


A. Read the text and match the introductory sentences (a – g) below with the paragraphs (1 – 5).

There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use


- a. As well as food, animals need somewhere to live
- b. Animals can't talk but some species have developed ways of letting others know where food is
- c. Animals communicate with each other just like humans
- d. Hunting can be difficult and even dangerous for one animal
- e. Some species have developed intelligent ways of gathering food
- f. It is not always easy for animals to build a home
- g. Animals also depend on each other to keep safe


MANY PAWS MAKE LIGHT WORK


People work together for a simple reason – it makes difficult jobs easier. If you had to move a heavy piece of furniture from one room to another, would you do it all by yourself or find someone to help you? As you would probably agree, with a friend you can get the job done more quickly, and neither of you will be tired afterwards. For similar reasons, animals also use teamwork. In animal groups, each individual works to help the group as a whole.

Coastal bottlenose dolphins have developed a unique way of catching fish which requires extraordinary teamwork. The dolphins follow a school of fish until they are near a bank.  Then, they swim towards the fish creating a wave which pushes the fish out of the water and onto the bank. The dolphins end up half out of the water lying on the bank where they eat the helpless fish. In order for this to work, each dolphin must rush towards the bank at exactly the same time, otherwise the wave won't be strong enough. How they decide when to go and gives the order is unknown, but a high level of communication definitely exists between them.

For example, if a bee finds nectar, it has two ways of informing its hive. It may create a trail with the scent of the nectar. When the other bees pick up the smell, they can follow it to the nectar. Or the bee may perform the "the waggle dance". The other bees understand what this dance means, and then they work as a team to collect the nectar.

It also takes a lot of energy to chase and kill prey, which is wasted if the prey escapes. Hunting in packs helps make predators more efficient. A pack of wolves, for example, can kill a large animal such as a deer or moose, while one wolf can kill a small animal. Wolf packs,  which consists of two to twenty wolves, may surprise their prey or pursue it for hours before attacking. If there were several animals, the pack will choose the weakest one because it will take less effort to catch. In the end, the wolves share the meat with each other.

Some animals simply move into the best place they can find, but others build home for themselves. A particularly intelligent builder is the beaver. Beavers live by rivers and streams and build dams to create pools of deep water which help keep their home safe.  The whole colony, about five to six members, co-operates to create the dam with trees they've cut down using their long, sharp front teeth. They then construct their home, which looks like a stick igloo, in the side of the bank.

For example, they may have a signal that lets the group know when a threat is nearby. When an ant is crushed, it releases a scent called "alarm pheromone" that signals the other ants  to come to the crushed ant and attack the enemy. Larger animals may challenge an opponent using sounds and body language. Wolves, for example, will growl at anything that is threatening their pack, and get ready to attack. They also warn each other of danger by barking. Because their pack is so important to their survival, wolves will even risk their lives to defend it.

By living and working in groups, animals increase their chances of surviving in the wild. Each individual in the group contributes something that helps the others. This could be as simple as communicating where food is. Or it could be as difficult and dangerous as risking one's life to protect another member of the group. By studying the variety of animal groups one thing is for sure: teamwork works!

B. Find and write the words which match the definitions

1. smell (par.2) _____
2. an animal hunting for food (par. 3) _____
3. work together (par.4) _____
4. a danger (par. 5) _____
5. a sound made by a dog (par.5) _____

C. Read the text and answer the questions

1. What is the main message of the text?
 - a. Most animals hunt in groups.
 - b. Animals have better chances of surviving when working together
 - c. Groups of animals are more dangerous than individual ones.
 - d. Smaller animals work in teams more than larger animals.
2. Why does the writer of the text say that dolphins use extraordinary teamwork?
 - a. Because they jump out of the water together to catch the fish
 - b. Because they can give orders
 - c. Because their timing is perfect when catching fish
 - d. Because they are strong enough to create waves
3. Why do bees perform the "waggle dance"?
 - a. To find out where the nectar is
 - b. To pick up the smell of the nectar
 - c. To create a trail
 - d. To tell the other bees that they've found nectar
4. Why do wolves hunt in packs?
 - a. So they can surprise their prey
 - b. So they can kill larger animals
 - c. So they can attack the number of animals
 - d. So they can share the meat
5. Which of the following best describes beavers?
 - a. They cut down trees with their teeth and use them to create a dam which protects their home
 - b. They live in a pool of water to keep safe and each beaver builds home out of trees.
 - c. They live on dams which they make to look like stick igloos.
 - d. They find homes by rivers and streams and repair them by cutting down trees
6. What is the "alarm pheromone" used for?
 - a. To show anger
 - b. To scare away an enemy
 - c. To signal trouble
 - d. To surprise the animal

