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## **Level 5**

### **Cats are just as clever as dogs, says study**

**28th January, 2017**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-5.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-5.html>

People usually think dogs are more intelligent than cats. This notion has been questioned by scientists in Japan. They said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. Cat lovers have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall or relate to a past event. This is called episodic memory. The team got the cats to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their memory of which bowl they had eaten from. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where.

The scientists said that cats were as good as dogs on different mental tests, including responding to the gestures and facial expressions of humans. A researcher speculated that cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "They may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added that: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats....Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-38665057>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/01/25/cats-dogs-equally-intelligent-new-research/>  
<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/miaow-it-turns-out-that-dogs-arent-smarter-than-cats-after-all-122140191.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. This notion has been             | a. on their memory          |
| 2. as smart as dogs at certain      | b. lovers                   |
| 3. Cat                              | c. ate and where            |
| 4. how well 49 cats could recall or | d. memory tests             |
| 5. This is called episodic          | e. relate to a past event   |
| 6. the cats were tested             | f. eaten from               |
| 7. which bowl they had              | g. questioned by scientists |
| 8. cats could recall what they      | h. memory                   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. responding to the         | a. deeply              |
| 2. facial                    | b. experience          |
| 3. similar to the way        | c. human relationships |
| 4. memories of their         | d. expressions         |
| 5. an introspective function | e. humans do           |
| 6. a type of                 | f. gestures            |
| 7. Understanding cats more   | g. of the mind         |
| 8. establish better cat-     | h. consciousness       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-5.html>

People usually (1) \_\_\_\_\_ more intelligent than cats. This notion has been questioned by scientists in Japan. They said that cats are as smart as dogs (2) \_\_\_\_\_ tests. Cat lovers have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted (3) \_\_\_\_\_ well 49 cats could recall or relate to a past event. This is called episodic memory. The team got the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats (5) \_\_\_\_\_ their memory of which bowl they had eaten from. The team found the cats could (6) \_\_\_\_\_ ate and where.

The scientists said that cats were as good as dogs (7) \_\_\_\_\_ tests, including responding to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ facial expressions of humans. A researcher speculated that cats (9) \_\_\_\_\_ events similar to the way humans do. She said: "They may enjoy actively recalling (10) \_\_\_\_\_ experience, like humans." She added that: "Episodic memory (11) \_\_\_\_\_ being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats....Understanding cats (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to establish better cat-human relationships."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-5.html>

People usually think dogs are more intelligent than cats. This notion has been questioned by scientists in Japan. They said that cats are as smart as dogs at certain memory tests. Cat lovers have always known this. Researchers at Kyoto University conducted tests on how well 49 cats could recall a related event. This is called episodic memory. The team got the cats to eat from one of two bowls. Fifteen minutes later, the cats were tested on their memory of which bowl they had eaten from. The team found the cats could recall what they ate and where. The scientists said that cats were as good as dogs on different mental tests, including responding to the gestures and facial expressions of humans. A researcher speculated that cats think about past events similar to the way humans do. She said: "They may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experience, like humans." She added that: "Episodic memory is viewed as being related to an introspective function of the mind. Our study may imply a type of consciousness in cats.... Understanding cats more deeply helps to establish better cat-human relationships."

# CATS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170128-cats-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cats 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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) \_\_\_\_\_

