FOCUS ON READING

VOCABULARY

Reading One is an excerpt from the book *Animals In Translation* by Temple Grandin. In this excerpt, the author discusses animal intelligence. Many other scientists and researchers are also studying the growing field of animal intelligence.

Read an interview with a noted researcher in animal intelligence. Complete the interview with synonyms for the words in parentheses. Use the words in the box.

achieve	apparently	behavior	cognition
obvious	unconscious	acquired	approach
category	controversy	perception	unique

REPORTER: Can you tell us a little bit about your work studying animal intelligence?

RESEARCHER: Sure, but let me start by saying that there has always been

_____ about exactly what animal intelligence is. For many years, those
  1. (serious disagreement)

animals that could act most human were put into the _____ of "intelligent".
                                                    2. (group with shared characteristics)

REPORTER: But that is not really the case, is it? Maybe you could give us some historical background.

RESEARCHER: Well, during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, people believed animals

possessed human emotions and mental abilities. Those animals that could be trained to imitate human

_____ were judged to be intelligent. In fact, shows involving these trained
  3. (conduct)

animals were very popular. One such animal was the famous horse, Clever Hans, who seemed to be

able solve mathematical problems. The _____ conclusion was that he was
                                       4. (clear)

intelligent. Actually, Clever Hans was reacting to _____ movements made by
                                                    5. (done without realizing it)

people watching him. His answers had nothing to do with a knowledge of mathematics.

REPORTER: But doesn't the fact that an animal can be trained show that it is intelligent?

RESEARCHER: Not really. When trying to assess animal intelligence, it is easy to confuse trainability with _____. However, just because you can train an animal to perform certain
6. (thinking)

behaviors doesn't mean it really knows what it is doing. Dogs at airports around the world sniff suitcases and signal their handlers when they detect illegal drugs. These dogs are _____ behaving in an intelligent manner even though they have no concept
7. (seeming to be true)

of drugs being illegal.

REPORTER: So, what is actually happening?

RESEARCHER: These dogs possess extreme _____ with their sense of smell,
8. (use of senses)

but this doesn't necessarily make them intelligent. In fact, smell is not the only sense in which animals outdo humans. For example, eagles can clearly see a rabbit when flying almost a mile above it. They also see more colors than humans. In fact, eagles are not _____ in having
9. (special)

extreme vision. Hammerhead sharks have a visual field of 360 degrees. In other words, they can see fish both in front of and behind them, but, again, this alone does not make them intelligent.

REPORTER: So, how can we really know if an animal is intelligent?

RESEARCHER: As Albert Einstein said, "Everybody is a genius. But, if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it'll spend its whole life believing it is stupid." Therefore, in order to assess animal intelligence, it is important to test the animal in ways that are meaningful for their lives. This is the _____ most researchers are using in the twenty-first century.
10. (method)

REPORTER: Using this method, how do researchers today define intelligence?

RESEARCHER: First of all, it is necessary to separate what animals are born with, instinct, from what they have _____ by learning. Learning how to respond to new situations in
11. (developed/obtained)

ways that allow them to _____ the goals that are important in their lives is the
12. (accomplish)

most effective way to measure their intelligence.