

## ANIMAL VERBS

### 1. Identify the animal characteristic reflected in the following idiomatic expressions:

(Behaving arrogantly or pompously / Working diligently and persistently / Repeating someone else's words or opinions without thinking critically / Avoiding or evading something, especially work or responsibility / Eating something quickly and voraciously / Pursuing relentlessly or harassing continuously)

a) John's been beavering away all day to get his room tidy before he leaves.

\_\_\_\_\_

b) Ever since he got that promotion, he's been swanning around the office as if he owned the company.

\_\_\_\_\_

c) You wolfed that down. I haven't finished eating my first course yet!

\_\_\_\_\_

d) He always tries to duck out of anything that involves hard work.

\_\_\_\_\_

e) The press have hounded him day and night ever since he broke the world 100-meter record.

\_\_\_\_\_

f) He's just parroting what the teacher said. Hasn't he got his own views on the subject?

\_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Match the animal verbs with their corresponding meanings:

- a) Hounded
- b) Swanning around
- c) Parroting
- d) Wolfed down
- e) Beavering away
- f) Duck out of

1. To work diligently and persistently \_\_\_\_\_

2. To behave arrogantly or pompously \_\_\_\_\_

3. To eat something quickly and voraciously \_\_\_\_\_

4. To avoid or evade something, especially work or responsibility \_\_\_\_\_

5. To pursue relentlessly or harass continuously \_\_\_\_\_

6. To repeat someone else's words or opinions without thinking critically \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Use the animal verbs in sentences that reflect their meanings:

- a) She's been \_\_\_\_\_ all day, trying to finish her project before the deadline.
- b) Ever since his promotion, he's been \_\_\_\_\_ as if he's the boss.
- c) You \_\_\_\_\_ your lunch! Slow down and enjoy your meal.
- d) He always tries to \_\_\_\_\_ whenever there's hard work involved.
- e) The paparazzi have \_\_\_\_\_ the celebrity ever since the scandal broke.

f) Instead of expressing his own thoughts, he's just \_\_\_\_\_ what the professor said.

**4. Complete the sentences with the correct animal verbs:**

- a) She's been \_\_\_\_\_ all night to finish her presentation for tomorrow.
- b) After winning the championship, he's been \_\_\_\_\_ with pride.
- c) He \_\_\_\_\_ of the meeting when he realized how much work it would involve.
- d) The journalists have \_\_\_\_\_ the politician for weeks for comments on the recent scandal.
- e) Instead of coming up with original ideas, he's just \_\_\_\_\_ what his colleagues say.

**5. Rewrite the sentences using the animal verbs:**

- a) She has been working diligently all night to finish her presentation for tomorrow.
- b) After winning the championship, he has been behaving arrogantly with pride.
- c) He has been avoiding the meeting when he realized how much work it would involve.
- d) The journalists have been pursuing the politician for weeks for comments on the recent scandal.
- e) Instead of coming up with original ideas, he has been repeating what his colleagues say.