

Brought up with wolves

1  Look at the photo and answer the questions.

- 1 What do you think the title of the text means?
- 2 Do you think animals can look after people? Why? / Why not?

2  **4.08** Read the article. Ignore the gaps for now. Which sentence (A–C) is NOT true about the article?

- ☐ A The author of the article describes what Rodríguez's childhood had been like before he began to look after goats.
- ☐ B The author of the article gives examples of problems Rodríguez had when he got back to society.
- ☐ C The author of the text tries to explain how and why Rodríguez made friends with animals.

3 Read the article again and complete gaps A–F with sentences 1–7. There is one sentence that you do not need.

- ☐ 1 It wasn't just food that kept him alive.
- ☐ 2 They both lived in a cave, drank goat's milk and hunted for rabbits.
- ☐ 3 He lay down on the ground until he saw wolves coming near him.
- ☐ 4 He believed that they were ⁵trapped inside the device.
- ☐ 5 He tried to catch fish and leave traps for animals, but he wasn't able to get much food.
- ☐ 6 He was asked many questions, and people wondered if he was telling the truth.
- ☐ 7 When they ⁶approached him, he wasn't able to answer their questions.

4 **VOCABULARY** Match the highlighted words above and in the article to the definitions A–F.

- ☐ A to come near to somebody / something
- ☐ B to get used to a new situation by changing the way you behave and/or think
- ☐ C a health condition which is connected with the state of mind
- ☐ D a person whose job is to take care of sheep
- ☐ E to put somebody in a dangerous place that they cannot get out of
- ☐ F to see or notice somebody / something

Marcos Rodríguez Pantoja was in his early twenties when he went to the cinema for the first time. It was a Western, and he got so scared of cowboys riding towards him on the screen that he ran out of the cinema. Rodríguez was also confused when he first heard people talking on the radio. ^A_____ As he couldn't find a door to let the people out, he threw the radio against the wall, but nobody left or answered him. At that moment, he thought he had killed them. Marcos Rodríguez Pantoja didn't suffer from any ¹mental illness. He wasn't used to technology. For the past twelve years, he had lived alone in the Sierra Morena, a mountain range in Spain.

It all started when Rodríguez was seven years old. Together with an elderly ²shepherd he was taking care of goats and sheep that were kept in the mountains. ^B_____ However, one day the man went to the woods to find food and never came back.

Rodríguez did all he could to survive. ^C_____ Soon he began to ³observe animals and ate whatever they ate. For example, he picked the same berries the birds did or the same plants that wild pigs found in the ground.

^D_____ As Rodríguez explained later, he managed to go on for twelve years alone because he had made friends with animals. He learned to communicate with them. Rodríguez believes that

wolves were looking after him and shared their food with him while snakes and foxes kept him company.

In 1965, Rodríguez was found by the police. ^E_____ He understood the policemen, but had lost the ability to pronounce words. After being taken to hospital, Rodríguez spent months learning how to speak, walk straight and eat. It took him many years to ⁴adjust to society again.

After he had been rescued, Rodríguez was visited by experts like anthropologists and biologists. ^F_____ Did he make friends with wolves? Was he able to communicate with animals? Did they offer him food? One of the specialists believes that Rodríguez saw it this way because it helped him cope with the situation.