

LENGUA EXTRANJERA, INGLÉS 2.º E.S.O.

Mountain gorillas



This huge creature is a mountain gorilla. Mountain gorillas live in the Virunga range of mountains, at the borders of three African countries - Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. On my trip to the Virunga range I discovered that the forests where the mountain gorillas live are often cloudy, misty and cold.

This gorilla is the largest of the great apes and looks like humans (but more hair!). Gorillas can be identified by their unique nose prints, and like human fingerprints, no two gorilla noses have the same print.

A gorilla's diet is mainly vegetarian and a full-grown mountain gorilla can eat up to 27 kg of vegetation a day – that's the equivalent of 65 tins of baked beans! An adult male gorilla can weigh about the same as a motorcycle and is characterised by the streak of silver fur on its back, so it is known with the term "silverback".

Like humans, gorillas are pregnant for about nine months – the time between these births is usually about four years. Unfortunately, about 40 per cent of young gorillas die before they reach adulthood, because of illness or injury. During their lifetime, females usually raise three young.

Sadly, the mountain gorilla is the most endangered of the four different gorilla species. People occasionally kill gorillas for food and baby gorillas are also sometimes captured and sold as pets. Plus the gorilla's forest home is smaller and smaller as people cut down to supply wood for the illegal wood trade or to make way for new houses.

Adapted from: <http://gowild.wwf.org.uk/gowild/amazinganimals/index.asp>

A) COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Choose the right answer:

- 1.- People can find mountain gorillas in
 - a) zoos of three African countries
 - b) near the rivers
 - c) in caves
 - d) among trees

- 2.- These gorillas eat:
 - a) a lot of beans
 - b) bananas
 - c) plants and leaves
 - d) fish

- 3.- The difference between mountain gorillas and humans is:
 - a) the mouth
 - b) the look
 - c) the head
 - d) the quantity of hair

- 4.- Each gorilla is different from the other because of:
 - a) their nose
 - b) their fingerprints
 - c) their weight
 - d) their "silverback"

- 5.- Usual period between births is:
 - a) 9 months
 - b) 48 months
 - c) 12 months
 - d) it depends, there is no regular time

- 6.- Tick two reasons for gorillas' danger:
 - a) there is no rain
 - b) pollution
 - c) no food
 - d) the forest gets smaller
 - e) people buy gorillas as pets

B) GRAMMAR

Choose the right option:

- 1.- Where gorillas live?
 - a) does
 - b) -----
 - c) do
 - d) are

- 2.-
 - a) What is the weather like in Virunga?
 - b) What does the weather like in Virunga?
 - c) What is the weather in Virunga?
 - d) How is the weather in Virunga? Misty and cloudy

- 3.-
 - a) Did you saw any gorillas last holidays?
 - b) Will you see any gorillas last holidays?
 - c) Did you see any gorillas last holidays?
 - d) You saw any gorillas last holidays?

- 4.-
 - a) Why do people kill gorillas?
 - b) Why is people kill gorillas?
 - c) Why does people kill gorillas?
 - d) Why are people kill gorillas?

- 5.- An elephant is than a gorilla.
 - a) more big
 - b) bigger
 - c) the biggest
 - d) smaller

- 6.- If people go on cutting down trees, gorillas survive.
 - a) can't
 - b) will not
 - c) don't
 - d) must not

- 7.-
 - a) An adult gorilla eats 27 kg. of food usually
 - b) Usually an adult gorilla eats 27 kg. of food
 - c) An adult gorilla usually eats 27 kg. of food
 - d) An adult gorilla eats usually 27 kg. of food

C) VOCABULARY

Choose the best synonym:

Cloudy: a) sunny b) clear c) dark d) bright
Male gorilla: a) young gorilla b) adult gorilla c) ill gorilla d) masculin gorilla

D) WRITING (1st option model)

Complete the following letter of a girl, Laura, to her friend Carol in UK. Laura tells about her visit to the natural zoo in Cabárceno (Cantabria). Use the ideas below to complete the blanks.

Dear Carol,

Yesterday I visited the zoo in Cabárceno (Cantabria) with my parents and brother.

We (1)_____ and we arrived (2)_____ half past ten in the morning. My father (3)_____.

and went into the zoo. We were very excited. The place is (4)_____. It has a lot of exotic animals. It is very (5)_____ and looks like the nature itself.

We (6)_____ around the park and could see giraffes, zebras, elephants, (7)_____ and _____. There were also all types of snakes of different colours.

We (8)_____ there, in a restaurant in the park (I ordered pizza) and continued our visit in the (9)_____ at around 4 pm. We saw parrots, gorillas and buffalos. My brother (10)_____ of the animals, place and us to have a souvenir of the day.

It was a very (11)_____ and I recommend you this park when you (12)_____ to Spain.

Kisses,

Laura

- (1) An action verb and a means of transport
- (2) A preposition
- (3) A verb and something you pay for to get into the cinema, museums, theaters....
- (4) A positive adjective
- (5) An adjective of size
- (6) A movement verb
- (7) Two other big animals different from the ones in the text
- (8) What you do when you are hungry at around 2 pm
- (9) The part of the day between 12:00 and 18:00 hours approximately
- (10) What people do with their cameras
- (11) An adjective and a noun related to this action or place
- (12) A verb of movement

D) WRITING (2nd option model)

Read this letter of a friend to another about a visit to a zoo.

Dear Carol,

Yesterday I visited the zoo in Cabárceno (Cantabria) with my parents and brother. We went in my father's car and we arrived at half past ten in the morning. My father bought a family ticket for all and went into the zoo. We were very excited. The place is quite beautiful. It has a lot of exotic animals. It is very large and looks like the nature itself.

We walked around the park and could see giraffes, zebras, elephants, rhinos and funny monkeys. There were also all types of snakes of different colours.

We had lunch there, in a restaurant in the park (I ordered pizza) and continued our visit in the afternoon at around 4 pm. We saw parrots, gorillas and buffalos. My brother took a lot of pictures of the animals, of the place and us to have a souvenir of the day.

It was a very exciting and interesting place and I recommend you this park when you come over to Spain.

Kisses,

Laura

Now write a letter to your friend telling about an adventure, something you visited or did during your holidays.

The letter **must** include at least the following:

1. When and where it happened
2. If you were alone or in company of others
3. What happened or what you saw
4. Conclusion or how it ended

E) LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Listen to the recording "A day at the circus" twice and choose the right option of the questions.

(Taken from MEPSYD-ISFTIC, by Alicia Pérez and P.J. Serrano)

Rick goes to a circus to find Maxwell. The circus has come to town and Rick first meets Mr Subinovsky, the lion tamer.

Questions

1. What is the relation between Rick and Maxwell?
 - a) friends
 - b) brothers
 - c) cousins
 - d) colleagues
2. What is Max doing according to Mr Subinovsky?
 - a) sleeping
 - b) taking care of the lions
 - c) feeding the lions
 - d) playing with the lions

3. Finally Betsy, the flea, is hiding
 - a) in the sofa
 - b) in Rick's shirt
 - c) in a glass
 - d) nowhere. They can't find it

4. What is Maxwell's job
 - a) lion tamer
 - b) magician
 - c) musician
 - d) clown

(Now Rick meets Maxwell)

5. What is Max doing when Rick comes in?
 - a) having a drink
 - b) having dinner
 - c) watching TV
 - d) having an ice cream

6. Max has to do several things to prepare himself for the show. What does he do in the third place?
 - a) paints his eyes
 - b) puts on his trousers and big shoes
 - c) puts on a wig
 - d) puts on a red nose

7. Max makes a mistake. What is it?
 - a) putting ice cream on his face
 - b) putting make up on his face
 - c) putting on a hat
 - d) putting paint on his hair

F) SPEAKING

The pupil will be asked a few questions about his/her close experiences at school, family, hobbies and leisure time.

Some model questions are offered here. For the sake of better understanding or extension of the idea some more questions are given in brackets.

1. Can you introduce yourself and your family? (What is your name? Tell me about your family).
2. Describe your flat or house (What are the parts/rooms of your flat/house?).
3. What do you do with your friends? When do you meet them? (What do you do and who do you meet in your free time?)
4. What are your hobbies?
5. Where do you go and what do you do in your summer holidays?

