

## Task 58

You are going to read a magazine article about pets. Some words are missing from the text. Choose the most suitable word from the list (A-P) for each gap (1-13) in the text. There are two extra words that you do not need to use. Write your answers in the boxes after the text. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### YOU ASKED ABOUT Pets

#### *Do fish get dirty?*

Fish never have to think about taking a bath. But just because they are always in (0) \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't mean they're clean. Fish are covered with a protective coating of slime that (1) \_\_\_\_\_ out most harmful bacteria. But if the water is dirty, parasites may attach themselves to the fish. They can eat all the way through its coating to the skin, causing the fish to become (2) \_\_\_\_\_. To keep your fish clean and healthy, follow a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ cleaning routine.

#### *Is a guinea pig a kind of pig?*

When is a pig not a pig? When it's a guinea pig! Guinea pigs, along with hamsters and gerbils, belong to the rodent (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Pigs, on the hand, are part of the swine family. No one knows for sure (5) \_\_\_\_\_ this tiny rodent from South America got its name. It probably has to do with the squeals and grunts that a guinea pig (6) \_\_\_\_\_ – especially when eating.

#### *Can turtles jump?*

Turtles aren't always as pokey as you might think. It's true that sliders, most often kept as pets, seem (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to laze about. However, many sea turtles can swim at a good (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Some land turtles can manage a short (9) \_\_\_\_\_. But jumping? That's another matter! Because of the weight of their shells and their stubby legs, even the most (10) \_\_\_\_\_ turtles cannot jump. They are able to lift their front legs – but not leap over hurdles!

#### *Does a ride in the elevator make my dog's ears pop?*

You may be surprised to hear that you and your dog have similar kinds of ears. So if your ears are popping as the air pressure (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in a moving elevator, your dog's ears are probably popping, too. When that happens, your dog may (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and close its mouth several times to gulp air. Or it may even yawn. But your pet's not (13) \_\_\_\_\_ or tired. Just like you, it's trying to avoid that uncomfortable earpopping!

- A active
- B bored
- C changes
- D family
- E finds
- F happy
- G how
- H keeps

- I makes
- J open
- K regular
- L run
- M sick
- N sleep
- O speed
- P water