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Level 3 – 22nd June, 2019

'Cat-fox' found in France could be new species

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was found on the French island of Corsica. The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had captured in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a remote area of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to tail. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a thick coat. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a local government official, thanked the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful discovery." He added that Corsica was a "paradise of animal and plant biodiversity".

The cat-fox has been talked about by local people in Corsica for decades. It had become a mythical creature with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and proud that their island is home to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known species that could have originated in Africa and the Middle East thousands of years ago. It is largely a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as far back as 6500BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could tell it apart from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact identity is still to be determined."

Sources: <https://www.foxnews.com/science/mysterious-cat-fox-discovered-may-be-a-new-species>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/06/19/europe/cat-fox-species-corsica-france-trnd/index.html>
<https://www.livescience.com/65744-cat-fox-new-species.html>

WARM-UPS

1. CATS AND FOXES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about cats and foxes. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

wildlife / experts / species / mountains / tail / creature / stripes / discovery / paradise
local people / decade / mythical / farmers / Middle East / nocturnal / 6500BC / identity

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

3. BIODIVERSITY: Students A **strongly** believe we will be able to increase the world's biodiversity; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. UNUSUAL SPECIES?: What do you think these imaginary creatures might be like? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote. Make and share your own imaginary creatures.

	Looks	Characteristics
Mouse-dog		
Elephant-bird		
Prawn-shark		
Cheetah-beetle		
Centipede-snake		
Wolf-rat		

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

6. MYTHICAL CREATURES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Yeti
- Unicorn
- Kappa
- Dragon
- Mermaid
- Fairy
- Troll
- Loch Ness Monster

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1. expert | a. The long, thin part of an animal at the end of its body, the feathers at the end of a bird, or the long, thin end of an insect. |
| 2. species | b. A group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding. |
| 3. captured | c. Situated far from the main centers of population; distant. |
| 4. remote | d. A person who has a comprehensive and authoritative knowledge of or skill in a particular area. |
| 5. measured | e. A perfect and beautiful place or state. |
| 6. tail | f. Took into one's possession or control, sometimes by force. |
| 7. paradise | g. Found out the size, amount, or degree of something. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. local | h. Had a specified beginning; came from a particular place. |
| 9. creature | i. Feeling deep pleasure or satisfaction as a result of one's own achievements, qualities, or possessions. |
| 10. proud | j. Accurate or correct in all details. |
| 11. originated | k. Belonging or relating to a particular area or neighborhood. |
| 12. nocturnal | l. An animal, not a human being. |
| 13. exact | m. Found out or establish exactly, typically as a result of research or calculation. |
| 14. determined | n. Done, occurring, or active at night. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

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

- a. The new species was found on the French island of Levant. **T / F**
- b. The cat-fox was captured in the middle of a city. **T / F**
- c. The captured cat-fox was over a meter in length from head to tail. **T / F**
- d. A government official said finding the cat-fox was a wonderful discovery. **T / F**
- e. The cat-fox had been a mythical creature for decades. **T / F**
- f. Islanders are not happy that the cat-fox comes from their island. **T / F**
- g. The cat-fox could have come from the Middle East over 8,500 years ago. **T / F**
- h. Scientists need to look at the DNA of the cat-fox. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. experts | a. pleased |
| 2. believe | b. nirvana |
| 3. remote | c. precise |
| 4. creature | d. legendary |
| 5. paradise | e. think |
| 6. mythical | f. mainly |
| 7. proud | g. specialists |
| 8. largely | h. discovered |
| 9. exact | i. faraway |
| 10. determined | j. animal |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The animal was found on the French | a. nearly 90 centimeters |
| 2. a "cat-fox" that they had captured | b. creature |
| 3. The captured cat-fox measured | c. we could tell it apart |
| 4. very wide ears, short whiskers | d. island of Corsica |
| 5. a paradise of animal and | e. still to be determined |
| 6. talked about by local people | f. and a thick coat |
| 7. a mythical | g. nocturnal animal |
| 8. It is largely a | h. plant biodiversity |
| 9. By looking at its DNA, | i. in Corsica for decades |
| 10. its exact identity is | j. in the mountains |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered an (1) _____ animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was found on the French island of Corsica. The (2) _____ showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had (3) _____ in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a remote (4) _____ of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to (5) _____. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a thick coat. It also has (6) _____ on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a local government official, thanked the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a (7) _____ discovery." He added that Corsica was a "(8) _____ of animal and plant biodiversity".

captured
tail
paradise
experts
wonderful
area
unusual
stripes

The cat-fox has been talked about by (9) _____ people in Corsica for decades. It had become a mythical (10) _____ with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and (11) _____ that their island is home to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known (12) _____ that could have originated in Africa and the Middle East thousands of years ago. It is (13) _____ a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as (14) _____ back as 6500BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could tell it (15) _____ from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact (16) _____ is still to be determined."

apart
creature
species
far
local
identity
largely
proud

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

- 1) experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be _____
 - a. anew species
 - b. a knew species
 - c. a new species
 - d. a news species
- 2) The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had captured _____
 - a. on the mountains
 - b. in the mountains
 - c. at the mountains
 - d. inner mountains
- 3) The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in _____
 - a. a remote arena
 - b. a rim moat area
 - c. a ream oat area
 - d. a rim oat area
- 4) The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and _____
 - a. a thick coast
 - b. a thickly coat
 - c. a thick coat
 - d. a thicken coast
- 5) e added that Corsica was a paradise of animal and _____
 - a. plant biodiversity
 - b. planned biodiversity
 - c. plan it biodiversity
 - d. planet biodiversity
- 6) The cat-fox has been talked about by local people in Corsica _____
 - a. for deck ads
 - b. for deck aids
 - c. for decadence
 - d. for decades
- 7) the cat comes from a little-known species that could _____ Africa
 - a. have originated on
 - b. have originated in
 - c. have originating
 - d. have originate din
- 8) One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica _____ 6500BC
 - a. as far black as
 - b. as far backs
 - c. as far back as
 - d. as far backers
- 9) Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could _____ "
 - a. tell lit apart
 - b. tell litter part
 - c. tell lighter part
 - d. tell it apart
- 10) It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact identity is still _____
 - a. to be deter mined
 - b. to be deeper mined
 - c. to be deter mind
 - d. to be determined

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered (1) _____ that they believe could be a new species. The animal was found on the French island of Corsica. The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that (2) _____ in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in (3) _____ of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to tail. The creature has very wide ears, (4) _____ a thick coat. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a local government official, thanked (5) _____ for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful discovery." He added that Corsica was a "paradise of animal (6) _____".

The cat-fox has been talked about (7) _____ in Corsica for decades. It had become a mythical creature with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now (8) _____ that their island is home to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known species that could (9) _____ Africa and the Middle East thousands of years ago. It is largely (10) _____. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as far back as 6500BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could (11) _____ from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact identity is still (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

1. On what island was the cat-fox found?
2. How many cat-foxes were in the group that wildlife experts found?
3. How long was the captured cat-fox from head to toe?
4. What kind of discovery did a government official say it was?
5. What did a government official call the island a paradise for?
6. Who did the article say had talked about cat-foxes for decades?
7. How do islanders feel about the discovery of the cat-fox?
8. Where do scientists believe the cat-fox originated?
9. How far back could the origins of the cat-fox go?
10. What animal did a scientist say the cat-fox was close to?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

- 1) On what island was the cat-fox found?
 - a) Corsica
 - b) Sicily
 - c) Sardinia
 - d) Tasmania
- 2) How many cat-foxes were in the group that wildlife experts found?
 - a) 17
 - b) 18
 - c) 16
 - d) 15
- 3) How long was the captured cat-fox from head to toe?
 - a) 19 centimeters
 - b) nearly 90 centimeters
 - c) over 90 centimeters
 - d) 19 meters
- 4) What kind of discovery did a government official say it was?
 - a) an unbelievable discovery
 - b) an unexpected discovery
 - c) an interesting discovery
 - d) a wonderful discovery
- 5) What did a government official call the island a paradise for?
 - a) animal and plant diversity
 - b) cats and foxes
 - c) wildlife experts and scientists
 - d) mythical creatures
- 6) Who did the article say had talked about cat-foxes for decades?
 - a) old people
 - b) children
 - c) shop-keepers
 - d) farmers
- 7) How do islanders feel about the discovery of the cat-fox?
 - a) worried
 - b) happy and proud
 - c) afraid
 - d) excited
- 8) Where do scientists believe the cat-fox originated?
 - a) the mountains of northern Italy
 - b) the desert
 - c) Siberia
 - d) Africa and the Middle East
- 9) How far back could the origins of the cat-fox go?
 - a) the beginnings of time
 - b) pre-historic times
 - c) 6500BC
 - d) 10,000 years
- 10) What animal did a scientist say the cat-fox was close to?
 - a) the wolf
 - b) the African forest cat
 - c) the lion
 - d) the desert fox

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Role A – Dragons

You think dragons are the best mythical creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): unicorns, mermaids or fairies.

Role B – Unicorns

You think unicorns are the best mythical creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): dragons, mermaids or fairies.

Role C – Mermaids

You think mermaids are the best mythical creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): unicorns, dragons or fairies.

Role D – Fairies

You think fairies are the best mythical creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): unicorns, mermaids or dragons.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

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

cat	fox

- 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">• believe• reporters• group• 90• legs• team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• local• stories• ago• back• apart• identity
--	---

CATS AND FOXES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cats and foxes 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.

CATS AND FOXES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'fox'?
3. Would you like to be a wildlife expert?
4. How many species do you think there are that we don't know about?
5. What do you want to know about the cat-fox?
6. Is the cat-fox more like a cat or fox?
7. What do you think of the name 'cat-fox'?
8. Do you prefer foxes or cats?
9. What is a paradise for animals?
10. What would be paradise for you?

'Cat-fox' found in France could be new species – 22nd June, 2019
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CATS AND FOXES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'cat'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How much do you know about wildlife?
15. Are there any mythical animals in your country?
16. What animals from your country are you proud of?
17. In what ways are humans nocturnal?
18. What are the characteristics of foxes?
19. What are the characteristics of cats?
20. What questions would you like to ask the wildlife experts?

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was (1) _____ on the French island of Corsica. The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had (2) _____ in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a (3) _____ area of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to tail. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a thick (4) _____. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a (5) _____ government official, thanked the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful discovery." He added that Corsica was a "(6) _____ of animal and plant biodiversity".

The cat-fox has been talked about by local people in Corsica for (7) _____. It had become a mythical creature with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and proud that their island is (8) _____ to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known species that could have originated (9) _____ Africa and the Middle East thousands of years ago. It is (10) _____ a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as far back as 6500BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could tell it (11) _____ from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact (12) _____ is still to be determined."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) fund | (b) founded | (c) found | (d) funded |
| 2. | (a) captured | (b) captive | (c) captivate | (d) captioned |
| 3. | (a) remote | (b) promote | (c) demote | (d) moat |
| 4. | (a) coat | (b) jacket | (c) vest | (d) sweater |
| 5. | (a) locum | (b) locality | (c) locals | (d) local |
| 6. | (a) heavenly | (b) species | (c) zoology | (d) paradise |
| 7. | (a) decades | (b) decanters | (c) decadence | (d) decks |
| 8. | (a) lodging | (b) house | (c) dwelling | (d) home |
| 9. | (a) in | (b) at | (c) of | (d) to |
| 10. | (a) bigness | (b) largely | (c) huge | (d) enormous |
| 11. | (a) part | (b) apart | (c) party | (d) partner |
| 12. | (a) identity | (b) identify | (c) indemnify | (d) ideally |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Wildlife stpreex have discovered an unusual animal
2. ratuepdc in the mountains of Corsica
3. in a eertom area of Corsica
4. It also has seirstp on its front legs
5. It's a wonderful icysderov
6. a sredaipa of animal and plant biodiversity

Paragraph 2

7. It had become a mythical reuaetc
8. happy and durpo
9. iatdgoivre in Africa
10. It is largely a catorulnn animal
11. Another icsetnits said...
12. its exact iyitednt is still to be determined

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () home to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known
- () as 6500BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could tell it apart from the European
- () in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a remote
- () discovery." He added that Corsica was a "paradise of animal and plant biodiversity".
- () wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact identity is still to be determined."
- () ago. It is largely a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as far back
- () species that could have originated in Africa and the Middle East thousands of years
- () found on the French island of Corsica. The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had captured
- (**1**) Wildlife experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was
- () area of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to
- () government official, thanked the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful
- () tail. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a thick coat. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a local
- () The cat-fox has been talked about by local people in Corsica for decades. It had become a mythical
- () creature with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and proud that their island is

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

1. on The animal was French found island . the
2. A in had they captured the cat-fox mountains .
3. cat-fox 90cm measured length . captured The in nearly
4. It has legs . its stripes on front also
5. paradise a animal was biodiversity . Corsica of
6. about Talked in people by local Corsica .
7. had farmers . It a mythical with creature become
8. home is to a new species . Their island
9. from tell could We wildcat . apart the it
10. identity Its exact is still determined . to be

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered an *unusual* / *unusually* animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was found on the French island of Corsica. The *expertise* / *experts* showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had *captured* / *ruptured* in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a remote *arena* / *area* of Corsica. The captured cat-fox *measure* / *measured* nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to *tail* / *tale*. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a *thick* / *thicken* coat. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Simeoni, a local government official, *thank you* / *thanked* the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful *discover* / *discovery*." He added that Corsica was a "paradise of animal and *plant* / *planet* biodiversity".

The cat-fox has been *taken* / *talked* about by local people in Corsica for decades. It had become a *myth* / *mythical* creature with farmers, who tell *stories* / *stores* about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and *pride* / *proud* that their island is *home* / *house* to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known species that could *that* / *have* originated in Africa and the Middle East thousands of years *age* / *ago*. It is largely a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been *brought* / *bringing* to Corsica as far back as 6500bc. Another scientist said: "By *looked* / *looking* at its DNA, we could tell it apart from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its *extinct* / *exact* identity is still to be determined."

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

W_l d l_f_ _x p_r t s h_v_ d_s c_v_r_d _n _n_s__ l
_n_m_l t h_t t h_y b_l__ v_ c__ l d b__ n_w s
p_c__ s . T h_ _n_m_l w_s f__ n d _n t h_ F r_n c h
_s l_n d _f C_r s_c_. T h_ _x p_r t s s h_w_d r_p_r
t_r s _ " c_t - f_x " t h_t t h_y h_d c_p t_r_d _n t
h_ m__ n t__ n s _f C_r s_c_. T h_ _x p_r t s s__ d t
h_y f__ n d _ g r__ p _f s_x t__ n c_t - f_x_s _n _
r_m_t_ r__ _f C_r s_c_. T h_ c_p t_r_d c_t - f_x
m__ s_r_d n__ r l y 9 0 c_n t_m_t_r s _n l_n g t h f
r_m h__ d t_ t__ l . T h_ c_r__ t_r_ h_s v_r y w_d_
__ r s , s h_r t w h_s k_r s _n d _ t h_c k c__ t . I t
_l_s_ h_s s t_r_p_s _n _t_s f_r_n t l_g_s . G_l l_s
S_m__ n_ , _ l_c_l g_v_r n m_n t _f_c__ l , t h_n k_d
t h_ w_l d l_f_ t__ m f_r f_n d_n g t h_ c_t - f_x .
H_ s__ d : " I t ' s _ w_n d_r f_l d_s c_v_r y . " H_ _d
d_d t h_t C_r s_c_ w_s _ " p_r_d_s_ _f _n_m_l _n d
p l_n t b__ d_v_r s_t y " .

T h_ c_t - f_x h_s b__ n t_l k_d _b__ t b y l_c_l
p__ p_l_ n C_r s_c_ f_r d_c_d_s . I t h_d b_c_m_ _
m y t h_c_l c_r__ t_r_ w_t h f_r m_r s , w h_ t_l l s
t_r__ s _b__ t s__ n g _t . C_r s_c_n s _r_ n_w h_p
p y _n d p r__ d t h_t t h__ r _s l_n d _s h_m_ t_ _
n_w s p_c__ s _f _n_m_l . S c__ n t_s t_s b_l__ v_ t
h_t t h_ c_t c_m_s f_r_m _ l_t t l_ - k_n_w n s p_c__
s t h_t c__ l d h_v_ _r_g_n_t_d _n A f_r_c_ _n d t
h_ M_d d l_ E_s t t h__ s_n d s _f y__ r s _g_ . I t _s
l_r g_l y _n_c_t_r_n_l _n_m_l . O n_ s c__ n t_s t s__
d t h_ c_t - f_x c__ l d h_v_ b__ n b r__ g h t t_
C_r s_c_ _s f_r b_c k _s 6 5 0 0 B c . A n_t h_r s
c__ n t_s t s__ d : " B y l__ k_n g _t _t_s D N A ,
w_ c__ l d t_l l _t _p_r t f_r_m t h_ E_r_p__ n w_l d
c_t . I t ' s c_l_s_ t_ t h_ A f_r_c_n f_r_s t c_t ,
b_t _t_s _x_c_t _d_n t_t y _s s_t_l l t_ b_ d_t_r
m_n_d . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

wildlife experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be a new species the animal was found on the french island of corsica the experts showed reporters a catfox that they had captured in the mountains of corsica the experts said they found a group of sixteen catfoxes in a remote area of corsica the captured catfox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to tail the creature has very wide ears short whiskers and a thick coat it also has stripes on its front legs gilles simeoni a local government official thanked the wildlife team for finding the catfox he said its a wonderful discovery he added that corsica was a paradise of animal and plant biodiversity

the catfox has been talked about by local people in corsica for decades it had become a mythical creature with farmers who tell stories about seeing it corsicans are now happy and proud that their island is home to a new species of animal scientists believe that the cat comes from a littleknown species that could have originated in africa and the middle east thousands of years ago it is largely a nocturnal animal one scientist said the catfox could have been brought to corsica as far back as 6500bc another scientist said by looking at its dna we could tell it apart from the european wildcat its close to the african forest cat but its exact identity is still to be determined

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190622-cat-fox.html>

Wildlife experts have discovered an unusual animal that they believe could be a new species. The animal was found on the French island of Corsica. The experts showed reporters a "cat-fox" that they had captured in the mountains of Corsica. The experts said they found a group of sixteen cat-foxes in a remote area of Corsica. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90 centimeters in length from head to tail. The creature has very wide ears, short whiskers and a thick coat. It also has stripes on its front legs. Gilles Si meoni, a local government official, thanked the wildlife team for finding the cat-fox. He said: "It's a wonderful discovery." He added that Corsica was a "paradise of animal and plant biodiversity". The cat-fox has been talked about by local people in Corsica for decades. It had become a mythical creature with farmers, who tell stories about seeing it. Corsicans are now happy and proud that their island is home to a new species of animal. Scientists believe that the cat comes from a little-known species that could have originated in Africa and the Middle East thousands of years ago. It is largely a nocturnal animal. One scientist said the cat-fox could have been brought to Corsica as far back as 6500 BC. Another scientist said: "By looking at its DNA, we could tell it apart from the European wildcat. It's close to the African forest cat, but its exact identity is still to be determined."

HOMWORK

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CATS AND FOXES: Make a poster about cats and foxes. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PARADISE: Write a magazine article about making towns and cities a paradise for all animals. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 an expert on cats and foxes. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on this new species. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. b 3. f 4. c 5. g 6. a 7. e
8. k 9. l 10. i 11. h 12. n 13. j 14. m

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. experts | a. specialists |
| 2. believe | b. think |
| 3. remote | c. faraway |
| 4. creature | d. animal |
| 5. paradise | e. nirvana |
| 6. mythical | f. legendary |
| 7. proud | g. pleased |
| 8. largely | h. mainly |
| 9. exact | i. precise |
| 10. determined | j. discovered |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Corsica
2. Sixteen
3. Nearly 90 centimeters
4. A wonderful discovery
5. Animal and plant biodiversity
6. Farmers
7. Happy and proud
8. Africa and the Middle East
9. 6500BC
10. The African forest cat

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The animal was found on the French island.
2. A cat-fox they had captured in the mountains.
3. The captured cat-fox measured nearly 90cm in length.
4. It also has stripes on its front legs.
5. Corsica was a paradise of animal biodiversity.
6. Talked about by local people in Corsica.
7. It had become a mythical creature with farmers.
8. Their island is home to a new species.
9. We could tell it apart from the wildcat.
10. Its exact identity is still to be determined.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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