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.

Differences between what or whom?

However: contrast link

What comes after

contrasts with what

vas previously said.

We highlight

time periods.

The text may

chronological

Next paragraph

may explain

how things

improved

vears and

follow a

order.

'However"

41

lowever, the physical differences are tangib The wildcat is a much larger animal, weighing in some cases up to seven kilos, the same as a typical male fox. The coat pattern is superficially similar to a domestic tabby cat but it is all stripes and no spots. The tail is thicker and blunter, with three to five black rings. The

The Scottish wildcat was originally distinguished as a separate subspecies in 1912, but it is now generally recognised that there is little difference between the Scottish and other European populations. According to an excellent report on the wildcat printed in 1991, the animals originally occurred in a variety of habitats throughout Europe.

animal has an altogether heavier look.

It was during the nineteenth century, with the establishment of many estates used by landowners for hunting, that the wildcat became a nuisance and its rapid decline really began; 198 wildcats were killed in three years in the area of Glengarry, for example. However, things were later to improve for the

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The future is by no means secure, though, and recent evidence suggests that the wildcat is particularly vulnerable to local eradication, especially in the remoter parts of northern and 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.

Part of the problem stems from the fact that the WHAT PROBLEM? 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.

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.

Though: contrast link makes the previous statement seem surprising

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.

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

Always highlight time phrases (nowadays, these days, etc.) Years (back in 1998, from 2000 onwards...),

F

G

Chronology (first, since then, later,etc.)

The recruitment of men to the armed forces during the conflict in Europe from 1914 to 1918 meant there was very little persecution, since gamekeepers went off to fight. As the number of gamekeepers decreased, the wildcat began to increase its range, recolonising many of its former haunts. Extinction was narrowly averted.

The wildcat waits for a while in rapt concentration, ears twitching and eves watching, seeing everything and hearing everything, trying to detect the tell-tale movement of a vole or a mouse. But there is nothing, and in another leap he disappears into the

The results, which are expected shortly WHAT RESULTS?

Always highlight pronouns before and after the gaps.

(He, she, it, they, his, her, their, theirs, this, these, that, those,

http://www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com/tips-and-tricks.php

any, another, etc.) You can download a list here :

will be fascinating. But anyone who has seen a wildcat will be in little doubt that there is indeed a unique and distinctive animal living in the Scottish Highlands, whatever his background.

D

WHAT/WHO ARE "THEY"?

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.

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.

his 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 homeliving cousin, or whether it is nothing more than a wild-living form of the domestic cat. WHAT IMAGE?

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?**

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH | SAMPLE PAPER 1

Always highlight contrast links before and after the gaps.

(However, although, (even) though, even so, despite, but, vet, whereas, etc.) Download a list here :http://www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com/open-cloze---vocabulary-list.php