

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 icy path as the anger, once again, welled 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.

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. 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
Tasha's brother was to blame for allowing the puppy to escape.		
The temperature was dropping even further.		
Charlie wore a red collar.		
Tasha was excited about the snow.		
Charlie would be able to survive the cold weather.		
The pheasant appeared suddenly behind her.		
Charlie was pleased to see Tasha.		

True or False Statements

Pheasants are one of the UK's most colourful birds and have been a common sight in our countryside 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 wooded farmland or marshy grassland. 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. 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.

- 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 closely related to quails.		
Pheasants can be found on open farmland.		
They use their sharp claws to dig through the snow.		
Pheasants can't see very well.		
Pheasants build their nests in trees.		
The males are smaller in size than the females.		
The females are responsible for incubating the eggs.		

True or False Statements

How to Look after a Puppy

A puppy can be a 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. Think about how large the dog will be as an adult. Consider how much exercise your dog will need.
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 you are out.
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 meet other dogs.
6. It's worth taking your puppy to dog training classes where 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.
7. Don't forget to play with your puppy and 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.

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

	True	False
Puppies are easy to look after.		
All breeds of dogs are suitable for any family.		
You must provide a safe environment for your puppy.		
A child gate can help keep your puppy in a safe place.		
A puppy shouldn't need to visit the vet.		
It can take 4 to 6 months before a puppy is house trained.		
Puppies need handling correctly if they are to be good dogs.		