

Matura bez problemu – zadania tekstowe 8

Przeczytaj tekst. Po każdym akapicie zdecyduj, czy zdania podane poniżej wyrażają prawdę - 'true', czy fałsz - 'false'.

Evolution has a sense of humour. Given enough time and enough mutation, competition, selection, pressure and hybridization the forces of nature can turn a lizard into a Chicken From Hell.

Scientists have just discovered a freakish, birdlike species of dinosaur - 3 metres long, over 200 kilo, with a beak, no teeth, a bony crest on top of its head, murderous claws, strong fighter arms, tall legs, a thin tail and feathers sprouting all over the body. Officially, it's a member of a group of dinosaurs called oviraptorosaurs, unofficially nicknamed the Chicken From Hell.

- a) **According to scientists the new type of dinosaur that they have discovered is really strange and cannot be compared to any dinosaur found before.**

This dino-bird is not literally a chicken, or even a bird. It's definitely a dinosaur, and it lived at the end of the Cretaceous period, from about 68 million to 66 million years ago. 'It would look like a really absurd, stretched-out chicken and it would have been a cross between a chicken and a lizard,' say the palaeontologists who excavated the fossils.

- b) **The palaeontologists were surprised to discover a dinosaur that would have looked like two species combined together.**

The fossils of three specimens of the new dinosaur were found in a sedimentary rock layer known as the Hell Creek in North and South Dakota. The formation inspired the nickname. But there's also the matter of appearance: It's a disturbing beast. It looks like it could stomp you, rip you to pieces or simply peck you to death.

- c) **The nickname of the Chicken From Hell derives from the scary body features of the new dinosaur.**

It's a big animal, the biggest oviraptorosaur species found in North America. The creature brings to mind a huge flightless bird, such as an ostrich or emu. The weird crest on its head, which resembles half a dinner plate turned vertically, looks like that of a cassowary. The new dinosaur is loaded with biological accessories and adaptations, as if evolution had been inspired by a Swiss Army knife.

- d) **Scientists have figured out that the new dinosaur would have been a fierce creature that attacked its prey from air.**

In *The Origin of Species* Charles Darwin wrote of the '*grandeur of natural selection, through which endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved*' — but he never saw this animal from a nightmare.