

REFERENCE TO THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH IS HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE.

REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH IS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW.

Always highlight time phrases (nowadays, these days, etc.)

\* Years (back in 1998, from 2000 onwards...), Chronology (first, since then, later, etc.)

Part 7

You are going to read an extract from a magazine article. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A – G the one which fits each gap (41 – 46). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Scottish Wildcat

On my living-room wall I have a painting of a wildcat by John Holmes of which I am extremely fond. It depicts a snarling, spitting animal, teeth bared and back arched: a taut coiled spring ready to unleash some unknown fury.

western Scotland. This is a cause for real concern, given that the animals in these areas have less contact with domestic cats and are therefore purer.

44

Part of the problem stems from the fact that the accepted physical description of the species originates from the selective nature of the examination process by the British Natural History Museum at the start of the century, and this has been used as the type-definition for the animal ever since. Animals that did not conform to that large blunt-tailed 'tabby' description were discarded as not being wildcats. In other words, an artificial collection of specimens was built up, exhibiting the features considered typical of the wildcat.

The current research aims to resolve this potential problem. It is attempting to find out whether there are any physical features which characterise the so-called wild-living cats.

45

But what of his lifestyle? Wildcat kittens are usually born in May/June in a secluded den, secreted in a gap amongst boulders. Another favourite location is in the roots of a tree.

46

Rabbits are a favourite prey, and some of the best areas to see wildcats are at rabbit warrens close to the forest and moorland edge. Mice, small birds and even insects also form a large part of the diet, and the animal may occasionally take young deer.

The wildcat is one of the Scottish Highlands' most exciting animals. Catch a glimpse of one and the memory will linger forever.

- D They probably used deciduous and coniferous woodland for shelter, particularly in winter, and hunted over more open areas such as forest edge, open woodland, thickets and scrub, grassy areas and marsh. The wildcat was probably driven into more mountainous areas by a combination of deforestation and persecution.
E As the animals emerge, their curiosity is aroused by every movement and rustle in the vegetation. Later they will accompany their mother on hunting trips, learning quickly, and soon become adept hunters themselves.
F This is what makes many people think that the wildcat is a species in its own right. Research currently being undertaken by Scottish Natural Heritage is investigating whether the wildcat really is distinct from its home-living cousin, or whether it is nothing more than a wild-living form of the domestic cat.
G It is a typical image most folk have of the beast, but it is very much a false one, for the wildcat is little more than a bigger version of the domestic cat, and probably shows his anger as often.

Where do they emerge from?
Emerge : to come out of something or out from behind something

WHAT DOES "THIS" REFER TO?

WHAT IMAGE?

WHAT PROBLEM?

WHAT RESULTS?

Always highlight pronouns before and after the gaps. (He, she, it, they, his, her, their, theirs, this, these, that, those, any, another, etc.) You can download a list here : http://www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com/tips-and-tricks.php

His: Possessive pronoun. It refers back to a noun from the previous paragraph.



Differences between what or whom?

However : contrast link. What comes after "However" contrasts with what was previously said.

\* We highlight years and time periods. The text may follow a chronological order.

Next paragraph may explain how things improved

Though : contrast link makes the previous statement seem surprising

Always highlight contrast links before and after the gaps. (However, although, (even) though, even so, despite, but, yet, whereas , etc.) Download a list here :http://www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com/open-cloze---vocabulary-list.php