

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER

General Foundation Program – Level 2

Learning Outcome(s)	LO 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
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Name		Group:	Date:
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Dian Fossey

Dian Fossey was born January 16, 1932, in San Francisco, California, U.S. She was an American zoologist who is one of the world's leading researchers on the mountain gorilla.

Fossey trained to become a therapist at San Jose State College and graduated in 1954. She worked for several years at a children's hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. In 1963 she took a trip to eastern Africa, where she met the anthropologist Louis Leakey and saw mountain gorillas for the first time. She returned to the United States after her trip, but in 1966 Leakey invited her to go back to Africa to study the mountain gorilla in its natural habitat. Fossey started the Karisoke Research Centre in 1967 and began living isolated in Rwanda's Virunga Mountains, which was one of the last natural homes of the endangered mountain gorilla. Fossey could watch and study the animals closely, and the data that she collected helps our knowledge of the gorilla's habits, communication, and social structure.

Fossey left Africa in 1970 to complete work for a doctorate (Phd) at the University of Cambridge in England. In 1974 she received her degree in zoology with the completion of her dissertation, "The Behavior of the Mountain Gorilla." She returned to Rwanda with student volunteers who could make wider research possible. When one of her favorite gorillas, Digit was killed by poachers, Fossey started international media coverage in 1978 against illegal killing of animals.

In 1980 Fossey returned to the United States to accept a visiting associate professorship at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. While teaching, Fossey also completed *Gorillas in the Mist* (a book published in 1983; film in 1988). Back in Rwanda, Fossey continued her campaign against poachers, taking extremely high measures to protect the Virunga gorillas.

On December 26, 1985, she was stabbed several times in her cabin. Her murderers were never found.

isolated – secluded/nobody around

data – important information collected

receive – get

volunteer – people working for no money

poacher – somebody who kills animals illegally

taking measures – to achieve a specific goal

stab – to kill somebody with a knife

endangered – dangerously low numbered animal

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Modified from: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Dian-Fossey>

Comprehension questions

I. Choose the correct answer.

1. Dian Fossey's first trip to eastern Africa was in _____.
a. 1954 b. 1963 c. 1966 d. 1967
2. She did her Phd in _____.
a. Louisville, Kentucky b. University of Cambridge
c. Cornell University, New York d. San Jose College
3. When did Fossey start Karisoke Research Centre?
a. 1967 b. 1970 c. 1974 d. 1980
4. The title of her book is _____.
a. Gorillas in Rwanda b. The Virunga Gorillas
c. Gorillas in the Mist d. The Behavior of the Mountain Gorilla
5. What was the name of Fossey's favorite gorilla?
a. Diggitt b. Diggity c. Dig d. Digit

II. True or False?

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| 1. Fossey is one of the world's leading researchers on the mountain gorilla. | T | F |
| 2. Fossey was born in San Diego. | T | F |
| 3. Digit was killed by poachers. | T | F |
| 4. The movie, Gorillas in the Mist, was released in 1983. | T | F |
| 5. Fossey's murderers are in prison. | T | F |