Name: Class:

Unit 4 – Chapter 10

FIRST LISTENING

Listen to the lecture on elephants. As you listen, put the following parts of the lecture in the order that you hear them. Number them 1 to 5.

____ The continents elephants come from

____ Elephants' temperaments

____ Elephants' trunks

____ Elephants' size

____ Elephants' intelligence

THIRD LISTENING

Lecturer:

Today's topic has to do with the largest land mammals on earth elephants. You probably know what the largest mammal in the sea is, right? Whales. However on land, elephants are the largest mammals. There are two types of elephants. One is the Asian elephant of India and Southeast Asia; the other is the African elephant. These two types of elephants are enormous mammals.

So all elephants are very large, but as I said, there are two types of elephants, African and the Asian. I'm going to compare and contrast the similarities and differences between the two species for you today.

Let's start with some similarities. Well, for one thing, both animals have trunks. An elephant uses its trunk to put grasses, leaves, and water into its mouth. Typically. elephants drink about 50 gallons of water each day. Both kinds of elephants use their trunks to pick up very small objects and very large, heavy objects. They can even pick up trees with their trunks. Another

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similarity is that both animals are intelligent. Both animals can be trained to do heavy work. They can also be trained to do tricks to entertain people. In other words, they can do work for people, and they can also be taught to entertain people.

As I said before, the African and the Asian elephants are alike in many ways, but they are also quite different, too. Let me explain what I mean.

The African elephant is larger and heavier than the Asian elephant. Asian elephants reach a height of about 10 feet, and African elephants reach about 13 feet tall. The African male elephant weighs between 12,000 and 14,000 pounds. In contrast, the average Asian male elephant weighs between 7,000 and 12,000 pounds. So one is bigger than the other, but as you can see both are still enormous animals.

Another difference between the two kinds of elephants is the size of the ears. Asian elephants have smaller ears than the African elephants. The African elephant has two very large teeth. These teeth are called tusks. The Asian elephant, however, sometimes does not have any tusks at all. The elephants differ in color, too. The African elephant is dark gray in color, while the Asian elephant is light gray. Occasionally an Asian elephant is even white! The last big difference between the two types of elephants is their temperament. The Asian elephant is tamer than the African elephant. Or put another way, the African elephant is much wilder than the Asian elephant. As a result, it is more difficult to train the African elephant to perform tricks to entertain people. That's why the elephants you see in the circus are probably Asian elephants and not African elephants.

Yes, there certainly are differences between the African and the Asian elephants, but as I mentioned at the start of my talk, there is one big similarity between the two animals: they are both fascinating, and enormous, animals.

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