

## **A portrait of an animal**

### **Aims**

Know how to

- use learnt lexis in new contexts
- understand a written text and spoken language
- complete a chart with animal characteristics
- produce a written text and oral production

**Language Level:** A2 + CEFR level

**Time:** 3 lessons

### **Stages**

#### **First Lesson (2 hours)**

The teacher tells students the aim of the lesson: to learn how to describe animals and recycle lexis. Pupils work individually to read a text and answer multiple-choice questions (worksheet 1). They check answers in pairs before checking in a plenary.

#### **Second lesson (2 hours)**

During this lesson the teacher asks students to recycle vocabulary used for describing animals. Students are asked to complete a chart with the characteristics of two animals by reading the antelope text again and using the vocabulary they know (worksheet 2). The teacher draws students' attention to the dog example in the chart to ensure that they understand what they have to do.

Once the task is completed, students work together in a writing and speaking activity (worksheet 3) using the vocabulary to describe animals. They sit back to back and St A describes an animal they know very well, while St B draws it or makes notes which are then read back to St A. If the speaking activity is successful St B should be able to draw the animal easily. Or, if preferred, St B can make notes and describe the animal back to St A. The teacher monitors the activity and helps where necessary.

#### **Third lesson (2 hours)**

In order to recycle the learnt lexis, students are asked to produce a written description of a monster and draw it (worksheet 4). The teacher corrects written production individually.

## A portrait of an animal

### Worksheet 1

Read the text and select the correct answer (A, B, C or D)

#### Antelopes

Antelopes are small animals with horns. They are from 1.15 to 1.30m tall and weigh about 5 kg. They look like goats with short fur. They are slim, with quite long necks and big eyes. Their fur is brown on their backs and white at the sides. Both males and females have horns.

Antelopes live in herds, in the open spaces of the savannah of South Africa. They are herbivores, that is, they eat only plants, leaves, roots and fruit. They can jump over three metres in height and ran very fast. They are very athletic. The species prefers solitude and not being in a group. They have violent fights with each other to defend their territory. This mammal makes a whistling sound, which is almost impossible to hear.

#### 1 The text describes

- A. a goat
- B. a zebra
- C. a horse
- D. an antelope

#### 2 They are from \_\_\_\_\_ tall

- A. 15 to 1.30 m.
- B. 30 to 1.35 m.
- C. 15 to 1.13 m.
- D. 15 to 2.30 m.

#### 3 Their fur is

- A. completely brown
- B. completely white
- C. white and brown
- D. white and grey

#### 4 This animal lives in

- A. Central Africa
- B. South Africa
- C. Africa
- D. North Africa

#### 5 They eat

- A. animals
- B. insects
- C. vegetables
- D. birds

## A portrait of an animal

### Worksheet 2

In pairs, look at the example of the dog and complete the chart for the antelope and the cat in a similar way, using the text above to help you and vocabulary you know.

#### Vocabulary chart to use for the description of an animal.



Name	Dog	Antelope	Cat
Species	poodle		feline
Size	small		
Weight	12kg		
Fur	thick fur		
Colour	apricot		
What sound does the animal make?	bark		
Where does the animal live?	at home		
Food	meat with vegetables and cereal, dry food		
Habits	They adapt to their owner's habits which they take as an example		
Characteristics	Lively, happy, inquisitive, affectionate, trustworthy, doesn't like to be left alone.		

## A portrait of an animal

### Worksheet 3



Write a description of an animal you know well. Sit back to back with your friend.

A. Read the description of your animal

B. Listen and draw the picture. Describe the picture to St A to check your answer

Change roles.

## A portrait of an animal

### Worksheet 4

Imagine a monster animal. Write a description of it and draw it. Use the text below as a model to help you.



Nessie is an aquatic animal which lives in fresh waters in Scotland. She looks like a water snake, and has a dragon-like body with a long neck. She has a hump and a reptile head. Her eyes are red like a panther's and her ears are similar to bat's ears. She has flippers with big scales. She weighs more than a ton. Fire comes out of her mouth and her roars are frightening. She eats fish and grass.

## A portrait of an animal

### Solutions

Read the text and select the correct answer (A, B, C or D)

#### 1. The text describes

- A. a goat
- B. a zebra
- C. a horse
- D. an antelope

#### 2. They are from \_\_\_\_\_ high

- A. 15 to 1.30 m
- B. 30 to 1.35 m
- C. 15 to 1.13 m
- D. 15 to 2.30 m

#### 3. Their coat is

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- A. completely brown
- B. completely white
- C. white and brown
- D. white and gray

#### 4. This animal lives in

- A. Central Africa
- B. South Africa
- C. Africa
- D. North Africa

#### 5. They eat

- A. animals
- B. insects
- C. vegetables
- D. birds

## A portrait of an animal

### Worksheet 2

In pairs, look at the example of the dog and complete the chart for the antelope and the cat in a similar way, using the text above to help you and vocabulary you know.

### Vocabulary chart to use for the description of an animal.

Name	Dog (Nougat)	Antelope	cat
Species	poodle		feline
Size	small	1.15 to 1.30	small
weight	12kg	About 5 kg	2.5 to 5 kg
fur	Thick fur	Short fur	silky fur
Colour	apricot	brown back and white sides	White, grey
What sound does the animal make?	barks	makes a whistle sound which is difficult to hear.	miaow
Where does the animal live?	At home	the savannah in South Africa	In a house
Food	Meat with vegetables and cereal, dry food	plants, leaves, roots and fruit.	meat, dry food, milk
Habits	They adapt to their owner and their owner's environment	they defend their territory	loves being stroked and routine
Characteristics	Lively, happy, inquisitive, affectionate, trustworthy, doesn't like to be left alone.	they prefer solitude and not to be in a group.	very calm and relaxed; loves being alone

### Worksheet 3

Accept all answers

### Worksheet 4

Accept all answers