Spotlight 8

Reading Task 8418

Read the information about a film star.
For each question choose the correct answer.

1. Tippi first worked_____.
1. in commercials.
2. as a film actress.
3. for a diet drink company.
4. as a fashion model.

2. Tippi's film, *The Birds*,____
1. got bad reviews.
2. was very popular.
3. was unsuccessful.
4. never appeared at the cinema.

3. Tippi decided to set up Shambala_____.
1. as she was very concerned for the welfare of exotic animals.
2. after she made a film about animal cruelty.
3. after she ended her film career.
4. to include it in a feature film.

4. The majority of animals at Shambala come from_____
1. roadside zoos.
2. circus shows.
3. ordinary people.
4. animal shelters.

5. The main purpose of Tippi's Foundation is____
1. to get people to donate money.
2. to encourage people to adopt an animal.
3. to inform people about the risks of owning wild animals.
4. to take people on safari visits.

One glamorous cat lady!

How a glamorous Hollywood star decided to take a walk on the wild side...

During the 1960s, Tippi Hedren became one of the most famous stars in Hollywood. Her success may not have been immediate but it was certainly big. Tippi began her career as a fashion model. This led her to appear in some TV advertisements, including a fateful appearance in an advert for a diet drink. World famous director Alfred Hitchcock spotted Tippi in the advert; Tippi's good looks, elegant style and confident manner impressed him and he picked her to star in one of his most famous films *The Birds*. When the film came out, Tippi was a hit with the public and the critics. But nobody could have guessed that Tippi would soon make a commitment that would take her life in a completely new direction.

In 1972, Tippi was finishing a film made on location in Africa when she learnt that the big cats featured in the film had nowhere to go. The situation distressed Tippi and she desperately wanted to help these animals. Tippi decided to take time out from the glamourous world of film-making in order to set up an eighty acre wildlife habitat called Shambala for retired and unwanted big cats at the edge of the Mojave Desert, 64 kilometres northeast of Los Angeles, California.

Shambala is not just a temporary shelter; the sanctuary provides a home for over 70 big cats including lions, tigers, cougars, black and spotted leopards, panthers, bobcats, and a jungle cat. Some of the rescued cats had suffered neglect and mistreatment in roadside zoos and circus shows; but most came from the homes of private citizens who realized they had purchased an animal they couldn't handle.

Tippi also set up the ROAR foundation which primarily aims to educate the public about the dangers of private ownership of exotic animals. The foundation raises much needed funds for Shambala so that it can remain a place where big cats can live out their days in dignity. The public are able to enjoy occasional safari visits to Shambala and can even 'adopt a wild one', which they can visit at the reserve a few times each year. Tippi hopes that one day sanctuaries like Shambala won't be necessary, but for now her work to protect these beautiful creatures goes on.

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