

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# ANIMALS

Question: *What is the biggest animal you have ever seen?*



- Complete the paragraph on the right with the words on the left.



## *The Amazing Komodo Dragon*

Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a (1)\_\_\_\_\_ lizard? In the rainy, island country of Indonesia, there are between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards called Komodo dragons. They are called Komodo dragons because one of the five (2)\_\_\_\_\_ they live on is called Komodo Island. They are the largest (3)\_\_\_\_\_ of lizard in the world. (4)\_\_\_\_\_ Komodos are usually three meters long and weigh about 70 kg. The largest Komodo ever was an (5)\_\_\_\_\_ 166 kg! European scientists (6)\_\_\_\_\_ them in 1910, and when Hollywood producers heard about them they made a movie about a giant (7)\_\_\_\_\_ called 'King Kong'. The Komodos live for about 40 to 50 years. They eat almost anything they can (8)\_\_\_\_\_ ; for example, birds, bird eggs, monkeys, deer, and horses. Sometimes they even eat other smaller Komodos, and sometimes (but not often) even people. They (9)\_\_\_\_\_ like to eat dead and dying animals. There are only about 50 Komodo dragons in zoos around the world. Because there are so few of them living in (10)\_\_\_\_\_, a (11)\_\_\_\_\_ called Komodo National Park was opened in Indonesia in 1980 to (12)\_\_\_\_\_ them.

- A** adult *adj., n.*
- amazing *adj.*
- C** catch *v.*
- D** discovered *v.*
- E** especially *adv.*
- G** giant *adj., n.*
- gorilla *n.*
- I** islands *n.*
- P** park *n.*
- protect *v.*
- S** species *n.*
- T** the wild *n.*

(about 200 words)

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## The Amazing Komodo Dragon



### Vocabulary Practice

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- |               |          |  |
|---------------|----------|--|
| 1. adult      | <u>B</u> | A. a kind of very large ape with black fur       |
| 2. amazing    | _____    | B. a fully grown animal or person                |
| 3. especially | _____    | C. to keep someone or something from being hurt  |
| 4. giant      | _____    | D. more than usually; special; very              |
| 5. gorilla    | _____    | E. natural environment or place; without humans  |
| 6. protect    | _____    | F. surprising; wonderful; difficult to believe   |
| 7. species    | _____    | G. a group of animals or plants that are similar |
| 8. the wild   | _____    | H. much larger or more powerful than normal      |

### How Much Do You Understand?

- Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.

1. F The paragraph is about giant animals and where they live.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ There are between 40 and 50 thousand Komodo dragons.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Komodo dragons are very large.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ In the wild, Komodo dragons live in Indonesia and Europe.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Some Komodo dragons are so big that they are called 'King Kong'.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ People have tried to protect Komodo dragons for more than 30 years.

### Discuss

- Ask and answer the following questions with your classmates.

1. Very few Komodos live in the wild. How does this make you feel? Why?
2. Have you ever seen a strange animal? Where? When?
3. Do you like to visit zoos? Why? / Why not?
4. What other strange and amazing animals do you know about?

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## The Amazing Komodo Dragon



### Grammar-in-Context

- Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.

Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a giant lizard? In the (1)\_\_\_\_\_, island country of Indonesia, there are between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards called Komodo dragons. They (2)\_\_\_\_\_ Komodo dragons because one of the five islands they live on is called Komodo Island. They are the largest species of lizard (3)\_\_\_\_\_. Adult Komodos are usually three meters long (4)\_\_\_\_\_ weigh about 70 kg. The (5)\_\_\_\_\_ Komodo ever was an amazing 166 kg! European scientists discovered (6)\_\_\_\_\_ in 1910, and when Hollywood producers heard about them they (7)\_\_\_\_\_ a movie about a giant gorilla called 'King Kong'. The Komodos live for about 40 to 50 years. They (8)\_\_\_\_\_ almost anything they can catch; for example, birds, bird eggs, monkeys, deer, and horses. Sometimes (9)\_\_\_\_\_ even eat other smaller Komodos, and sometimes (but not often) even people. They especially (10)\_\_\_\_\_ to eat dead and dying animals. There are only about 50 Komodo dragons in zoos around the world. (11)\_\_\_\_\_ there are so few of them living in the wild, a park called Komodo National Park was opened in Indonesia in 1980 to (12)\_\_\_\_\_ them.

1.

- (A) rain
- (B) rains
- (C) rainy
- (D) rained

5.

- (A) larger
- (B) large
- (C) largest
- (D) largely

9.

- (A) they
- (B) theirs
- (C) them
- (D) their

2.

- (A) are called
- (B) called
- (C) are call
- (D) calls

6.

- (A) them
- (B) their
- (C) they
- (D) theirs

10.

- (A) are liking
- (B) like
- (C) likes
- (D) liked

3.

- (A) the world
- (B) in the world
- (C) on the world
- (D) in world

7.

- (A) made
- (B) make
- (C) making
- (D) was make

11.

- (A) But
- (B) And
- (C) So
- (D) Because

4.

- (A) because
- (B) but
- (C) so
- (D) and

8.

- (A) ate
- (B) eat
- (C) are eating
- (D) eats

12.

- (A) is protecting
- (B) protects
- (C) protected
- (D) protect

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## *The Amazing Komodo Dragon*



### Writing and Listening Practice

- Listen to your teacher and complete the paragraph.

Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a giant lizard? In the rainy, \_\_\_\_\_ country of Indonesia, \_\_\_\_\_ between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards \_\_\_\_\_ Komodo dragons. They \_\_\_\_\_ called Komodo dragons \_\_\_\_\_ one of the five \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ is called Komodo Island. They are \_\_\_\_\_ of lizard \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. Adult Komodos \_\_\_\_\_ usually \_\_\_\_\_ meters \_\_\_\_\_ and weigh \_\_\_\_\_ 70 kg. The \_\_\_\_\_ Komodo ever \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ 166 kg! European \_\_\_\_\_ discovered them in 1910, \_\_\_\_\_ when Hollywood producers \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ a movie about a giant gorilla called 'King Kong'. The Komodos \_\_\_\_\_ for about 40 \_\_\_\_\_ 50 years. They \_\_\_\_\_ they can catch; \_\_\_\_\_, birds, bird eggs, \_\_\_\_\_, deer, and horses. \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_ Komodos, and sometimes (but not \_\_\_\_\_) even \_\_\_\_\_. They \_\_\_\_\_ dead \_\_\_\_\_ dying animals. \_\_\_\_\_ only about 50 Komodo dragons \_\_\_\_\_ zoos \_\_\_\_\_. Because \_\_\_\_\_ so few \_\_\_\_\_ living \_\_\_\_\_, a park called Komodo National Park \_\_\_\_\_ in Indonesia \_\_\_\_\_ to protect \_\_\_\_\_.



# ANIMALS

- *Distribute one picture to each student. Have them research and write a paragraph about their animal. Finally, have them present their findings to their classmates.*



**Galapagos Island tortoise**



**African elephant**



**North American bison**



**South American tree frog**



**Australian crocodile**



**Arctic polar bear**



**Language Focus** Present Simple Tense / Past Simple Tense

**Level** Intermediate to Advanced

**Time** Approximately 120 – 180 minutes

## ANSWER KEY:

### ● Complete the Paragraph

1. giant
2. islands
3. species
4. Adult
5. amazing
6. discovered
7. gorilla
8. catch
9. especially
10. the wild
11. park
12. protect

### ● Vocabulary Practice

1. B
2. F
3. D
4. H
5. A
6. C
7. G
8. E

### ● How Much Do You Understand?

1. F (The paragraph is about the Komodo dragon.)
2. F (There are between 4 and 5 thousand.)
3. T
4. F (In Europe, they only live in zoos.)
5. F ('King Kong' was the name of a movie.)
6. T

### ● Grammar-in-Context

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. D
5. C
6. A
7. A
8. B
9. A
10. B
11. D
12. D

### ● Homework Idea

Choose another interesting animal and write about it.

## EXPLORE on-line:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komodo\\_dragon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komodo_dragon)

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles/komodo-dragon/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLIMgXv89VU>

<http://komodonationalpark.org/>