

Elementary Podcasts Series 4 Episode 1

While you listen

Elementary Podcasts are suitable for learners with different levels of English. Here are some ways to make them easier (if you have a lower level of English) or more difficult (if you have a higher level of English). You can choose one or two of these suggestions – you don't have to follow all of them!

Making it easier

- Read all the exercises before you listen to the podcast.
- Look up the words in the exercises that you don't know in a dictionary.
- Play the podcast as many times as you need.
- Play each part of the podcast separately.
- Read the transcript after you have listened to the podcast.

Making it harder

- Listen to the podcast before you read the exercises.
- Only play the podcast once before answering the questions.
- Play the whole podcast without a break.
- Don't read the transcript.

Exercises

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 1

Choose all the sentences that are true according to the podcast.

1. Tess has a brother called Oscar.
2. British people have a lot of pets.
3. Some countries have more pets than Britain.
4. Dogs are the most popular pets in Britain.
5. Tess would like to have a spider as a pet.
6. The RSPCA is an organisation to help animals.
7. In the nineteenth century, the RSPCA helped children too.
8. British people give a lot of money to the RSPCA.

Activity 2

Put the words in the right order to make sentences from the podcast.

1. pet / of / We're / lovers / often / a nation / called
2. than / more / anyone else? / we have / pets / Do
3. love / sure / I'm / I could / a spider / not
4. you / want / Do / interesting? / something / to know

5. in the / Life / really / century / hard / nineteenth / was
6. tell / You'll / go / have to / Oscar / home and

Activity 3

Put the words from the podcast in the right spaces.

- a) charity
 - b) common
 - c) count
 - d) crazy about
 - e) member
 - f) protects
 - g) reptiles
 - h) unusual
1. A lot of people believe that the British are _____ animals.
2. It depends what you _____ as a pet.
3. Tess says her cat is a _____ of her family.
4. The RSPCA is an organisation that _____ animals.
5. The RSPCA is a _____ – people give money to it.
6. A lot of British people have _____ like snakes as pets.
7. Millions of homes in Europe have pets, so Britain isn't really _____.
8. Cats and dogs are the most _____ pets in Britain.

Activity 4

Match the pets with the descriptions.

- a) A cat
- b) A dog
- c) A goldfish
- d) A hamster
- e) A parrot
- f) A rabbit
- g) A snake
- h) A spider

1. _____ sleeps a lot, is very clean and likes eating fish.
2. _____ likes going for walks and playing with a ball.
3. _____ has eight legs and a lot of people are afraid of it.
4. _____ lives in a cage and can learn to talk.
5. _____ lives in a cage and likes to run round and round in a wheel.
6. _____ has big ears and eats vegetables, especially carrots.
7. _____ is orange and lives in water.
8. _____ is long and thin and hasn't got any legs.

Activity 5

Match the fractions to the percentages.

- a) 25%
- b) 27%
- c) 31%

- d) 33%
- e) 48%
- f) 50%
- g) 66%
- h) 75%

1. a half
2. a third
3. just over a quarter
4. a quarter
5. two-thirds
6. three-quarters
7. nearly half
8. just under a third

Activity 6

Match the two parts of the sentences.

- a) ... many pets as Britain.
- b) ... money if they have a dog.
- c) ... popular pets in Britain?
- d) ... than people in other countries?
- e) ... more than people?
- f) ... most common pets in Britain.

1. Do people in Britain have more pets ...
2. A lot of other countries have as ...
3. Are cats and dogs the most ...
4. Is it true that the British like animals ...
5. People on the street get more ...
6. Nowadays, reptiles are the ...

Activity 7

Put the words in the spaces. Don't look back at Activity 6!

- a) as many
- b) more
- c) more than
- d) most
- e) than
- f) the most

1. Do people in Britain have more pets _____ people in other countries?
2. A lot of other countries have _____ pets as Britain.
3. Are cats and dogs the _____ popular pets in Britain?
4. Is it true that the British like animals _____ people?
5. People on the street get _____ money if they have a dog.
6. Nowadays, reptiles are _____ common pets in Britain.

Activity 8

Choose the right answer.

1. She says she's poor but I know she has _____ than me.
 - a) more money
 - b) most money
 - c) much money
2. I like this job _____ the last one I had.
 - a) more

- b) more than
c) most than
3. India is _____ interesting country I've ever visited.
- a) most
b) the more
c) the most
4. It's your birthday so you can have _____ chocolates as you want!
- a) more
b) as many
c) the most
5. Football is a more popular sport _____ tennis.
- a) than
b) as
c) much
6. Football is probably _____ sport in the world.
- a) as popular
b) more popular
c) the most popular
7. The restaurant is very good value – you can eat as _____ you want for fifteen pounds.
- a) much as

- b) more than
c) most
8. Did you know that '123456' is the _____ password in the world?
- a) more common
b) most common
c) as common
9. My company has _____ three hundred offices all over the world.
- a) more than
b) the most
c) as much

Activity 9 – Leave a comment

How do you feel about animals? If you've been to Britain, do you think what Tess and Ravi said is true – are the British pet lovers?

How do people view animals where you live? How common is it for people to have pets in your country? Do you have one? What kind?

Leave a comment

on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-04-episode-01> and we'll discuss your answers in the next podcast.

Answers

Activity 1

True - 2, 3, 6, 8

False - 1, 4, 5, 7

Activity 2

1. We're often called 'a nation of pet lovers'.
2. Do we have more pets than anyone else?
3. I'm not sure I could love a spider.
4. Do you want to know something interesting?
5. Life was really hard in the nineteenth century.
6. You'll have to go home and tell Oscar.

Activity 3

1.d, 2.c, 3.e, 4.f, 5.a, 6.g, 7.h, 8.b

Activity 4

1.a, 2.b, 3.h, 4.e, 5.d, 6.f, 7.c, 8.g

Activity 5

1.f, 2.d, 3.b, 4.a, 5.g, 6.h, 7.e, 8.c

Activity 6

1.d, 2.a, 3.c, 4.e, 5.b, 6.f

Activity 7

1.e, 2.a, 3.d, 4.c, 5.b, 6.f

Activity 8

1.a, 2.b, 3.c, 4.b, 5.a, 6.c, 7.a, 8.b, 9.a