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Level 3

Blobfish are the ugliest animals

17th September, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people do not know what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new mascot of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and comedians to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest creature on Earth. Thousands of people voted to decide the winner. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't want to use a cute animal as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger. Mr Watt said: "We've needed an ugly face for endangered animals for a long time...For too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the limelight." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals.

Blobfish live in the seas and oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or ocean floor between 600 to 1,200 metres deep. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their name comes from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have no muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that swim past them, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are inedible), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals.

Sources: <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2013/09/12/whats-the-worlds-ugliest-animal/>
<http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/3945/20130912/king-ugly-blobfish-crowned-worlds-ugliest-animal-video.htm>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blobfish>

WARM-UPS

1. BLOBFISH: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about blobfish. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

mascot / animal preservation / celebrities / voted / winner / cute animal / fluffy / oceans / jelly / muscles / inedible / fishermen / accidentally / worried / endangered

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

3. CUTE: What is cute (or not cute) about these animals? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

	Cute	Not cute
Frog		
Kitten		
Panda		
Ladybird / Ladybug		
Bear		
Octopus		

4. ENDANGERED: Students A **strongly** believe cute animals are more important than ugly animals; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. ANIMALS: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the cutest at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Frog
- Caterpillar
- Bat
- Lion
- Octopus
- Eagle
- Wolf
- Whale

6. FLUFFY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "fluffy". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. The blobfish is the mascot of a group that helps animals. | T / F |
| b. Eleven scientists made a video about blobfish. | T / F |
| c. Millions of people voted to decide which animal was ugliest. | T / F |
| d. A president said the blobfish will help people to not forget ugly animals. | T / F |
| e. Blobfish usually swim near the surface of seas and oceans. | T / F |
| f. The biggest blobfish ever found was 3 centimetres long. | T / F |
| g. Blobfish have big heads and thin tails. | T / F |
| h. Scientists are worried that the blobfish is in danger. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. preservation | a. uneatable |
| 2. celebrities | b. soft |
| 3. creature | c. famous people |
| 4. cute | d. at risk |
| 5. fluffy | e. protection |
| 6. largely | f. eat |
| 7. swallow | g. adorable |
| 8. inedible | h. trapped |
| 9. caught | i. animal |
| 10. endangered | j. mainly |

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Most people do not know | a. and thin tails |
| 2. It is also the new | b. the uglier animals |
| 3. Thousands of people voted | c. or ocean floor |
| 4. cute and | d. mascot |
| 5. make people remember | e. animals |
| 6. They stay largely on the seabed | f. to decide the winner |
| 7. small bodies | g. what a blobfish is |
| 8. This is because they have | h. (they are inedible) |
| 9. humans do not eat blobfish | i. fluffy animals |
| 10. the list of endangered | j. no muscles |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people do not know what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new (1) _____ of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and (2) _____ to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest (3) _____ on Earth. Thousands of people (4) _____ to decide the winner. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't want to use a (5) _____ animal as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger. Mr Watt said: "We've needed an ugly (6) _____ for endangered animals for a long time...For too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the (7) _____." He thinks the blobfish will make people (8) _____ the uglier animals.

cute
creature
remember
mascot
limelight
comedians
voted
face

Blobfish live in the seas and (9) _____ near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or (10) _____ floor between 600 to 1,200 metres deep. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin (11) _____. Their name comes from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have no (12) _____. They float in the water and (13) _____ things that swim past them, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are (14) _____), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the (15) _____ of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the (16) _____ of endangered animals.

muscles
nets
ocean
list
oceans
swallow
tails
inedible

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

- 1) It is also the new mascot of the Ugly Animal _____
 - a. Preserving Society
 - b. Preservation Societies
 - c. Presentation Society
 - d. Preservation Society
- 2) make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest _____
 - a. creature in Earth
 - b. creature and Earth
 - c. creature on Earth
 - d. creature of Earth
- 3) Watt said he didn't want to use a cute animal as _____
 - a. the city's mascot
 - b. the cities musket
 - c. the society's mass got
 - d. the society's mascot
- 4) For too long the cute and fluffy animals have _____
 - a. taken the light lime
 - b. taken the lime right
 - c. taken the rhyme write
 - d. taken the limelight
- 5) He thinks the blobfish will make _____
 - a. people remembers
 - b. people remembered
 - c. people remembering
 - d. people remember
- 6) They stay largely on the seabed _____
 - a. or ocean flaw
 - b. or ocean flour
 - c. or ocean floor
 - d. or ocean flow
- 7) They have very large heads, small bodies _____
 - a. and fin tails
 - b. and sin tails
 - c. and thing tails
 - d. and thin tails
- 8) Their name comes from the fact that they look like a _____
 - a. large blob or jelly
 - b. large blob of jelly
 - c. large blob for jelly
 - d. large blob if jelly
- 9) things that swim past them, like small _____
 - a. crabs and selfish
 - b. crabs and shellfish
 - c. crabs and shelled fish
 - d. crabs and shells, fish
- 10) Scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the list _____
 - a. of in danger the animals
 - b. of endangers the animals
 - c. of endangered animals
 - d. of endangering animals

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people (1) _____ a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new mascot of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and comedians (2) _____ video on what they thought was the ugliest creature on Earth. Thousands of people (3) _____ the winner. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't (4) _____ cute animal as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger. Mr Watt said: "We've (5) _____ for endangered animals for a long time...For too long the cute and fluffy animals have (6) _____." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals.

Blobfish live (7) _____ oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or ocean floor between 600 to 1,200 metres deep. They (8) _____ 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their name comes from the fact that they look (9) _____ of jelly. This is because they have no muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that (10) _____, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are inedible), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They (11) _____ nets of fishing boats. Scientists are (12) _____ will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

1. How will the UAPS use the blobfish?

2. How many people made a video?

3. How many people voted?

4. What did Mr Watts not want to use as a mascot?

5. What animals usually take the limelight?

6. What two countries do blobfish live near?

7. What is the deepest blobfish live?

8. What kind of tails do blobfish have?

9. What do blobfish eat?

10. What do blobfish get trapped in?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

1. How will the UAPS use the blobfish?
 - a) carefully
 - b) with vinegar and ketchup
 - c) to bring tourists in
 - d) as its mascot
2. How many people made a video?
 - a) around 11
 - b) 11
 - c) just over 11
 - d) fewer than 11
3. How many people voted?
 - a) hundreds
 - b) tens of thousands
 - c) thousands
 - d) millions
4. What did Mr Watts not want to use as a mascot?
 - a) cute animals
 - b) the panda
 - c) a koala
 - d) a tuna fish
5. What animals usually take the limelight?
 - a) tough and strong ones
 - b) koalas and caterpillars
 - c) cute and fluffy ones
 - d) cuddly and playful ones
6. What two countries do blobfish live near?
 - a) Zealand and New Australia
 - b) New Zealand and Australia
 - c) Guyana and Venezuela
 - d) Austria and New Zealand
7. What is the deepest blobfish live?
 - a) the ocean floor
 - b) 600 metres
 - c) 30 metres
 - d) 1,200 metres
8. What kind of tails do blobfish have?
 - a) thin ones
 - b) cute ones
 - c) fluffy ones
 - d) large ones
9. What do blobfish eat?
 - a) fishermen
 - b) jelly
 - c) shellfish and crabs
 - d) plankton
10. What do blobfish get trapped in?
 - a) fishing boats
 - b) fishing nets
 - c) shellfish
 - d) crabs' claws

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Role A – Blobfish

You think blobfish are the cutest animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not cute about their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): caterpillars, lions or pigeons.

Role B – Caterpillars

You think caterpillars are the cutest animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not cute about their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): blobfish, lions or pigeons.

Role C – Lions

You think lions are the cutest animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not cute about their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): caterpillars, blobfish or pigeons.

Role D – Pigeons

You think pigeons are the cutest animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not cute about their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): caterpillars, lions or blobfish.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'cute' and 'ugly'.

cute	ugly
-------------	-------------

- 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">• new• short• president• decide• long• remember	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• near• 600• thin• things• eat• list
--	---

BLOBFISH SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Write five GOOD questions about blobfish 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.

BLOBFISH DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'ugly'?
- c) What do you think about what you read?
- d) Is it good to have a society to protect ugly animals?
- e) Is it unfair to say an animal is ugly?
- f) What do you think is the cutest animal?
- g) What is the best animal to be mascot of a preservation society?
- h) Should fashion magazines also use not-so-cute models?
- i) Is there too much "cute" in this world?
- j) Will you remember the blobfish?

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BLOBFISH DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What would you like to know about blobfish?
- c) Would you like a blobfish as a pet?
- d) Would a Pixar/Disney movie about blobfish make them cuter?
- e) What do you think of the name "blobfish"?
- f) What do you think is the world's ugliest animal?
- g) What can we do to help protect blobfish from being more endangered?
- h) What endangered animal are you most worried about?
- i) Why do you think blobfish are inedible?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Simon Watt?

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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people do not know what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new (1) _____ of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and comedians to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest (2) _____ on Earth. Thousands of people voted to (3) _____ the winner. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't want to (4) _____ a cute animal as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also (5) _____ danger. Mr Watt said: "We've needed an ugly face for endangered animals for a long time...For too long the cute and (6) _____ animals have taken the limelight." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals.

Blobfish live in the seas and oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay (7) _____ on the seabed or ocean floor between 600 to 1,200 metres (8) _____. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their name (9) _____ from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have (10) _____ muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that swim past them, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are (11) _____), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the (12) _____ of endangered animals.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) musket | (b) masked | (c) mast | (d) mascot |
| 2. | (a) critter | (b) beast | (c) living thing | (d) creature |
| 3. | (a) decision | (b) decide | (c) decider | (d) decides |
| 4. | (a) create | (b) breed | (c) form | (d) use |
| 5. | (a) at | (b) by | (c) in | (d) on |
| 6. | (a) fluffy | (b) crappy | (c) nutty | (d) snazzy |
| 7. | (a) biggest | (b) largely | (c) hugely | (d) enormous |
| 8. | (a) deep | (b) depth | (c) deepen | (d) deepest |
| 9. | (a) stays | (b) comes | (c) goes | (d) knows |
| 10. | (a) not | (b) non | (c) no | (d) nod |
| 11. | (a) indelible | (b) inaudible | (c) inedible | (d) indubitable |
| 12. | (a) lost | (b) last | (c) lust | (d) list |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the new tmoasc
2. Ugly Animal Preservation ceSioty
3. 11 elbisiertec and comedians
4. the ugliest aetrruc on Earth
5. agnedenred animals
6. taken the liigtmhel

Paragraph 2

7. seas and oensca
8. they have no sceumls
9. olslwaw things that swim past them
10. humans do not eat blobfish (they are idenbeil)
11. fishermen cicetyaldlna kill thousands
12. Scientists are ewidorr

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () limelight." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals.
- () an ugly face for endangered animals for a long time...For too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the
- () small bodies and thin tails. Their name comes from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have no
- () accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are
- () voted to decide the winner. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't want to use a cute animal
- () shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are inedible), fishermen
- () as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger. Mr Watt said: "We've needed
- () mascot of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and
- (**1**) Most people do not know what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new
- () muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that swim past them, like small crabs and
- () comedians to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest creature on Earth. Thousands of people
- () ocean floor between 600 to 1,200 metres deep. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads,
- () Blobfish live in the seas and oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or
- () worried that this will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

1. do what is people know blobfish Most not a.

2. voted to Thousands decide of the people winner.

3. face We've for needed endangered an animals ugly.

4. and the fluffy limelight animals have Cute taken.

5. will uglier make animals people remember Blobfish the.

6. they that fact The jelly of blob large a like look.

7. swallow in things the water They and float.

8. inedible) Humans eat (they . not do blobfish are

9. caught nets boats are the fishing They in of.

10. list Put animals on the of the blobfish endangered.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people do not *know / knowledge* what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new mascot of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS *asked / asks* 11 celebrities and comedians to make a short video *in / on* what they thought was the ugliest creature on Earth. Thousands of people voted *to / for* decide the *win / winner*. UAPS president Simon Watt said he didn't want to *abuse / use* a cute animal as the society's mascot. He *wanted / thought* people to know that not-so-cute animals are also *on / in* danger. Mr Watt said: "We've needed an ugly face for endangered animals for a *long / length* time...For too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the *flashlight / limelight*." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals.

Blobfish *live / lively* in the seas and oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or ocean *ceiling / floor* between 600 to 1,200 metres *deep / depth*. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their name *goes / comes* from the *fact / true* that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have *new / no* muscles. They float in the water and *shallow / swallow* things that swim past them, like small crabs and *shellfish / selfish*. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are *indelible / inedible*), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the *lost / list* of endangered animals.

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

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

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people don't know what blobfish is. It's the world's ugliest animal. It's like the new mascot of the ugly animal Preservation Society (PS). The PS asked 11 celebrities and comedians to make short videos on what they thought was the ugliest creature on earth. The sounds of people voted the dearest winner. PS president Simon Watters didn't want to see the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that nature's creatures are also interesting. Mr Watters said: "We've never found an ugly creature and finally we've found one. For the first time and finally we've taken the limelight." He thanks the blobfish will make people remember the ugly animals.

Blobfish live in the sea and consist of several and New Zealand. They stay largely in the seabed and can flourish between 600 to 1,200 meters deep. They can grow up to 30 centimeters long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their names come from the fact that they look like large blobs of jelly. These seabees have no muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that swim past them, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans don't eat blobfish (they're not edible), fishermen occasionally kill thousands of them. They're caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that they will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

most people do not know what a blobfish is it is the world's ugliest animal it is also the new mascot of the ugly animal preservation society (uaps) the uaps asked 11 celebrities and comedians to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest creature on earth thousands of people voted to decide the winner uaps president simon watt said he didn't want to use a cute animal as the society's mascot he wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger mr watt said "we've needed an ugly face for endangered animals for a long time...for too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the limelight" he thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals

blobfish live in the seas and oceans near australia and new zealand they stay largely on the seabed or ocean floor between 600 to 1200 metres deep they can grow up to 30 centimetres long they have very large heads small bodies and thin tails their name comes from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly this is because they have no muscles they float in the water and swallow things that swim past them like small crabs and shellfish even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are inedible) fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year they are caught in the nets of fishing boats scientists are worried that this will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130917-blobfish.html>

Most people do not know what a blobfish is. It is the world's ugliest animal. It is also the new mascot of the Ugly Animal Preservation Society (UAPS). The UAPS asked 11 celebrities and comedians to make a short video on what they thought was the ugliest creature on Earth. Thousands of people voted to decide the winner. UAPS president Simon Watts said he didn't want to use a cute animal as the society's mascot. He wanted people to know that not-so-cute animals are also in danger. Mr Watts said: "We've needed an ugly face for endangered animals for a long time... For too long the cute and fluffy animals have taken the limelight." He thinks the blobfish will make people remember the uglier animals. Blobfish live in the seas and oceans near Australia and New Zealand. They stay largely on the seabed or ocean floor between 600 to 1,200 metres deep. They can grow up to 30 centimetres long. They have very large heads, small bodies and thin tails. Their name comes from the fact that they look like a large blob of jelly. This is because they have no muscles. They float in the water and swallow things that swim past them, like small crabs and shellfish. Even though humans do not eat blobfish (they are inedible), fishermen accidentally kill thousands each year. They are caught in the nets of fishing boats. Scientists are worried that they will put the blobfish on the list of endangered animals.

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 blobfish. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CUTEST / UGLIEST: Make a poster about the world's cutest and ugliest creatures. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BLOBFISH: Write a magazine article about the blobfish being voted the world's ugliest animal. Include imaginary interviews with people who think it is cute and people who think it is ugly.

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 a blobfish expert. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c F d T e F f F g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. preservation | a. protection |
| 2. celebrities | b. famous people |
| 3. creature | c. animal |
| 4. cute | d. adorable |
| 5. fluffy | e. soft |
| 6. largely | f. mainly |
| 7. swallow | g. eat |
| 8. inedible | h. uneatable |
| 9. caught | i. trapped |
| 10. endangered | j. at risk |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. As its mascot
2. 11
3. Thousands
4. A cute animal
5. Cute and fluffy ones
6. Australia and New Zealand
7. 1,200 metres
8. Thin ones
9. Crabs and shellfish
10. Fishing nets

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. a 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 ;-)