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Level 4 – 6th July, 2020

Scientists change how we calculate dog years

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

Dog lovers have been using the wrong method to calculate their pet's age. Researchers say the practice of finding a dog's age in human years by multiplying by seven is incorrect. They have come up with a new formula that precisely finds out a dog's age. The new method needs more than simple mental arithmetic. It compares the changes of the DNA of dogs and humans. Scientists say DNA analysis is the best way to measure the ageing speed of dogs.

Researchers tested blood from 105 dogs. After some number crunching, they created a graph to show dogs and people age at different rates. A one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old dog is like a 52-year-old. A researcher said: "A nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age." He added that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

Sources: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/12011713/dog-age-in-human-years-formula/>
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/07/03/dog-days-scientists-work-accurate-way-find-fidos-age-12938804/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/07/03/us/new-study-updates-dog-years-to-human-years-formula-trnd-scn/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the wrong method to calculate | a. of the DNA |
| 2. the practice of | b. out a dog's age |
| 3. human years by multiplying by | c. the ageing |
| 4. a new formula that precisely finds | d. finding a dog's age |
| 5. simple mental | e. analysis |
| 6. It compares the changes | f. their pet's age |
| 7. DNA | g. arithmetic |
| 8. the best way to measure | h. seven is incorrect |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Researchers tested blood | a. measure of age |
| 2. After some number | b. to a 30-year-old |
| 3. dogs and people age | c. speeds |
| 4. similar | d. at different rates |
| 5. the 1:7 | e. of dog |
| 6. an accurate | f. from 105 dogs |
| 7. different breeds | g. ratio |
| 8. at different | h. crunching |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

Dog lovers have been using (1) _____ to calculate their pet's age. Researchers say the (2) _____ a dog's age in human years (3) _____ seven is incorrect. They have come up with a new formula that (4) _____ a dog's age. The new method needs more than (5) _____. It compares the changes of the DNA of dogs and humans. Scientists say DNA analysis is the best way to (6) _____ speed of dogs.

Researchers tested blood from 105 dogs. After (7) _____, they created a graph to show dogs and people age (8) _____. A one-year-old dog (9) _____ a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old (10) _____ a 52-year-old. A researcher said: "A nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't (11) _____ of age." He added that different breeds of dog age (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

Dog lovers have been using the wrong method to calculate their pet's age. Researchers say the practice of finding a dog's age in human years by multiplying by seven is incorrect. They have come up with a new formula that precisely finds out a dog's age. The new method needs more than simple mental arithmetic. It compares the changes of the DNA of dogs and humans. Scientists say DNA analysis is the best way to measure the ageing speed of dogs. Researchers tested blood from 105 dogs. After some number crunching, they created a graph to show dogs and people age at different rates. A one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human, while a four-year-old dog is like a 52-year-old. A researcher said: "A nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age." He added that different breeds of dog age at different speeds.

DOG YEARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200706-dog-years-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dog years 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

