

## 4

## READING • A moment in time

I can predict what an article is about using the title and photos.

THINK! What animals do you like most?

# HOW A PHOTO CHANGED MY LIFE

"Koala Man" David Tree woke up one morning to find his photograph on the front page of newspapers around the world.

It was one of the hottest summers in memory in the state of Victoria, Australia. Bush fires\* were burning very close to people's homes and they were in danger. In every town, volunteers were fighting the fires. David Tree was one of these volunteer firefighters.

On 9 February, Mr Tree was working with his team near his home town of Mirboo. They were fighting a bush fire. They were driving up Samson Road when Mr Tree saw a koala. It was walking across the burned ground, and it didn't look happy. "There's a koala, stop the truck," he shouted and jumped out. "I videoed the koala for my daughter Cheyenne, and yelled for a bottle of water." Firefighter Mark Pardew took the photo while the koala was drinking from a bottle. "Koalas are usually unfriendly but this one took David's hand," said



David Tree shares his water with an injured koala.  
Photograph: Mark Pardew/AP

Mr Pardew. "She was extremely tired and thirsty." A friend took the injured animal to a wildlife centre. At the centre, they named her Sam after Samson Road.

Later Mr Pardew emailed the photo to friends and someone sent it to the local newspaper. From there, it went around the world and David Tree became a celebrity.

\*Bush fires = fast and dangerous fires that happen in the countryside in Australia.

Adapted from the *Guardian* newspaper

1 Read the study strategy. Then use the strategy to do exercise 2.

### STUDY STRATEGY

#### Predicting content

Before you read a text:

- 1 Prepare. Look at the title. What does it tell you about the topic of the text? Think about what the photo shows and what words you can use to describe what's happening in it.
- 2 Read the text to see if your ideas are right.

3 1.37 Read and listen to the text again. Write true or false. Explain your answers.

- 1 Houses were burning in the town of Mirboo, Australia.
- 2 The firefighters weren't walking when Mr Tree saw the koala.
- 3 The koala wasn't happy.
- 4 Mr Tree took the koala to a wildlife centre.
- 5 Mr Pardew sent the photo to a local newspaper.

1 Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Then check your answers in the text and exercise 3 sentences on page 40.

was    wasn't    were    weren't

- 1 Bush fires ..... burning everywhere.
- 2 The koala ..... walking across the burned ground.
- 3 The koala ..... happy.
- 4 The firefighters ..... walking when Mr Tree saw the koala.

2 Look at the sentences in exercise 1. Then choose the correct options in the rules, a or b.

**RULES**



- 1 The past continuous describes:  
a a finished action in the past.  
b an action in progress in the past.
- 2 We form the negative of the past continuous with:  
a *wasn't / weren't*.   b *didn't*.

3 Complete the text using the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Photographer David Slater<sup>1</sup>  
(visit) Sulawesi, an island in Indonesia. He<sup>2</sup> ..... (photograph)  
the monkeys there and they<sup>3</sup> ..... (jump) all  
over his camera and camera bag.  
One of the bravest monkeys<sup>4</sup> ..... (play) with  
the camera, and it took a  
photo. The monkey took over  
100 photos that day, but the  
one that became a classic  
was this photo: the monkey<sup>5</sup> ..... (smile)  
when he took the selfie.

