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Level 3

U.S. circus to end use of elephants

8th March, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150308-circus.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/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no longer have performing elephants as part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018. All the 43 animals it currently uses will be moved to an animal conservation centre in Florida. There, the giant creatures will live out their retirement. The decision came after a lot of protests from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to please humans. However, the world is different today and people are more worried about the lives of the animals. The circus will continue to use other animals, such as camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers.

Circuses have been criticised for many years by animal rights activists and the public who care about the treatment of animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) explained how elephants have a bad life in circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day needs to come now." Many cities and towns in the USA have banned the use of elephants for entertainment. This has made it hard for circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was not easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood shift among our consumers."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-31740032>
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2015/03/150305-ringling-bros-retires-asian-elephants-barnum-bailey/>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/03/05/ringling-bros-elephants_n_6807340.html

WARM-UPS

1. ELEPHANTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about elephants. 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?

circus companies / performing elephants / conservation / creatures / protests / tigers / criticized / animal rights / treatment / retirement / travel / understood / a mood shift

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

3. ANIMALS: Should we change these? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Arguments for these things	Arguments against these things
Circuses		
Zoos		
Pets		
Police dogs		
Horseracing		
Fur coats		

4. CIRCUSES: Students A **strongly** believe no animal should have to work in a circus; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. ENTERTAINMENT: Rank these with your partner. Put the least acceptable uses of animals for entertainment at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- zoos
- horseracing
- TV commercials
- theme parks
- bullfighting
- movies
- circuses
- hunting

6. CONSERVATION: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "conservation". 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/1503/150308-circus.html>

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

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. The largest circus in the world will stop using elephants in its shows. | T / F |
| b. All of the circus' 43 elephants will retire by 2018. | T / F |
| c. The circus decided to retire its elephants because of public protests. | T / F |
| d. The circus will continue to use other animals like lions and tigers. | T / F |
| e. PETA is an organization that campaigns for animal rights. | T / F |
| f. An animal rights group said elephants have a good life in circuses. | T / F |
| g. No town in the USA has banned the use of performing elephants. | T / F |
| h. The circus said it did not understand the public's feeling. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. largest | a. presently |
| 2. stop | b. prohibited |
| 3. currently | c. concerned |
| 4. please | d. discontinue |
| 5. worried | e. difficult |
| 6. criticised | f. behaviour towards |
| 7. treatment of | g. satisfy |
| 8. banned | h. change |
| 9. hard | i. biggest |
| 10. shift | j. attacked |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. One of the largest circus | a. activists |
| 2. stop using elephants | b. conservation centre |
| 3. moved to an animal | c. for many years |
| 4. The decision came after | d. for entertainment |
| 5. The circus will continue | e. to use other animals |
| 6. Circuses have been criticised | f. to come now |
| 7. animal rights | g. by 2018 |
| 8. their retirement day needs | h. shift |
| 9. banned the use of elephants | i. a lot of protests |
| 10. somewhat of a mood | j. companies in the USA |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no
(1) _____ have performing elephants as part of its
(2) _____. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey
Circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018. All the 43
animals it (3) _____ uses will be moved to an animal
conservation centre in Florida. There, the giant
(4) _____ will live out their retirement. The decision
came after a lot of (5) _____ from the public. One
hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to
(6) _____ to please humans. However, the world is
different today and people are more worried about the
(7) _____ of the animals. The circus will continue to
use (8) _____ animals, such as camels, dogs, horses,
lions and tigers.

currently
creatures
perform
shows
longer
other
protests
lives

Circuses have been criticised for many years by animal
(9) _____ activists and the public who care about the
(10) _____ of animals. Jessica Johnson, a
spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of
Animals) (11) _____ how elephants have a bad life in
circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are
(12) _____ arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so
their (13) _____ day needs to come now." Many cities
and towns in the USA have banned the use of elephants for
(14) _____. This has made it hard for circuses to travel
around the country. Owners of the circus company said the
(15) _____ to stop using elephants was not easy but
understood that: "There's been somewhat of a
(16) _____ shift among our consumers."

painfully
rights
entertainment
explained
mood
treatment
decision
retirement

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

- 1) One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no longer have _____
 - a. perform in elephants
 - b. preforming elephants
 - c. performing elephants
 - d. performance elephants
- 2) All the 43 animals it currently uses will be moved to an animal _____
 - a. conservation centre
 - b. conversation centre
 - c. cons aviation centre
 - d. conserve aviation centre
- 3) There, the giant creatures will live _____
 - a. about their retirement
 - b. without their retirement
 - c. out their retirement
 - d. doubt their retirement
- 4) One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform _____
 - a. two please, humans
 - b. to pleased humans
 - c. to pleasing humans
 - d. to please humans
- 5) The circus will continue to use other animals, _____
 - a. such by camels
 - b. such has camels
 - c. such was camels
 - d. such as camels
- 6) Circuses have been criticised for many years by _____
 - a. animals rights activists
 - b. animal right activists
 - c. animal rights activist
 - d. animal rights activists
- 7) many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day _____
 - a. needs to come now
 - b. needs to belong now
 - c. needs to join now
 - d. needs to enter now
- 8) Many cities and towns in the USA have banned _____
 - a. the use for elephants
 - b. the use of elephants
 - c. the use from elephants
 - d. the use off elephants
- 9) Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants _____
 - a. was not easily
 - b. was not eased
 - c. was not easy
 - d. was not ease see
- 10) There's been somewhat of a mood shift _____
 - a. among our consumer
 - b. among our consumers
 - c. amongst our consumers
 - d. amongst our consumer

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the largest circus companies in the USA (1) _____ have performing elephants as part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018. All the 43 animals (2) _____ will be moved to an animal conservation centre in Florida. There, the (3) _____ live out their retirement. The decision came after (4) _____ from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to please humans. However, the world is different today and people are more worried (5) _____ of the animals. The circus will continue to use other (6) _____ camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers.

Circuses have been criticised for many years by (7) _____ and the public who care about (8) _____ animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) explained how elephants (9) _____ circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day (10) _____ now." Many cities and towns in the USA have banned the use of elephants for entertainment. This has (11) _____ circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was not easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood (12) _____ consumers."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

1. By when will the circus have no performing elephants?

2. In which U.S. state will the elephants retire?

3. What did the public do to get the circus to stop using elephants?

4. What are people worried about nowadays?

5. What animals will the circus still use, besides camels, dogs and horses?

6. Who has been criticising circuses for many years?

7. What organization does Jessica Johnson represent?

8. What have many cities in the USA banned elephants from doing?

9. What is now hard for circus companies to do?

10. Which group of people have experienced a mood shift towards circuses?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

1. By when will the circus have no performing elephants?
 - a) 2018
 - b) 2017
 - c) 2019
 - d) 2020
2. In which U.S. state will the elephants retire?
 - a) Ohio
 - b) Nebraska
 - c) Florida
 - d) Maine
3. What did the public do to get the circus to stop using elephants?
 - a) hack the circus' website
 - b) protest
 - c) dress up as elephants
 - d) take legal action
4. What are people worried about nowadays?
 - a) extinction
 - b) diseases
 - c) money
 - d) animal's lives
5. What animals will the circus still use, besides camels, dogs and horses?
 - a) lions and tigers
 - b) cows and pandas
 - c) pandas and tigers
 - d) pandas and cows
6. Who has been criticising circuses for many years?
 - a) zoologists
 - b) zoos
 - c) vets
 - d) animal rights activists
7. What organisation does Jessica Johnson represent?
 - a) PETRA
 - b) PETA
 - c) PETS
 - d) PETER
8. What have many cities in the USA banned elephants from doing?
 - a) reproducing
 - b) playing football
 - c) eating fast food
 - d) being used as entertainment
9. What is now hard for circus companies to do?
 - a) buy elephants
 - b) make profits
 - c) tour
 - d) attract children
10. Which group of people have experienced a mood shift towards circuses?
 - a) animal rights activists
 - b) consumers
 - c) vets
 - d) zoologists

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Role A – Zoos

You think zoos are the worst places for animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the most acceptable of these (and why): circuses, horseracing tracks or movies.

Role B – Circuses

You think circuses are the worst places for animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the most acceptable of these (and why): zoos, horseracing tracks or movies.

Role C – Horseracing tracks

You think horseracing tracks are the worst places for animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the most acceptable of these (and why): circuses, zoos or movies.

Role D – Movies

You think movies are the worst places for animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the most acceptable of these (and why): circuses, horseracing tracks or zoos.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

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

circus	show
---------------	-------------

- 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">• largest• 2018• 43• giant• one hundred• continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• many• bad• painfully• now• travel• mood
--	--

ELEPHANTS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Write five GOOD questions about elephants 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.

ELEPHANTS DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'elephant'?
- 3) What do you think about elephants performing in circuses?
- 4) What do you think about circuses?
- 5) How do you feel about the elephants retiring?
- 6) How do you think circus elephants feel about performing?
- 7) Why did the public protest?
- 8) Why did people think performing elephants were OK 100 years ago?
- 9) Why are people more concerned about animals today?
- 10) Should the circus stop using all animals?

U.S. circus to end use of elephants – 8th March, 2015
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ELEPHANTS 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 the criticisms are from animal rights groups?
- 13) What kind of life do you think circus elephants have?
- 14) Should we put an end to all animals in captivity?
- 15) Would you like to see elephants in a circus?
- 16) What are the differences between animals in zoos and animals in circuses?
- 17) When is it OK to keep animals in circuses?
- 18) What's the difference between a circus animal and a pet?
- 19) What will circuses be like in another fifty years?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the circus owners?

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/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no (1) ____ have performing elephants as part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018. All the 43 animals it (2) ____ uses will be moved to an animal (3) ____ centre in Florida. There, the giant creatures will live out their retirement. The decision came after a lot of (4) ____ from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to (5) ____ humans. However, the world is different today and people are more worried about the lives of the animals. The circus will continue to use other animals, (6) ____ as camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers.

Circuses have been criticised for many years by animal rights (7) ____ and the public who care about the treatment of animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) explained (8) ____ elephants have a bad life in circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, (9) ____ their retirement day needs to come now." Many cities and towns in the USA have banned the (10) ____ of elephants for entertainment. This has made it hard (11) ____ circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was not easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood shift (12) ____ our consumers."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) longer | (b) larger | (c) linger | (d) longing |
| 2. | (a) currency | (b) current | (c) currently | (d) currant |
| 3. | (a) conversation | (b) constipation | (c) conservation | (d) consultation |
| 4. | (a) probates | (b) process | (c) pretexts | (d) protests |
| 5. | (a) thank | (b) manner | (c) please | (d) polite |
| 6. | (a) much | (b) such | (c) so | (d) like |
| 7. | (a) revisits | (b) activists | (c) nations | (d) activities |
| 8. | (a) should | (b) how | (c) which | (d) whenever |
| 9. | (a) but | (b) and | (c) so | (d) for |
| 10. | (a) have | (b) be | (c) do | (d) use |
| 11. | (a) so | (b) with | (c) by | (d) for |
| 12. | (a) value | (b) belong | (c) without | (d) among |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Paragraph 1

1. One of the sgaetrl circus companies
2. ngefrmrpio elephants
3. All the 43 animals it etcyrnlur uses
4. the giant stuerreac
5. a lot of sorsettp from the public
6. The circus will iceunont to use other animals

Paragraph 2

7. Circuses have been cietrciids for many years
8. animal rights tsvtcsaii
9. their eerirtenmt day
10. the use of elephants for tneattenmirne
11. the oieisdnc to stop using elephants
12. a mood shift among our ouncrssem

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () humans. However, the world is different today and people are more worried about the lives
- () by 2018. All the 43 animals it currently uses will be moved to an animal conservation
- () painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day needs to come
- () part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop using elephants
- () Circuses have been criticised for many years by animal rights activists and the public who care
- () now." Many cities and towns in the USA have banned the use of elephants for entertainment. This has made
- () using elephants was not easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood shift among our consumers."
- () centre in Florida. There, the giant creatures will live out their retirement. The decision came after a lot of
- () it hard for circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop
- (**1**) One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no longer have performing elephants as
- () protests from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to please
- () about the treatment of animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical
- () Treatment of Animals) explained how elephants have a bad life in circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are
- () of the animals. The circus will continue to use other animals, such as camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

1. largest in the companies USA of circus the One .

2. shows as part Have of performing its elephants .

3. it currently uses will be moved All the 43 animals .

4. public the from protests of lot a after came decision The .

5. the lives of the animals People are more worried about .

6. many Criticised activists animal years for by rights .

7. are elephants the of Many arthritic painfully .

8. for circuses to travel around This has made it hard .

9. not The stop was to elephants easy decision using .

10. among our consumers There's been somewhat of a mood shift .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the *largest / longest* circus companies in the USA will soon no longer have performing elephants *as / was* part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop *useful / using* elephants by 2018. All the 43 animals it *currently / currency* uses will be moved to an animal *conversation / conservation* centre in Florida. There, the giant creatures will live *in / out* their retirement. The decision *came / come* after a lot of protests from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to *thank / please* humans. However, the world is different today and people are more *worried / worrying* about the lives of the animals. The circus will continue to use other animals, *like / such* as camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers.

Circuses have been criticised for many years *by / at* animal rights activists and the public who care *around / about* the treatment of animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the *Unethical / Ethical* Treatment of Animals) explained *how / when* elephants have a bad life in circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are *painful / painfully* arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day needs to *coming / come* now." Many cities and towns in the USA have *banned / binned* the use of elephants for entertainment. This has made it hard *by / for* circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was *not / non* easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood shift *between / among* our consumers."

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/1503/150308-circus.html>

_____n_____f th_____l_rg_st c_rc_s c_m_p_n_____s _____n th_____S_____w_ll
s_____n n_____l_n_g_r h_v_____p_r_f_r_m_n_g _____l_p_h_n_t_s _____s p_r_t _____f
_____t_s sh_ws. Th_____R_n_g_l_n_g Br_____th_r_s _____nd B_____r_n_m & B_____l_y
C_rc_s s_____d _____t w_____ld st_p_____s_n_g _____l_p_h_n_t_s by 2018. _____ll
th_____43 _____n_m_ls _____t c_r_r_n_t_l_y _____s_s w_ll b_____m_v_d _____t_____n
_____n_m_l c_n_s_r_v_t_____n c_n_t_r_____n Fl_r_d. Th_r_____, th_____g_____nt
c_r_____t_r_s w_ll l_v_____t th_____r r_t_r_m_n_t. Th_____d_c_s_____n
c_m_____f_t_r_____l_t_____f p_r_t_s_t_s fr_m th_____p_b_l_c.
_____n _____h_n_d_r_d y_____rs _____g_____, p_____pl_____th_____ght _____t w_s _____K f_r
_____n_m_ls _____t_____p_r_f_r_m _____t_____p_l_____s_____h_m_n_s. H_w_v_r, th_____w_r_l_d
_____s d_f_f_r_n_t _____t_d_y _____nd p_____pl_____r_____m_r_____w_r_r_d
_____b_____t th_____l_v_s _____f th_____n_m_ls. Th_____c_rc_s w_ll
c_n_t_n_____t_____s_____th_r_____n_m_ls, s_ch_____s c_m_ls, d_gs,
h_r_s_s, l_____ns _____nd t_g_rs.

C_rc_s_s h_v_____b_____n c_r_t_c_s_d _____f_r m_ny y_____rs by
_____n_m_l r_g_h_t_s _____c_t_v_s_t_s _____nd th_____p_b_l_c wh_____c_r_____b_____t
th_____tr_____t_m_n_t _____f _____n_m_ls. J_s_s_c_____J_h_n_s_n, _____
s_p_k_____s_w_m_n _____f_r P_T_____ (P_____pl_____f_r th_____th_c_l
Tr_____t_m_n_t _____f _____n_m_ls) _____x_p_l_____n_d _____h_w _____l_p_h_n_t_s h_v_____h_____v_____b_d
l_f_____n c_rc_s_s. Sh_____s_____d: "M_ny _____f th_____l_p_h_n_t_s
_____r_____p_____n_f_l_l_y _____r_t_h_r_t_c, _____nd m_ny h_v_____t_b_r_c_l_s_s,
s_____th_____r r_t_r_m_n_t d_y n_____ds _____t_____c_m_____n_w." M_ny c_t_____s
_____nd t_w_n_s _____n th_____S_____h_v_____b_n_n_d th_____s_____f
l_p_h_n_t_s _____f_r _____n_t_r_t_____n_m_n_t. Th_____s h_s m_d_____t
h_r_d _____f_r c_rc_s_s _____t_____t_r_v_l_____r_____nd th_____c_____n_t_r_y.
_____w_n_r_s _____f th_____c_rc_s c_m_p_n_y s_____d th_____d_c_s_____n _____t_____st_p_____s_n_g
l_p_h_n_t_s w_s _____n_t_____s_y _____b_t _____nd _____r_s_t_____d
th_____t: "Th_r_'s _____b_____n _____s_m_____w_h_____t _____f _____m_____d
sh_f_t _____m_n_g _____r c_n_s_m_rs."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

one of the largest circus companies in the usa will soon no longer have performing elephants as part of its shows the ringling brothers and barnum & bailey circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018 all the 43 animals it currently uses will be moved to an animal conservation centre in florida there the giant creatures will live out their retirement the decision came after a lot of protests from the public one hundred years ago people thought it was ok for animals to perform to please humans however the world is different today and people are more worried about the lives of the animals the circus will continue to use other animals such as camels dogs horses lions and tigers

circuses have been criticised for many years by animal rights activists and the public who care about the treatment of animals jessica johnson a spokeswoman for peta (people for the ethical treatment of animals) explained how elephants have a bad life in circuses she said "many of the elephants are painfully arthritic and many have tuberculosis so their retirement day needs to come now" many cities and towns in the usa have banned the use of elephants for entertainment this has made it hard for circuses to travel around the country owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was not easy but understood that "there's been somewhat of a mood shift among our consumers"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

One of the largest circus companies in the USA will soon no longer have performing elephants as part of its shows. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus said it would stop using elephants by 2018. All the 43 animals it currently uses will be moved to an animal conservation centre in Florida. There, the giant creatures will live out their retirement. The decision came after a lot of protests from the public. One hundred years ago, people thought it was OK for animals to perform to please humans. However, the world is different today and people are more worried about the lives of the animals. The circus will continue to use other animals, such as camels, dogs, horses, lions and tigers. Circuses have been criticised for many years by animal rights activists and the public who care about the treatment of animals. Jessica Johnson, a spokeswoman for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) explained how elephants have a bad life in circuses. She said: "Many of the elephants are painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day needs to come now." Many cities and towns in the USA have banned the use of elephants for entertainment. This has made it hard for circuses to travel around the country. Owners of the circus company said the decision to stop using elephants was not easy but understood that: "There's been somewhat of a mood shift among our consumers."

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Write about **elephants** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150308-circus.html>

Animals should never be used in circuses. Discuss.

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

3. ELEPHANTS: Make a poster about elephants. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. CIRCUS ANIMALS: Write a magazine article about elephants and other circus animals. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against the use of animals in circuses.

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 elephants. Ask him/her three questions about elephants. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. largest | a. biggest |
| 2. stop | b. discontinue |
| 3. currently | c. presently |
| 4. please | d. satisfy |
| 5. worried | e. concerned |
| 6. criticised | f. attacked |
| 7. treatment of | g. behaviour towards |
| 8. banned | h. prohibited |
| 9. hard | i. difficult |
| 10. shift | j. change |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. 2018
2. Florida
3. Protest
4. The lives of animals
5. Lions and tigers
6. Animal rights activists
7. PETA
8. Being used for entertainment
9. Travel around the USA
10. Consumers

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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 ;-)