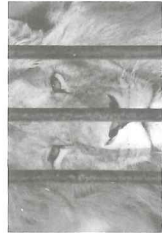


Born Free? — Non-Fiction

Non-fiction texts are any bits of writing that tell you facts, or are about something that really happened. A science book is non-fiction, and so is a newspaper or magazine. Read the text, read it again, and then go on to the questions.

1.



For over 2500 years, humans have been keeping wild and exotic animals. Some kept these animals to show off their wealth and power, others kept them for entertainment and pleasure. More recently, animals have been kept for scientific study and conservation.

2.

Amazingly, it was not until the twentieth century that people began to think about the special requirements of wild and exotic animals in captivity. Many animals died of starvation and cruelty before new legislation was passed in the early 1990s, which said that anyone who did not give captive wild animals proper care could be prosecuted.

3.

Below, Ellen Merinat of the RSPCA charts the development of the zoo from its earliest beginnings up to the present day, with some startling findings!



The Ancient World



4.

2500 BC

In Ancient Egyptian tombs, hieroglyphics show that wealthy Egyptians kept many wild and unusual species from their local environment, including monkeys, birds and big cats such as cheetahs.

1500 BC

Further records show that Egyptian Queen Hatshepsut sent an expedition to the Red Sea to capture leopards for her private collection.

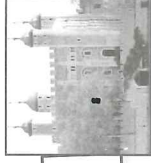
5.

500 BC

Old paintings and carvings show that the Ancient Greeks had collections of exotic birds — it is thought that these were the first collections open to the public, and visitors were charged a small entry fee.

200 BC

Written evidence from the time of the Romans tells us that the rich enjoyed keeping private collections of animals, just to show off their wealth. The Romans also used wild animals as part of the entertainment at gladiator fights.



The Middle Ages to the 1800s

1200s

King John I built up a large collection of animals at the Tower of London. This began a tradition of keeping animals at the Tower that lasted for over six hundred years. European kings sent animals for the collection, including a polar bear and an elephant.

1600s

King James I tried to improve living standards for animals living at the Tower.

1700s

Paying guests were invited into the Tower to see the exhibits for the very first time.

1800s

Scientists finally began to use zoos as centres of study. In 1828 the Zoological Society of London opened the London Zoological Gardens. As people learnt more about the animals kept in zoos, standards started to improve.



Zoos in the Modern World

1900s

Once it was commonly known that barred cages cause animals tremendous distress, zoo designs began to change around the world. Open pens with moats were built and the first safari parks were trialled across Europe. These open-style zoos developed captive breeding as a way of saving many of the world's rarest and most unusual creatures from extinction.

Today...

Zoos, wildlife parks and aquariums are extremely popular and serve to educate as well as entertain. In the past, zoos and menageries were only for the rich and powerful: now they are a popular way of teaching everyone about the world we share and how we can give help to the animals who need it most.

Since the present century began, over 150 endangered species have been bred successfully in captivity, helping to ensure the survival of some of the world's rarest creatures.

Glossary

legislation laws

prosecuted taken to court

hieroglyphics Ancient Egyptian picture writing



Unfold these pages before you start

AF4

Structure and Layout Questions

In **STRUCTURE** and **LAYOUT** questions you need to think about why a piece of writing has boxes, subheadings or other fancy features. See if you can answer these questions.

1. Why is the information in the shaded boxes broken up into three sections?

2 marks

.....

2. Why do you think the information about Ellen Merinat has been put into a separate box?

1 mark

3. How do the titles on the shaded boxes help you to understand the writing?

1 mark

4. What is the purpose of the glossary?

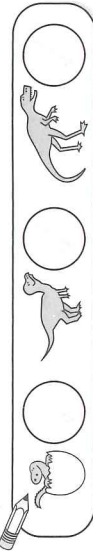
2 marks

.....

5. Number the boxes to show the order these events took place. One has been done for you.

☐	Ancient Greeks collected birds
☒	Hieroglyphics show early animal collections
☐	Paying guests can visit the animals in the Tower of London
☐	A polar bear and an elephant sent to the Tower of London

Reading Raptors can do layout questions blindfolded. How did you get on with these questions?



AF6

Writer's Purpose Questions

Writers have a reason for writing what they write — that's a bit of a tongue twister, but it's true, and that's what these **WRITER'S PURPOSE** questions are all about. Read the article again and have a go at these questions.

1. What is the purpose of the writing in the shaded boxes?

1 mark

2. The first paragraph

identifies the key words in the text	introduces the main points of the text	asks whether zoos are cruel	tells you about the author
--------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------	----------------------------

1 mark

Put a ring around your choice.

3. a) Who do you think this text is written for?

1 mark

Kings and queens	Poachers	Animal lovers	Teachers
------------------	----------	---------------	----------

Circle your answer.

b) Explain your answer to part a) with reference to the text.

2 marks

.....

4. 'Scientists finally began to use zoos as centres of study.'

Why do you think that Ellen uses the word 'finally' in this sentence?

1 mark

.....

Reading Raptors know what the writer's goal is as soon as they've read the text. How about you?



AF2

Fact Retrieval Questions

FACT RETRIEVAL questions ask for some information or a word that can be found in the text. Have another read of the article and see if you can find the answers to these questions.

1. In the first sentence, the writer tells us that humans have been keeping animals

as pets and working animals

for hundreds of years

in cages and pens

for over 2500 years

1 mark

Circle your choice.

2. When did zoos first become important to scientific study?

2000 BC

1200s

500 BC

1800s

1 mark

Circle your choice.

3. Which civilisation of people first introduced the concept of paying to see animals?

.....

1 mark

4. When were laws introduced about the mistreatment of animals?

.....

1 mark

5. The information in the text tells us

the history of the RSPCA

the history of animal collections and zoos

the history of archaeology

the history of cruelty to animals

1 mark

Put a ring around your choice.

AF2

Fact Retrieval Questions

6. Write down one way we know about animal collections in the ancient world.

1 mark

.....

7. Since the 1900s, conditions for animals have

seen many more animals die from neglect

shown a decline in the popularity of zoos

improved due to new ideas and laws

put more people behind bars

1 mark

Put a ring around your choice.

8. Use information from 'Born Free?' to complete this chart.

1500 BC	Queen Hatshepsut sends an expedition to capture leopards
	Animal collection started at the Tower of London by King John I
1700s	
	The Zoological Society of London opens the London Zoological Gardens
Today...	Zoos and wildlife parks are going from strength to strength through captive breeding programmes

3 marks

9. Draw lines to match the different periods of history with the statements.

One has been done for you.

The Romans

In the Middle Ages they

The Greeks

Zoos today

had large public collections of wild birds

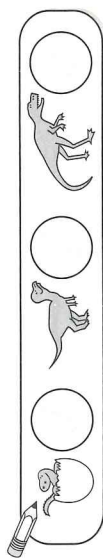
captured wild animals to fight humans

keep animals to protect them from extinction

kept animals in the Tower of London

2 marks

Reading Raptors are always on a fact finding quest. Are you? Tick to show how these questions went.



AF3

Inference Questions



INFERENCE questions can ask you things like how you think a character feels, or what exactly is happening, even if the text doesn't say it directly. Use your reading skills to have a go at these questions...

1. What do you think the author means when she says 'with some startling findings'? Refer to the text in your answer.

2 marks

2. Many different animals were sent to the Tower of London zoo.

Why do you think Ellen Merinat chose to mention the polar bear and the elephant?

1 mark

3. How do you know that attitudes to keeping wild animals have changed?

2 marks

4. Which do you think is the most likely reason that the Zoological Society of London opened the London Zoological Gardens in 1828?

To train animals for circuses

To discover more about animals

To make lots of money to fund expeditions

To show off how rich the society was

1 mark

Circle your choice.

5. Do you think that King James I cared about animals? Explain your answer.

1 mark

The last few questions on Born Free? are under here



AF3

Inference Questions



6. 'Written evidence from the time of the Romans tells us that the rich enjoyed keeping private collections of animals, just to show off their wealth.' What does the way this sentence is written tell us about Ellen Merinat's feelings towards the rich Romans?

2 marks

AF7

Context Questions



CONTEXT questions are about relating the text to the wider world. Have a final read through of the text and see if you can answer these questions.

1. Why do you think there is far more information from the 1900s and today than from the other centuries?

1 mark

2. 'Born Free?' is a non-fiction text.

Tick two boxes to show the features of non-fiction texts.

Written in the present tense

☐

Contains facts

☐

Contains a timeline

☐

Based on reality

☐

Gives the author's life story

☐

Contains made-up characters

☐

2 marks

Reading Raptors can do these questions faster than you can say 'Raptors rule'. How did you get on?

