

**1. Read the text and match the titles to the paragraphs. One title is extra.**

- |                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Best Friend         | 4. The Accident                    |
| 2. Mixing with Animals     | 5. Returning Home                  |
| 3. Ten Years in the Jungle | 6. Professional Interest in Africa |

### Modern Mowgli

- A.** When Rudyard Kipling created the character of Mowgli, an orphaned boy who was adopted and raised by wolves in the forests of India, he would have never guessed that one day there would be a child that would actually live a similar life. Meet Tippi Benjamine Okanti Degre, a French girl who spent the first ten years of her life in the jungle. In her case, fortunately, it involved only the fun adventures and none of the hardship that Kipling's young character faced.
- B.** Born in Windhoek, Namibia, in 1990 to Sylvie Robert and Alain Degre, both wildlife photographers, Tippi was exposed to the wild residents of the African jungles since the day she was born. Her parents travelled extensively through the country in search of exotic animals and the trio often ended up sleeping in a tent in the middle of the jungle. It was therefore no wonder, that the little girl had very little fear of animals.
- C.** However, unlike Mowgli, Tippi always had her parents around to protect her and the only wild animals that she interacted with were the orphaned animals that had been raised by humans in national parks. These animals were still wild and little Tippi did have a few close encounters. Once an ape tried to steal her milk bottle, another time a small animal thought her nose looked good enough to eat and took a couple of nips. The most serious one that her mum can recall is when Cindy a baboon became a little jealous of Tippi's thick hair and decided to pull out a handful.
- D.** The young girl who many locals believed had a special connection with animals, led a rather magical life. She spent her days riding on ostriches, hanging out with (tamed) leopards and making friends with the mighty elephants. In fact, her best pal happened to be Abu, an enormous African elephant. Not only that, she also got to meet and spend time with many of the local bushmen who adored the free-spirited girl.
- E.** While her magical life ended when she turned ten and her parents decided to move back to Paris, her memories remain with her and a few months ago were chronicled in a book called "Tippi, My Book of Africa". The book not surprisingly has become a huge hit amongst animal fans. We wonder if the now 23-year-old girl who is studying cinema in Paris, will some day decide to follow her parents' example and take her kids back to experience, that she did.

| A | B | C | D | E |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |

**2-7. Read the text again and choose the right option.**

- 2. Kipling's character Mowgli is mentioned because another child .**
1. was raised by wolves
  2. was found in the forests of India
  3. lost her parents in the jungle
  4. had similar experience
- 3. The French girl was called Mowgli because .**
1. she was raised by wild animals
  2. her family lived in the jungle with animals
  3. she made friends with wild animals
  4. she couldn't speak human language
- 4. The girl wasn't afraid of wild animals because her parents .**
1. lived in the middle of the jungle
  2. knew how to deal with them
  3. photographed them
  4. had wild animals as pets

**5. The wild animals with whom Tippi played .**

1. were from the Zoo
2. lived in the circus
3. were raised by people
4. couldn't hurt anyone

**6. Local people liked Tippi because she .**

1. was a brave girl
2. had a power over the animals
3. rode on ostriches
4. obeyed her parents

**7. When Tippi grew up she \_\_\_\_ .**

1. wanted to return to Africa
2. refused to ever go back
3. published her memories
4. decided to become a zoologist

**Click **FINISH** below**

