

READING PRACTICE

Text 1

Talking to your parrot

Parrots want to be with other parrots and they also want to communicate with other parrots. But what do they do when they live in a house and there aren't any parrots there? The answer is easy. They begin to learn the language of their new 'family': English, French, Spanish, etc. Parrots are intelligent and they know they can get more food when they speak the language of their new home.

Have *you* got a parrot? Does it speak to you, or is it usually quiet? It isn't difficult to teach your parrot to speak! First, you must be good friends with your bird. Sad parrots don't usually want to talk, but happy parrots love playing. Parrots learn like babies; they listen, and then they speak. So you must talk to your parrot every day. When you see it in the morning, say 'Good morning.' When you give it some food, say the name of the food.

We all know that parrots are fantastic pets, but they are much better when you can speak to them and they can speak to you!

1 Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Parrots like being with other parrots. T / F
- 2 They like communicating. T / F
- 3 They usually learn three languages when they live with people. T / F
- 4 People give their parrots more food when the bird speaks. T / F
- 5 All parrots speak to people. T / F
- 6 It's difficult to learn to teach your parrot to speak. T / F
- 7 It's important to be friends with your parrot. T / F
- 8 When parrots aren't happy, they don't want to talk. T / F
- 9 Babies can learn to speak the language of parrots. T / F
- 10 Parrots are good pets only when they can speak. T / F

Text 2

My name is Sally. In my family we don't eat red meat and we never have sausages or ham, but we eat fish and chicken. Salmon is my favourite fish, but I also like tuna. We also eat a lot of vegetables, like broccoli and tomatoes and we eat dairy products. At the moment we've got some milk, yoghurt and cheese in our fridge.

We usually eat at home, but sometimes we eat in a restaurant. We often go to an Italian restaurant near our house because we all like pasta and pizza. Sometimes we go to a vegetarian restaurant. There's a very good vegetarian restaurant in the town square. I always have bananas and broccoli with rice there. It's delicious!

My friends eat a lot of meat. My friend Matt has sausages and eggs for breakfast every day!

2 Read the text and choose the correct options.

- i. Sally never eats any *meat / sausages*.
- ii. She *likes / doesn't like* fish very much.
- iii. There are *dairy products / vegetables* in her fridge at the moment.
- iv. Sally *always eats / doesn't always eat* the same food when she goes to the vegetarian restaurant.
- v. Sally and her friends eat *different / the same* food.

3 Read the text again. Write Sally (S) or Matt (M).

Who ...

- 1 has the same thing for breakfast every day?
- 2 usually has a dairy product for breakfast?
- 3 usually has fish and vegetables for lunch?
- 4 often has meals with red meat?
- 5 eats better food?