8. feed (noun) | h. Feel happy or thankful for something. |
| 9. appreciate | i. Feeling happy with what you have or what happened. |
| 10. mixed reaction | j. Food for animals. |
| 11. put down | k. When some people like something and others do not. |
| 12. satisfied | l. People who give something to help. |
| 13. donors | m. Help an animal die because it is sick or not wanted. |
| 14. deduction | n. Money taken off the total amount you pay (for example, in taxes). |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

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

1. The article said a request made by a zoo was not at all unusual. **T / F**
2. The zoo wants unwanted horses so it can feed them to its big cats. **T / F**
3. The zoo doesn't want to waste even small creatures. **T / F**
4. The donated pets are put to sleep before they are killed. **T / F**
5. There is unanimous support for the zoo's request on social media. **T / F**
6. A horse owner was shocked because of how his horse was treated. **T / F**
7. There is a waiting list for people to donate their horses. **T / F**
8. Horse owners who donate their animals to the zoo can get a tax break. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. request | a. care |
| 2. exhibited | b. put to sleep |
| 3. imitate | c. tranquil |
| 4. well-being | d. put on display |
| 5. euthanized | e. discounting |
| 6. common | f. copy |
| 7. appreciate | g. widespread |
| 8. treatment | h. appeal |
| 9. calm | i. be grateful for |
| 10. deduction | j. welfare |

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual | a. of the zoo's collection |
| 2. guinea | b. down |
| 3. These will not be exhibited as part | c. and other predators |
| 4. food for the resident big cats | d. to be used as feed |
| 5. pets will be gently euthanized before being | e. based on the animal's value |
| 6. the practice of putting down animals | f. request to pet owners |
| 7. Some people felt sad about the | g. in helping the zoo |
| 8. He said his animal was put | h. euthanasia scheme |
| 9. There is so much interest | i. pigs |
| 10. Donors can even receive a tax deduction | j. fed to other animals |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual (1) _____ to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, (2) _____ pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be (3) _____ as part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the (4) _____ big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the natural food (5) _____ of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is (6) _____ because "nothing goes to (7) _____, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently (8) _____" before being fed to other animals.

practical
guinea
resident
euthanized
request
waste
exhibited
chain

The zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be used as (9) _____ was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners (10) _____ the opportunity to contribute." Regardless, there has been mixed (11) _____ on social media. Some people felt sad about the euthanasia (12) _____, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its (13) _____. He said his animal was put (14) _____ "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are (15) _____ lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a tax (16) _____ based on the animal's value.

appreciate
deduction
treatment
waiting
reaction
down
feed
scheme

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

- 1) Japan is often reported as having the _____
 - a. longest live expectancy
 - b. longest life expectancy
 - c. longest alive expectancy
 - d. longevity life expectancy
- 2) Japanese people live to be an average _____
 - a. of above 84
 - b. offer above 84
 - c. oft above 84
 - d. of abut 84
- 3) This has started a new fitness _____
 - a. friend on TikTok
 - b. trendy on TikTok
 - c. trend on TikTok
 - d. attend on TikTok
- 4) good for posture, blood circulation, lowering blood pressure, _____
 - a. and deducing stress
 - b. and reduce sin stress
 - c. and reduction stress
 - d. and reducing stress
- 5) It has also been linked to a lower _____
 - a. risk of dementia
 - b. risk off dementia
 - c. risky of dementia
 - d. risky off dementia
- 6) Japanese people might not know about the _____
 - a. team "Japanese Walking"
 - b. turn "Japanese Walking"
 - c. tarn "Japanese Walking"
 - d. term "Japanese Walking"
- 7) They conducted a study on high- and _____
 - a. low-intensity walking
 - b. low-in tent city walking
 - c. low-intensely walking
 - d. low-intensify walking
- 8) The recent worldwide popularity of the walking method is _____
 - a. dew to videos
 - b. due too videos
 - c. due to videos
 - d. due two videos
- 9) follow a simple exercise routine that had an easy- _____
 - a. to-remembers name
 - b. to-remember name
 - c. to-memory name
 - d. to-memorial name
- 10) He said he wanted "to make fitness advice _____
 - a. and scientific jar gone
 - b. and scientific ajar gone
 - c. and scientific judging
 - d. and scientific jargon

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

A zoo in Denmark has made (1) _____ to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, (2) _____, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be (3) _____ of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the (4) _____ of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing goes to waste, and we (5) _____ behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" (6) _____ to other animals.

The zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be (7) _____ was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the (8) _____." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad about (9) _____, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was put down "in the most (10) _____ way". There is so much (11) _____ the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a (12) _____ on the animal's value.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

1. To whom did a zoo appeal for unwanted pets?
2. What kinds of animals will end up eating the donated pets?
3. What does the zoo want to imitate?
4. What did the zoo say becomes wasted?
5. How are the donated pets put to death?
6. Who is appreciative of the chance to help the zoo?
7. How did some social media users feel about the euthanasia scheme?
8. How did a man feel about how his horse ended his days?
9. What is there a list to do at the zoo?
10. What can donors of horses get?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

- 1) To whom did a zoo appeal for unwanted pets?
 - a) other zoos
 - b) pet owners
 - c) pet shops
 - d) animal rescue shelters
- 2) What kinds of animals will end up eating the donated pets?
 - a) sea lions, otters and walruses
 - b) hungry ones
 - c) snakes and other reptiles
 - d) big cats and other predators
- 3) What does the zoo want to imitate?
 - a) the savannah
 - b) a zoo in Kenya
 - c) the animals' natural food chain
 - d) meat
- 4) What did the zoo say becomes wasted?
 - a) nothing
 - b) wasted
 - c) food
 - d) time
- 5) How are the donated pets put to death?
 - a) They are shot with a stun gun.
 - b) They are gently euthanized.
 - c) Something is put in their food.
 - d) They are given special drugs.
- 6) Who is appreciative of the chance to help the zoo?
 - a) the zoo's guests and partners
 - b) pet owners
 - c) zoo keepers
 - d) wildlife experts
- 7) How did some social media users feel about the euthanasia scheme?
 - a) nonplussed
 - b) excited
 - c) sad
 - d) angry
- 8) How did a man feel about how his horse ended his days?
 - a) satisfied
 - b) shocked
 - c) sad
 - d) terrible
- 9) What is there a list to do at the zoo?
 - a) Become a member
 - b) See the rarer animals
 - c) Visit
 - d) Donate horses
- 10) What can donors of horses get?
 - a) a smaller pet
 - b) an annual pass
 - c) a tax deduction
 - d) a special photo

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Role A – Rabbit

You think a rabbit is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these as pets (and why): a goldfish, a dog or a horse.

Role B – Goldfish

You think a goldfish is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these as pets (and why): a rabbit, a dog or a horse.

Role C – Dog

You think a dog is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these as pets (and why): a goldfish, a rabbit or a horse.

Role D – Horse

You think a horse is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these as pets (and why): a goldfish, a dog or a rabbit.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'pet' and 'food'.

pet	food

- 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">• longest• diet• reason• trend• repeat• linked	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• know• came• study• due• simple• lot
---	--

ZOOS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Write five GOOD questions about zoos 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.

ZOOS 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 'pet'?
3. What do you think of zoos?
4. What do you think of the zoo's request for unwanted pets?
5. Would you ever donate an unwanted pet to be used as food?
6. What else could the zoo do to get meat for its animals?
7. Should big cats be kept in zoos?
8. How important is it for zoo animals to be part of a natural food chain?
9. What does it mean to be gently euthanized?
10. What advice do you have for the zoo?

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ZOOS 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 'food'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of the practice of putting down animals?
15. What might the mixed reaction be on social media?
16. Is the scheme OK if the pet owners are happy?
17. What experiences of zoos do you have?
18. Will there always be zoos?
19. Will AI animals take over from real animals in zoos?
20. What questions would you like to ask the zoo?

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/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual (1) _____ to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such (2) _____ chickens, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited as part of the zoo's (3) _____. Instead, they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "(4) _____ imitate the natural food chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing (5) _____ to waste, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "(6) _____ euthanized" before being fed to other animals.

The zoo said that the practice (7) _____ putting down animals to be used as feed was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the opportunity to (8) _____." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who (9) _____ a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was (10) _____ down "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so much interest (11) _____ helping the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a (12) _____ deduction based on the animal's value.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) conquest | (b) bequest | (c) inquest | (d) request |
| 2. | (a) that | (b) has | (c) was | (d) as |
| 3. | (a) collects | (b) collection | (c) collect | (d) collecting |
| 4. | (a) for | (b) by | (c) to | (d) at |
| 5. | (a) takes | (b) gets | (c) goes | (d) fails |
| 6. | (a) gently | (b) genially | (c) greatly | (d) jauntily |
| 7. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) at | (d) as |
| 8. | (a) contribute | (b) demand | (c) humane | (d) peruse |
| 9. | (a) donates | (b) donated | (c) donating | (d) donation |
| 10. | (a) run | (b) get | (c) put | (d) turned |
| 11. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) in | (d) of |
| 12. | (a) taxing | (b) taxi | (c) taxed | (d) tax |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the resident big cats and other atorsrped
2. teitma the natural food chain
3. the unwanted small etarusecr
4. tninuirto and well-being
5. It eusrased people
6. pets will be gently aedunzieht

Paragraph 2

7. deyput director of the zoo
8. partners teeacrpai the opportunity
9. slredeasrg, there has been mixed reaction
10. itsedfias with its treatment
11. Donors can even receive a tax dcditoeun
12. seabd on the animal's value

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual request to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north
- () chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing goes to
- () felt sad about the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was
- () food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the natural food
- () in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the
- () lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a tax deduction based on the animal's value.
- () of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, guinea
- () opportunity to contribute." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people
- () pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited as part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become
- () predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" before being fed to other animals.
- () satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was put down "in the most peaceful and calm
- () The zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be used as feed was common
- () waste, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our
- () way". There is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

1. A request unusual zoo made Denmark an in .
2. It people donate to pets asked has unwanted .
3. They'll for food become big cats resident the .
4. It's chain food imitate attempting natural the to .
5. The gently be will pets donated euthanized .
6. Putting feed animals used be as down to .
7. There social has mixed media been on reaction .
8. Some euthanasia scheme people felt about the sad .
9. There's zoo the much helping interest in so .
10. Donors tax a deduction even can receive .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

A zoo in Denmark has made an *unusual* / *unusually* request to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north *off* / *of* the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited *has* / *as* part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the *residence* / *resident* big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "*for* / *to* imitate the *naturally* / *natural* food chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "*something* / *nothing* goes to waste, and we *ensure* / *sure* the natural behaviour, *nutritious* / *nutrition* and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" before being *fed* / *feeding* to other animals.

The zoo said that the practice of *put* / *putting* down animals to be used as feed was *common* / *commonly* in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our *gests* / *guests* and partners appreciate the opportunity to contribute." *Regarding* / *Regardless*, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad *for* / *about* the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated *the* / *a* horse to the zoo was satisfied with its *treat* / *treatment*. He said his animal was put down "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so *many* / *much* interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting lists *for* / *to* donate horses. Donors can even receive a *tax* / *taxi* deduction based on the animal's value.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

_ z__ _n D_nm_rk h_s m_d_ _n _n_s__l r_q__st t_ p_t _wn_rs. Th_ __lb_rg Z__ _n th_ n_rth _f th_ c__ntry h_s _sk_d p__pl_ t_ d_n_t_ _nw_nt_d p_ts, s_ch _s ch_ck_ns, g__n__ p_gs, r_bb_ts, _nd sm_ll h_rs_s. Th_s_ w_ll n_t b_ _xh_b_t_d _s p_rt _f th_ z__'s c_ll_ct__n. _nst_d, th_y w_ll b_c_m_ f__d f_r th_ r_s_d_nt b_g c_ts _nd _th_r pr_d_t_rs. Th_ z__ _s _tt_mpt_ng "t_ _m_t_t_ th_ n_t_r_l f__d ch__n _f th_ _n_m_ls". _t _dd_d th_t _s_ng th_ _nw_nt_d sm_ll cr__t_r_s _s f__d _s pr_ct_c_l b_c__s_ "n_th_ng g__s t_ w_st_, _nd w_ _ns_r_ th_ n_t_r_l b_h_v__r, n_tr_t__n _nd w_ll-b__ng _f __r pr_d_t_rs". _t r__ss_r_d p__pl_ th_t th_ d_n_t_d p_ts w_ll b_ "g_ntly __th_n_z_d" b_f_r_ b__ng f_d t_ _th_r _n_m_ls.

Th_ z__ s__d th_t th_ pr_ct_c_ _f p_tt_ng d_wn _n_m_ls t_ b_ _s_d _s f__d w_s c_mm_n _n D_nm_rk. P__ N__ls_n, d_p_ty d_r_ct_r _f th_ z__, s__d: "M_ny _f __r g__sts _nd p_rtn_rs _ppr_c__t_ th_ _pp_rtn_ty t_ c_ntr_b_t_." R_g_rdl_ss, th_r_ h_s b__n m_x_d r__ct__n _n s_c__l m_d__. S_m_ p__pl_ f_lt s_d _b__t th_ __th_n_s__ sch_m_, _nd w_nt_d t_ pr_t_st. H_w_v_r, _ m_n wh_ d_n_t_d _ h_rs_ t_ th_ z__ w_s s_t_sf__d w_th _ts tr__tm_nt. H_ s__d h_s _n_m_l w_s p_t d_wn "_n th_ m_st p__c_f_l _nd c_lm w_y". Th_r_ _s s_ m_ch _nt_r_st _n h_lp_ng th_ z__ th_t th_r_ _r w__t_ng l_sts t_ d_n_t_ h_rs_s. D_n_rs c_n _v_n r_c__v_ _ t_x d_d_ct__n b_s_d _n th_ _n_m_l's v_l__.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

a zoo in denmark has made an unusual request to pet owners the aalborg zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets such as chickens guinea pigs rabbits and small horses these will not be exhibited as part of the zoos collection instead they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators the zoo is attempting to imitate the natural food chain of the animals it added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because nothing goes to waste and we ensure the natural behaviour nutrition and wellbeing of our predators it reassured people that the donated pets will be gently euthanized before being fed to other animals

the zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be used as feed was common in denmark pia nielsen deputy director of the zoo said many of our guests and partners appreciate the opportunity to contribute regardless there has been mixed reaction on social media some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme and wanted to protest however a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment he said his animal was put down in the most peaceful and calm way there is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses donors can even receive a tax deduction based on the animals value

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Azoo in Denmark has made an unusual request to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited as part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the natural food chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing goes to waste, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" before being fed to other animals. The zoo said that the practice of putting down an animal to be used as feed was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the opportunity to contribute." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was put down "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a tax deduction based on the animal's value.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Write about **zoos** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250811-zoo-pet-food.html>

Zoos are essential to help conserve animals. Discuss.

[illegible]

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

4. PET FOOD: Write a magazine article about giving unwanted pets to zoos to be used for food for big cats. 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 zoos. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on zoos. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Pet owners
- Big cats and other predators
- The animals' natural food chain
- Nothing
- They are gently euthanized
- The zoo's guests and partners
- Sad
- Satisfied
- To donate horses
- A tax deduction

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- A zoo in Denmark made an unusual request.
- It has asked people to donate unwanted pets.
- They'll become food for the resident big cats.
- It's attempting to imitate the natural food chain.
- The donated pets will be gently euthanized.
- Putting down animals to be used as feed.
- There has been mixed reaction on social media.
- Some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme.
- There's so much interest in helping the zoo.
- Donors can even receive a tax deduction.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)