

## **ENGLISH**

**Chapter 16 Session B** 





**CRIME AND CONSEQUENCES** 







## A news article

- **1** Have you ever heard of ...?
  - an animal that has committed a crime

**b** animals that have helped to catch criminals

Criminal CREATURES

A shoplifting seagull, bank-robbing rats and a smuggling cat here are some unusual crime suspects!

1 (...)

Rats ate their way through bank notes worth nearly \$20,000 / €18,000 inside a cash machine near Tinsukia in Assam, India. Apparently, the bank-robbing rodents had gotten into the machine through a hole for the electric cables. Fortunately, technicians arrived 12 days after the machine stopped working. If they hadn't discovered the problem, the rats would have eaten even more money! Local police chief Prakash Sonowal said that a suspect's lifeless body had been found among the shredded bank notes. The rest of the gang must have escaped. Photos of the ruined bank notes went viral on social media.







2 (...)

When a small cat was stopped at the prison gates in Arapiraca, Brazil, officers were right to be suspicious. Attached to the cat's body were a cell phone and charger, memory cards and batteries. Was the feline smuggler part of a big escape plan? Would prisoners have dug a tunnel if they had gotten their hands on the smuggled goods? Who knows what would have happened if the cat had not been stopped! But which of the 263 prisoners was behind it? Unless the cat talks, we'll probably never know ...





3 (...)

What would you do if you saw a shoplifter? Some customers at a newsstand in Aberdeen, Scotland, started paying for the **stolen** goods because they thought it was so funny - the thief was a bird! Named 'Sam' by locals, the law-breaking seagull used to walk into the store, steal a bag of chips, and calmly walk out. Then he opened the bag with his beak and shared the treat with his friends. According to store owner Sriaram Nagarajan when interviewed by the BBC, Sam always waited patiently for the perfect moment - he wouldn't go in unless Sriaram was busy. The seagull's thefts were caught on security cameras, and if you watch the video, you'll see that his favorites are cheese-flavored Doritos.





Experts from a bird protection charity warn that we shouldn't feed seagulls in urban areas. If we feed them, they become dependent on humans and they can even become violent. So if you see Sam, don't treat him to a bag of Doritos!

#### READ MORE stories about law-abiding animals:

- The parrot that witnessed a murder.
- The dog that caught a burglar.
- The horses that chased vandals.

## Reading and critical thinking 6



**1a** 

**2**a

3a

# 3 Complete 1–3 in the news stories with three of the headlines.

- 2 a Prisoners' feline friend
  - **b** Amazing law-abiding animals
- 3c Please don't feed the birds!
- 1 d A very expensive Indian meal

Writers often use synonyms to avoid repeating the subject too often.

rats = rodents = bank-robbing rodents = suspects

4 Find synonyms for the cat and the bird in the news stories.

the cat = a small cat, the feline smuggler

the bird = Sam, the theft, the law-breaking seagull, the seagull

## **6** Answer the questions.

- 1 Where were the bank-robbing rats?
  Near Tinsukia in Assam, India
- 2 How much money did the rats destroy? Nearly \$20,000 / €18,000
- 3 Where was the little cat?
  At the prison gates in Arapiraca, Brazil

- **4** Why were prison officers suspicious when they saw the cat?
  - Attached to the cat's body were a cell phone and charger, memory cards and batteries
- 5 Where was Sam the seagull caught on camera? At a newsstand in Aberdeen, Scotland
- 6 What was Sam's favorite snack?
  Cheese-flavored Doritos

- The rodents would have destroyed more money if ...
- **7** Circle the best option.

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- a the police chief hadn't caught them.
- **b** technicians hadn't opened the cash machine.
  - **c** they hadn't run away.
- 2 The person responsible for the smuggling cat ...
  - a was planning to dig a tunnel.
  - **b** was in prison for robbery.
  - **c** will probably never be identified.

- 3 Sriaram Nagarajan ...
  - a works at a newsagent's in Aberdeen.
  - **b** paid for the stolen Doritos.
  - **c** works for the RSPB bird charity.
- 4 The parrot, dog and horses ...
  - a also broke the law.
  - **b** were all caught on CCTV.
  - **c** all helped to prevent crime or catch criminals.



# Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- **1** Have you ever destroyed a bank note by mistake? If so, how?
- 2 How do people use animals to solve crimes rather than commit crime?
- **3** What would you do if you witnessed Sam the seagull shoplifting?
- 4 Which of the news stories do you like best? Why?



### Word work Match the definitions to the words in bold in the text.

from 1 to 5

- objects that a thief obtained illegally
- saw a crime
- adjective to describe someone who respects the law
- someone who people think committed a crime
- adjective to describe someone who breaks the law

