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Penguin on the run in Tokyo

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

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6th March, 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Aquarium staff and police in Tokyo are looking for a penguin. The 60-cm bird is on the loose after it escaped from the Tokyo Sea Life Park last month. Tokyo residents have reported seeing the penguin in several of the city's rivers. The aquarium asked for the public's help to find the escaped penguin, saying: "We apologize for causing trouble to local residents. Although it is unlikely the penguin will harm human beings, please contact our aquarium if you spot it. Please do not chase it or try to capture it."

The penguin was one of 135 Humboldt penguins kept by the marine park. An aquarium worker said that the bird somehow hopped over a metre-high wall. Spokesman Takashi Sugino told the AFP news agency they spotted the bird in a nearby river but could not capture it because it swam so fast. Humboldt penguins are mainly from Peru and Chile. They grow to a size of 70 cm and weigh up to 6 kg. They are decreasing in number because of climate change and over-fishing. Scientists say there are around 10,000 left in the world.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. police in Tokyo are | a. the loose |
| 2. The 60-cm bird is on | b. causing trouble |
| 3. several of the city's | c. harm human beings |
| 4. We apologize for | d. looking for a penguin |
| 5. it is unlikely the penguin will | e. try to capture it |
| 6. do not chase it or | f. rivers |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. penguins kept | a. in a nearby river |
| 2. the bird somehow hopped over | b. of climate change |
| 3. they spotted the bird | c. a metre-high wall |
| 4. Humboldt penguins are mainly | d. in the world |
| 5. decreasing in number because | e. by the marine park |
| 6. around 10,000 left | f. from Peru and Chile |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Aquarium _____ Tokyo are looking for a penguin. The 60-cm bird _____ after it escaped from the Tokyo Sea Life Park last month. Tokyo _____ seeing the penguin in several of the city's rivers. The aquarium asked for the public's help to find the escaped penguin, saying: "We apologize _____ to local residents. Although _____ the penguin will harm human beings, please contact our aquarium if you spot it. Please do not chase it or _____ it."

The penguin _____ Humboldt penguins kept by the marine park. An aquarium worker said that the bird _____ over a metre-high wall. Spokesman Takashi Sugino told the AFP news agency _____ bird in a nearby river but could not capture it because _____. Humboldt penguins are mainly from Peru and Chile. They grow to a size of 70 cm and weigh up to 6 kg. They are _____ because of climate change and over-fishing. Scientists say there are around 10,000 _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Aquarium (1) _____ and police in Tokyo are looking for a penguin. The 60-cm bird is on the (2) _____ after it escaped from the Tokyo Sea Life Park last month. Tokyo residents have reported seeing the penguin in (3) _____ of the city's rivers. The aquarium asked for the public's help to find the escaped penguin, saying: "We apologize (4) _____ causing trouble to local residents. Although it is unlikely the penguin will (5) _____ human beings, please contact our aquarium if you spot it. Please do not chase it or (6) _____ to capture it."

The penguin was one of 135 Humboldt penguins kept (7) _____ the marine park. An aquarium worker said that the bird (8) _____ hopped over a metre-high wall. Spokesman Takashi Sugino told the AFP news agency they spotted the bird in a (9) _____ river but could not capture it because it swam so fast. Humboldt penguins are (10) _____ from Peru and Chile. They grow to a size of 70 cm and weigh (11) _____ to 6 kg. They are decreasing in number because of climate change and over-fishing. Scientists say there are around 10,000 (12) _____ in the world.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) stuff | (b) staff | (c) stiff |
| 2. | (a) loose | (b) lost | (c) losing |
| 3. | (a) few | (b) numeral | (c) several |
| 4. | (a) by | (b) for | (c) as |
| 5. | (a) harm | (b) harmful | (c) harmed |
| 6. | (a) trial | (b) trying | (c) try |
| 7. | (a) from | (b) by | (c) up |
| 8. | (a) somebody | (b) somehow | (c) somewhere |
| 9. | (a) nearby | (b) nearly | (c) neared |
| 10. | (a) main | (b) mains | (c) mainly |
| 11. | (a) up | (b) over | (c) as |
| 12. | (a) right | (b) middle | (c) left |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. Aquarium ftafs and police
2. on the ooesl
3. evaresl of the city's rivers
4. find the csdapee penguin
5. apologize for gnicsua trouble
6. try to rtucepa it

Paragraph 2

7. kept by the reaimn park
8. oedphp over a metre-high wall
9. they steopdt the bird in a nearby river
10. rdseeicagn in number
11. amcitle change
12. there are runaod 10,000 left

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) Aquarium staff and police in Tokyo are looking for a penguin. The 60-cm bird is on the loose
- () The penguin was one of 135 Humboldt penguins kept by the marine park. An aquarium
- () help to find the escaped penguin, saying: "We apologize for causing
- () so fast. Humboldt penguins are mainly from Peru and Chile. They grow to a size of 70 cm and weigh
- () change and over-fishing. Scientists say there are around 10,000 left in the world.
- () after it escaped from the Tokyo Sea Life Park last month. Tokyo residents have reported
- () seeing the penguin in several of the city's rivers. The aquarium asked for the public's
- () trouble to local residents. Although it is unlikely the penguin will harm human
- () agency they spotted the bird in a nearby river but could not capture it because it swam
- () worker said that the bird somehow hopped over a metre-high wall. Spokesman Takashi Sugino told the AFP news
- () beings, please contact our aquarium if you spot it. Please do not chase it or try to capture it."
- () up to 6 kg. They are decreasing in number because of climate

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. looking Police for in a Tokyo penguin are.

2. - is loose 60 bird the The cm on.

3. for asked aquarium The help public's the.

4. the beings penguin will It's harm unlikely human.

5. if Please you contact spot our it aquarium.

6. the 135 by park of kept marine One penguins.

7. hopped over a metre - high wall The bird somehow.

8. They a spotted nearby the river bird in.

9. change climate of because number in Decreasing.

10. left in the world There are around 10,000.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120306-penguin.html>

Write about penguins for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other’s work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. HUMBOLDT PENGUINS: Search the Internet and find more information about Humboldt penguins. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the escaped penguin. Include an imaginary interview with him/her. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a penguin expert. Ask him/her three questions about penguins. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.