

True or False Statements

A cold, icy wind chilled her to the bone. She hugged her coat closer to her, in a feeble attempt to feel warmer. Her feet crunched wearily along the treacherously icy path as the anger, once again, surged up within her. She had told him to leave the gate shut. She had reminded him time and time again. Brothers can be so annoying! Her anger quickly turned to panic again at the thought of her poor, defenceless boy, out here in the bitterly cold weather. He was only 4 months old, for goodness sake! She just had to find him soon; she dared not think about what would happen if she didn't.

The weak sun was already beginning to sink below the horizon and the temperature was plummeting further. They had forecast snow tonight. She stopped for a moment and listened. She scanned the bushes and fields, looking for any hint of black or white. The fading light was hindering her. Perhaps his red collar might show up better? She shouted his name for the hundredth time that day, "Charlie. Come here boy. Charlie...come on!" She listened carefully. Nothing. No bark or whimper could be heard. She sighed deeply and continued with her seemingly hopeless search whilst disregarding the pain in her own tired, frozen feet.

It was getting dark now. She hated the thought of giving up but she knew her mum would be furious if she stayed out any longer. All was not without hope though. Charlie had been microchipped and he wore his name tag proudly on his collar. Tasha's contact details were on it and she had been clutching her mobile phone tightly all day in a hope that someone might have found him. Unfortunately, her phone had not yet rung.

Tears fell shamelessly down her cold, numb cheeks, as she headed reluctantly towards home. Snow flakes began to float gently from the sky, covering the fields in a light dusting of white. She would normally have been excited by the arrival of snow but not today. Today, the snow signalled a loss of hope. Charlie could never survive a night outside in this weather – not at his age. Suddenly, in front of her, a pheasant crashed nosily through the hedge. It was quickly followed by a bouncing, barking ball of black and white fluff. The ball of fluff seemed quite excited about this game, unlike the pheasant who took to the skies indignantly in a bid to escape the annoying creature. Tasha couldn't believe her eyes. Charlie seemed rather pleased by the arrival of his favourite playmate as he was getting rather tired and hungry. Tasha scooped the excited puppy into her arms and vowed never to let him out of her sight again.

- Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Charlie had jumped the fence to escape.		
Charlie was a young puppy.		
No snow had been forecast that night.		
It was getting too dark for Tasha to be able to spot Charlie.		
Tasha's feet were cold and tired.		
Charlie had Tasha's contact details on his name tag.		
The pheasant flew out of the tree.		
Charlie was happy to continue playing.		

True or False Statements

Pheasants are one of the UK's most colourful birds and have been a common sight in our countryside – except for the far north and west of Scotland – since they were introduced here by the Romans over 2000 years ago. Pheasants are widely distributed across Western Europe, central Asia and China. Pheasants are closely related to wild chickens, quails and partridges.

Habits and Habitats

Pheasants eat a diet of seeds, berries and insects. Their preferred habitat is agricultural land, near woodland edges, copses and hedgerows. In areas where woodlands are not common, marshy grassland and shrubby wetlands also provide a suitable home. Pheasants usually build their nest on the ground and prefer to spend their time hiding in the long grass. Their main predator is the fox, however, the pheasant has excellent eye-sight and hearing which they use to help them sense any approaching danger.

Flight

Pheasants tend only to fly for short distances but they are capable of reaching speeds of up to 48mph. Pheasants do not migrate like many other birds so they are a common sight throughout the winter. When searching for food, they are able to dig through the snow with their long legs and sharp claws.

Rooster and Hens

Male pheasants are called 'roosters' and they are vibrantly coloured with blue-green heads, red eye-patches and bold white neck rings; they have rich golden-brown and black markings on their body. Whereas the females (called 'hens') have a rather plain brown plumage and are much smaller than the male. Both males and females have long, pointed tails. Females can lay up to 12 eggs and it is they who incubate the eggs and rear the chicks alone.

Gamebird

The pheasant is a gamebird; this means that it is hunted in the wild for sport or food. Some people consider pheasant to be a tasty dish and almost any chicken recipe can be adapted to suit. Pheasants are also a prey species that doesn't migrate in the winter, meaning that pheasants rarely reach the age of two.

- Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Pheasants are not normally found in the far north of Scotland.		
Pheasants are related to partridges.		
They are rarely found near copses.		
Their excellent hearing helps them avoid danger.		
Pheasants have long legs.		
Males have black markings on their bodies.		
Pheasants are hunted for sport and food.		
Pheasants often reach the age of two.		

True or False Statements

How to Look after a Puppy

A puppy can be a truly delightful addition to the family but they can also be a great deal of hard work. Puppies have to be toilet trained, taught basic commands, exercised, fed a healthy balanced diet and given plenty of love. Patience will be essential as puppies are known to chew favourite shoes, toys and items of furniture.

What you need:

- Collar and lead
- Water and food bowl
- Warm, comfy bed
- Brush
- Safe chew toys
- Patience!

What you need to do:

1. Choose the most appropriate breed of dog to suit your family requirements. How large will the adult dog be? How much exercise will it need? Will you have time to walk the dog everyday?
2. Make sure your home is a safe environment for a puppy. Keep electrical cables out of reach. Lock away cleaning/chemical products. Ensure low-level windows are locked.
3. Invest in a child gate to secure your puppy in a safe place whilst it is unsupervised.
4. As soon as possible, take your puppy to the vets for a health check and the necessary vaccinations.
5. Once vaccinated, give your puppy lots of opportunities to visit different places and to socialise with other dogs.
6. It's worth taking your puppy to dog training classes; here you will both receive plenty of help and support.
7. Take your puppy out into the garden as often as possible to encourage it to go to the toilet outside. It can take as long as 4 to 6 months before a puppy is fully house trained. There will be many mishaps along the way – be prepared!
7. Don't forget to play with your puppy and most importantly, give it lots of love and attention.

Top tip:

If handled correctly, the rewards can be great as puppies soon grow into loving, loyal and obedient companions.

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	True	False
You need to think carefully about what breed of dog you want.		
Your belongings may get damaged.		
Your home is automatically a safe place for a puppy.		
Dog classes are known to be unhelpful.		
A child gate is useful when puppies are on their own.		
Puppies shouldn't be allowed to meet other dogs.		
There will be mishaps when toilet training a puppy.		
Dogs can be loyal and obedient companions.		

True or False Statements

Dear Diary (Saturday 12th January)

I'm beyond excited!!!! Charlie has finally arrived and he's more adorable than when I first met him several weeks ago – how is that even possible? Mum took me out yesterday to buy everything he'd need. I've been saving my pocket for weeks now and it's been completely worth it. I got him the most amazing diamond studded collar and the fluffiest bed you can imagine – it's heavenly!

I think he remembered me when we collected him from the farm. It was so sad when we took him away from his mother but I know he'll be spoilt rotten here. Mum says that he's going to be hard work but I can't imagine ever getting cross or impatient with anything that cute and fluffy. I love him so much!

Dear Diary (Sunday 13th January)

Wow! What a night that was! Mum says that Charlie is to sleep in the kitchen, so I put him to bed last night and put newspaper on the floor in case he had any accidents. Non of us got any sleep. He whined and whimpered all night. I really wanted to let him sleep on my bed but mum said no! She promised that he would soon get the hang of it and that we must not to give in to him. When I came downstairs this morning, the kitchen was a scene of complete devastation! Charlie had chewed up all of the newspaper and then urinated all over the floor! Yuk!

Dear Diary (Monday 14th January)

Aaargh! Charlie has chewed up my favourite pair of shoes but on the bright side, he also urinated in my brother's trainer, so I've forgiven him. Apart from that little mishap, he went to the toilet successfully in the garden today – he's such a clever boy.

The vet was super pleased with him today too. He only whimpered a little bit when he had his vaccinations and she said that he was a strong and healthy little puppy. She also recommended that I join a puppy training class as he escaped whilst we were there and chased a cat around the waiting room. It was carnage! Oh well, things can only get easier – surely?

- Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Tasha brought Charlie home on Saturday.		
She used her birthday money to buy his equipment.		
Charlie was allowed to sleep on her bed.		
Charlie had caused chaos in the kitchen.		
Charlie had chewed up her brother's favourite shoes.		
By Monday, Charlie had gone to the toilet outside.		
The vet thought that Charlie was unhealthy.		
Charlie was well-behaved at the vets.		