

PART 1

You are going to read an article about dogs and their origins. Choose from the list (A-H) the sentence which best summarises each part (1-6) of the article. There is one extra heading which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- A Prehistoric people may have used wolves in several ways.
- B Wild dogs' eating habits ensured their survival.
- C Too much breeding can create problems.
- D Dogs chose to live with us, but they may feel like prisoners.
- E Scientists are identifying what dogs are made of.
- F Even the earliest dogs recognised their owners.
- G Breeding can tame even today's wild dogs.
- H Dogs have a very long history.



PART 2

You are going to read an article about Egypt's past. For questions 7-13, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

The hot, dry climate of the Red Land of Egypt has ensured that the huge monuments built for the Egyptian dead have survived thousands of years with effortless grace. They were usually built from stone in the bare desert sands, away from the wetter farmland which would have damaged the stone. An Arab proverb sums up the situation very well: "The world fears time, time fears the pyramids." The hot, dry air prevents the growth of bacteria and so creates ideal conditions for the conservation of the pyramids and their contents. Egyptologists have discovered some very delicate items such as wood, leather, cloth and even flowers preserved in Egyptian tombs.

But despite these advantages, Egypt has its own conservation problems. The tomb sites are well-preserved, but the towns and cities that supplied them are not, and much less is known about them. The reason for this is simple: Ancient Egyptians had to live near their water supplies. They had to water their crops, get rid of their rubbish and they travelled on the water so towns were usually built along the Nile.

Buildings were made from Nile mud. This made them easy and cheap to build, and they could easily be pulled down and replaced. Added to this the Nile floods regularly, so buildings were sometimes washed away. All this means that very little is known about these sites. Also, it has been traditional to build new towns on top of the ancient ones, thus burying valuable information. This problem is particularly bad in the Nile delta, where a few mud and stone buildings have only survived by chance. There is not much stone in the delta so it was very tempting to use old buildings to create new ones. This problem did not exist, however, in southern Egypt where there was plenty of stone. This meant that new buildings could be built without having to destroy older buildings. Because it is so fertile, the delta has always been home to the majority of Egyptians and today the demand for building and farming land is beginning to threaten archaeological sites.

Although the Egyptian government has brought in new measures to prevent the destruction of ancient historical sites, it is too late to save some of them. Formerly important sites such as the cities of Sais and Bubastis have been completely destroyed. Threats to ancient sites have included the building of the Aswan Dam and extensive flooding in the 1960's, but these were overcome by an international rescue project. Since 1992, however, the building of the el-Salaam Canal has presented a new threat to these ancient sites and this has resulted in the organisation of another rescue project.

The Story of Dogs

How dogs came in from the wild to become man's best friend.

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In a recent study, scientists managed to identify all the genes that make up a human being. This project was so successful that they have now decided to begin another study: this time with dogs. They hope not only to identify the genes for different types of dog, and their characteristics, but also to try and get rid of illnesses passed down through genes which have been caused by specialised breeding.

1

The very early stages of dog evolution are becoming clearer to scientists. All members of the dog family, including wolves, foxes and ordinary dogs, belong to the order *Carnivora*. The first ones appeared 67 million years ago when dinosaurs were still living. They were very small animals, but eventually grew bigger. Much later, about 2.5 million years ago, these animals began to develop into what we recognise as a dog today.

2

Early dogs ate berries and fruit as well as rats and rabbits. All members of the dog family have kept these eating habits. It was this varied diet which enabled them to survive and develop through time. In just a few million years, wolves and foxes had spread throughout large areas of the world, particularly in North and South America. There are several theories as to how the wolf became friendly with people.

3

Stone Age people might have brought young wolves, or wolf cubs, back to their villages and kept them as pets or guard dogs; perhaps they kept them to eat them or even trained them to become hunters. One expert believes, however, that the wolves were not trained deliberately. They simply became more

domesticated so they could get closer to our rubbish in order to eat. You can still see wolves at rubbish dumps today because dumps are good places for getting food.

4

Over the years, some wolves became so tame that they were no longer accepted by wild wolves. They were something new: the world's first domesticated dogs. Even today it is possible to tame wild dogs. Since 1958, a Russian scientist has been breeding tame foxes. Originally they were wild and hostile, but by choosing the tamest foxes from each generation he has ended up with friendly fox-dogs.

5

But breeding dogs to make them pure can also create a lot of problems. If defective genes are passed down, they can create blindness, deafness, hip problems and other illnesses. If you can create a new breed of dog with a funny tail, for example, you have to be careful that the original dog has completely pure genes. Failure to ensure this can mean that later generations can develop serious weaknesses which can harm the entire breed.

6

Nowadays, most people treat their dogs like kings. They are fed and bathed, walked and played with, and some wear coats, boots and even jewels. But what about their freedom? It makes you wonder if they ever dream of the life of a wolf running through the forest, the wind in their fur, crying at the moon. If dogs really did domesticate themselves, did they make a wise choice?

7 What has enabled Egyptian monuments to last so long?

- A the desert sand
- B the stones they were made of
- C the climate
- D the River Nile

8 What does the Arab proverb (lines 4-5) suggest?

- A that the pyramids took a long time to build
- B that the pyramids are very old
- C that people are not afraid of time
- D that the pyramids will last forever

9 What does "this" (line 14) refer to?

- A the destruction of old buildings
- B construction using river silt
- C the re-use of old buildings
- D the abundance of stone in southern Egypt

10 Why is so little known about the ancient towns and cities of the Nile delta?

- A people built over them
- B no one is interested in archaeology
- C they were carelessly built
- D they were built of poor-quality stone

11 Why is the delta so popular with Egyptians?

- A it has plenty of farms
- B it has a mild climate
- C it is very fertile
- D it has a lot of towns

12 What helped to save ancient historic sites?

- A an international rescue mission
- B the building of the Aswan Dam
- C the Egyptian government
- D the el-Salaam canal

13 Which of these is not a threat to ancient Egyptian sites?

- A heavy rainfall
- B Egyptian farming methods
- C the el-Salaam Canal project
- D Aswan Dam

