READING

A **Apart from humans, which animals do you think are intelligent?**

B 2.01 **Read the blog post. Then choose *True* or *False*.**

The Mirror Test

Animals are interesting, aren't they? They can be **cute**, they can be fast, and they can be strong. But are they **intelligent**?

That isn't an easy question to answer. Animals all live in different habitats and their **behavior** is right for that situation. We need a standard way to test an animal's behavior. The mirror test, developed in 1970 by Dr. Gordon Gallup Jr., gives us that.

You recognize your own reflection in a mirror, don't you? But does an animal know that it's looking at itself when it looks in a mirror, or does it think it's a different animal? If an animal passes the mirror test, there's a good chance it is intelligent. We give the animal medicine so it goes to sleep. Then, we put a colored mark on the animal's body where it can't see it in a normal way, such as on its forehead or on its ear. When the animal wakes up and sees itself in a mirror, we watch how it behaves.

Animals that pass the mirror test see the mark and touch it or try to remove it. So far, the species that have passed the test are great apes (chimpanzees, bonobos, and orangutans), elephants, dolphins, orcas, and Eurasian magpies. Some people say, though, that the test only works with animals that mainly use **sight** to explore the world, and it may not be a fair test of other animals, such as dogs, who use **smell** or sound more than sight and fail the test.



GLOSSARY

habitat (n): place where an animal naturally lives

1 An animal's environment changes how it acts. True / False
2 The mirror test is done while the animal is asleep. True / False
3 In the mirror test, the animal puts color on its body using the mirror. True / False
4 Animals pass the mirror test if they know they are looking at themselves. True / False

READING SKILL—Understand examples **Find and write examples from the text in B.**

1 a good place to put a mark on an animal for the mirror test _____
2 an animal that passes the mirror test _____
3 an animal that fails the mirror test _____

THINKING SKILL—Recall **Without reading the text again, describe how the mirror test works.**

VOCABULARY

A **Complete the definitions (1–5) with the words in bold in READING B.**

1 The sense of _____ is very important to animals that hunt with their eyes, such as cats.
2 The sense of _____ is very important to animals that use their noses a lot, such as bears.
3 An _____ person is good at understanding difficult ideas.
4 An animal's _____ is the way it acts and the things it does.
5 People often think that baby animals, such as kittens and puppies, are _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS