

READING

- 1 Look at the picture below. In pairs, write down three things you know about pandas. Read the article once to check your ideas.
- 2 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?
 - 1 The writer helped to look after giant pandas on her trip.
 - 2 It's possible to find wild pandas in several countries.
 - 3 Pandas only eat bamboo.
 - 4 Baby pandas are very light when they are born.
 - 5 Pandas start eating bamboo at the age of 18 months.
 - 6 Scientists know exactly how many wild pandas there are.
 - 7 It's possible to see a panda in Mexico.

Learning about the

GIANT PANDA

When I planned my trip to China, one of things I really wanted to do was to work at the Dujiangyan Panda Base in Chengdu. I spent seven days there, looking after the pandas, giving them food and cleaning their enclosures.

While I was there, I learned a lot about pandas. Wild pandas live in bamboo forests, high in the mountains of central China. In the past, they also lived in other parts of China and in Myanmar and Vietnam, but they don't any more. They spend about 12 hours a day eating bamboo, but they sometimes eat other plants or small animals. At Dujiangyan, we also gave them fruit, like apples, and special panda cakes made of rice, eggs and flour and other things.

Adult giant pandas weigh between 75 and 135 kilograms. Females usually only have one baby panda, or cub, at a time. The cubs only weigh about 85 grams when they are born! The little cub drinks milk for about four months and then begins to eat bamboo. Young pandas stay with their mothers for around 18 months.

Scientists think there are now between 1,500 and 2,000 pandas in the wild. This is a low number, but it's double what it was in the 1970s. The reason the number is going up is because of all the work scientists are doing at places like the Dujiangyan panda base in Chengdu. There are also about 325 pandas in zoos in a number of different countries, including the United States, Mexico, Japan and Germany.



VOCABULARY

Animals

- 3 Match the words in the box to the photos A-J. Listen and check. Then repeat.



dolphin	elephant	giraffe
monkey	parrot	penguin
polar bear	snake	
tiger	whale	

- 4 Answer the questions about the animals in Exercise 3.

- 1 Where do the animals come from?
- 2 Where do they live (sea, mountains, forest)?
- 3 Which are dangerous?
- 4 Look at each photo carefully. Are the animals in a zoo or are they wild?
- 5 How many other animals can you name in English?



TALKING POINTS

What are your five favourite animals?
 Why do you like them?
 How often do you go to zoos?
 Do you like them?

GRAMMAR

Verbs we don't usually use in the continuous

1 Complete the table with the verbs in the box.

believe	belong to	go	happen
hate	have	hope	know
like	love	mean	need
own	read	think	understand
walk	want	watch	write

Verbs that we use in the present continuous

go

Verbs that we don't usually use in the present continuous

believe

2 Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentences.

- 1 I *do* / *'m doing* my homework now, so I can't come to the park.
- 2 These books *belong* / *are belonging* to Simon.
- 3 I *like* / *'m liking* your hat, Tim. Can I try it on?
- 4 My dad can't take me to football practice because he *works* / *'s working* at the moment.
- 5 My mother *understands* / *'s understanding* some Italian, but she can't speak it very well.
- 6 *Do you know* / *Are you knowing* Rachel's brother? He's very funny.
- 7 I *'m looking for* / *look for* my new jacket. I can't find it anywhere.
- 8 I *don't own* / *'m not owning* this guitar. It's my sister's.

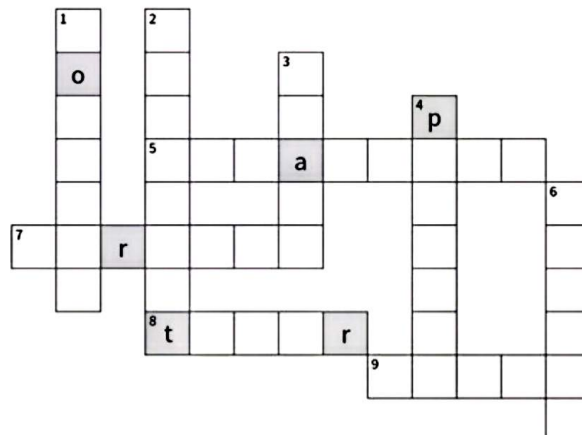
3 Correct the mistakes in three of the sentences. Which two are correct?

- 1 There is a concert on Saturday. I am wanting to go.
- 2 My parents are making dinner at the moment.
- 3 I think you are liking reading.
- 4 I don't understand this exercise.
- 5 We're wanting to tell you what we think of Rio de Janeiro.

VOCABULARY

Animals

1 Use the definitions and pictures below to complete the crossword.



Across

- 5 This large, heavy animal lives in a very cold part of the world.
- 7 This animal has a very long neck.
- 8 This animal lives in jungles, forests or in the mountains. It is a kind of large cat.
- 9 This animal doesn't have any legs.

Down

- 1 Picture B
- 2 Picture C
- 3 This sea animal is one of the largest animals in the world.
- 4 Picture A
- 6 Picture D

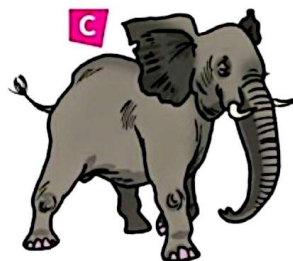
A



B



C



D



2 What animal do the letters in the grey boxes spell?