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English B – Standard level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension
Anglais B – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension écrite
Inglés B – Nivel Medio – Prueba 2 – Comprensión de lectura

Monday 7 November 2022 (afternoon)

Lundi 7 novembre 2022 (après-midi)

Lunes 7 de noviembre de 2022 (tarde)

1 h

Text booklet – Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet accompanies paper 2 reading comprehension.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux candidats

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret accompagne la partie de l'épreuve 2 portant sur la compréhension écrite.

Cuadernillo de textos – Instrucciones para los alumnos

- No abra este cuadernillo hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuadernillo acompaña a la parte de comprensión de lectura de la prueba 2.

Text A

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Text B

Kangaroos can communicate with humans, study finds

Non-essential image removed

- 1** Kangaroos can use body language to communicate with humans in a similar way to domesticated animals such as dogs, horses and goats, a new study has found.
- 2** Researchers at the Universities of Sydney and Roehampton studied kangaroos at three locations across Australia and found that the animals were capable of “seeking help” by gazing intently at a human while striving to access food placed in a closed box, instead of merely attempting to open the box themselves. Such behaviour is usually associated with domesticated animals. Gazing at humans when stretching for inaccessible food and alternating that gaze between the humans and the task, is often interpreted as an attempt at communication, the report said.
- 3** Dr Alexandra Green, a co-author of the study, said rather than just giving up when they couldn’t open the box, the vast majority of the kangaroos looked to the researcher and then back to the box, a gesture interpreted as a request for help.
- 4** “Their gaze was pretty intense,” said Dr Green. “We’ve previously thought only domesticated animals try to ask for help with a problem. But kangaroos do it too. If they can’t open the box, they look at the human and back to the container. When asking for assistance, some approached the human and started scratching at them. Some of the braver ones even used their noses to nudge the human,” Dr Green said.
- 5** Dr Alan McElligott, who is also the lead author of the research, said their study found that communication between animals can be learnt and that the behaviour of gazing at humans to access food is not related to domestication.
- 6** “Indeed, kangaroos showed a very similar pattern of behaviour we have seen in dogs, horses and even goats when put to the same test,” said Dr McElligott, who previously led a study that found goats can understand certain human signals.
- 7** “Our research shows that the potential for communication towards humans by animals has been underestimated. This signals an exciting development in this area,” Dr McElligott added. “Kangaroos are the first marsupials to be studied in this manner and the positive results should lead to more research into other animals beyond the usual domestic species.”

Text C

Why Kids Need to Spend Time in Nature

As the suburbs continue to expand, nature is parcelled off more, and kids seem less inclined to spend time in a fenced-in yard, let alone jump the fence into a neighbor’s yard or walk in the woods. Moreover, for kids who are growing up with multiplayer video games and social media accounts, indoor activities can seem more sociable and even safer.

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Most studies agree that kids who play outside are happier and more attentive. They appear less anxious than kids who spend more time indoors. While it’s unclear how mood improvements occur, there are a few things we do know about why nature is good for your kids’ minds.

[– 28 –]

The way that kids play outdoors has a lot less structure than most types of indoor play. There are infinite ways to interact with nature and letting your child choose how they treat nature means they have the power to control their own actions.

[– 29 –]

This unstructured style of play will soon have kids responding to their surroundings. They will be able to use their imagination, improvise their own activities, and approach the world in more inventive ways.

[– 30 –]

Living things die if mistreated or not taken care of properly and entrusting a child to take care of the living parts of the environment means they’ll learn what happens when they forget to water a plant or pull a flower out by its roots.

It presents new possibilities

Nature may seem less inspiring than your child’s violent video game, but in reality, it activates more senses—they can see, hear, smell, and touch outdoor environments. As the young spend less and less of their lives in natural surroundings, their senses narrow, and this reduces the richness of human experience.

It aids well-being

Most ways of interacting with nature involve more exercise than sitting on the couch. Your kid

doesn't have to be joining the local soccer team or riding a bike through the park—even going for a walk will get their blood pumping.

It generates curiosity

- 35 Nature creates a unique sense of wonder for kids that no other environment can provide. The phenomena that occur naturally in backyards and parks every day make kids ask questions.

It replaces indifference with serenity

In natural environments, we practice an effortless type of attention known as “soft fascination” that creates feelings of pleasure and peacefulness, not tiredness and boredom.

- 40 So, while screen time might be the easier, more popular choice for your children, it's important to set aside time for outdoor play.
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References:

- Text B** Singh, N., 2020. *The Independent*. [online] Available at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/australasia/kangaroos-communicate-human-study-b1774776.html> [Accessed 30 January 2021]. Source adapted. Reference redacted.
- Text C** Cohen, D., 2020. *Why Kids Need to Spend Time in Nature*. [online] Available at: <https://childmind.org/article/why-kids-need-to-spend-time-in-nature/> [Accessed 01 November 2021]. Source adapted.