

2. Color Your Language

Animal Expressions in English

What do animals have to do with the English language? A whole lot!

1) 너는 얼마나 많은 영어 표현들이 동물들에 관련되어있는지를 알면 놀랄 것이다.

→ _____

Consider some of the fascinating ways in which animals are involved in everyday English.

Let's begin with a basic linguistic process, the analogy.

2) 비유란 두 가지에 대한 비교이자, 새로운 의미를 만들어내는 언어의 편리한 방법이다.

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Animals are usually used because they are familiar to everyone. By way of analogy, animal expressions draw on the similarities between animals and humans.

3) 용감하지 못한 사람들은 “닭들”로 불리는 반면, 용감한 지도자들은 “사자의 심장을 가졌다”고 일컬어진다.

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In most cases, it is not hard to see the logic behind the comparisons.

Animal analogies are based on close observation of animal behavior.

4) 하지만 우연한 관찰이 잘못된 가정을 야기하거나 오역이 방해가 된다면?

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Interestingly, this has often been the case with English animal expressions. "Crocodile tears" is a good example. One is said to weep "crocodile tears" if they pretend to be sad when they are not. The idea comes from the popular belief that crocodile weep over the prey they kill.

5) 사실, 악어들이 먹는 동안 우는 것처럼 보이는 것은, 입 주변의 근육이 먹기 위해 움직일 때 눈이 자극되기 때문이다.

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Their tears are only a physical response with nothing to do with feelings.

6) “벌처럼 곧장 가다”라는 말 또한 잘못된 관찰에 기반을 둔 동물 표현에 속한다.

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"A beeline" typically means a straight line between two points. If you "make a beeline for" someone or something, you go straight toward your destination, ignoring everything else along the way. For instance, your mom might have told you to make a beeline home after school.

7) 이제 너는 벌들이 정말로 그들이 가길 원하는 곳으로 곧장 날아가는지 궁금해 할지도 모른다.

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The answer is, usually they do not. As you may have observed, they make irregular twists and turns in their flight. They often stop to rest and take a long way around.

8) 그들이 곧장 가는 갈 때는 많은 양의 꿀을 가지고 집으로 돌아갈 때뿐이다.

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In the case of the bee, only part of the truth came to represent the whole.

Even though many people know that these analogies are not based on science, the expressions do not easily disappear in the language.

9) 사실, 어느 정도는 이러한 표현 때문에, 몇몇 사람들은 여전히 악어가 눈물을 흘리고 벌이 항상 그들의 목적지로 곧장 날아간다는 믿음을 갖고 있다.

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Sometimes, the meaning of analogies may not be obvious. For instance, what comes to mind when you hear the phrase, "white elephant" or "black sheep"?

10) 대부분의 사람들은 이 말들을 처음 듣고, 그것들의 의미를 정확하게 유추해내지 못한다.

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The expression "white elephant" comes from Thailand. Long ago, in Thailand, white elephants were very rare. Whenever one was found, it was given to the king.

11) 그러면 왕은 그것을 그가 좋아하지 않는 누군가에게 왕의 “선물”로 주곤 했는데, 왜냐하면 이 아름다운 동물은 기르기에 막대한 돈이 들어가기 때문이었다.

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Nobody could refuse such a present, but it could financially ruin its owner.

12) 게다가, 왕이 준 선물을 함부로 대하는 것은 중대한 범죄였다.

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Even riding it was not allowed, so a white elephant was almost useless.

13) 그 표현은 18세기 영국에 소개되어 비싸지만 쓸모없는 공공건물들을 묘사하기에 효과적인 것으로 드러났다.

→ _____

Today, it is used to refer to anything that might be costly and useless to someone.

Black sheep, like white elephants, are not common, and they also mean trouble for their owners.

The expression is from the English history of sheep farming.

14) 오래전에, 검은 양털은 염색하기가 거의 불가능했기 때문에 가치가 없었다.

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When a black sheep was born, the owners saw it as bad luck.


15) 오늘날 “검은 양”이라는 표현은 가족 혹은 집단의 이상하거나 인기가 없는 구성원을 지칭하는데, 이는 아마도 인기가 없는 검은 양이 하얀 양들 무리에서 두드러졌기 때문 일 것이다.

→ _____

16) 이 흥미로운 표현들은 동물과 관련이 있는 영어 표현들 중 몇 가지의 예일 뿐이다.

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Watch for others as you learn more English. Be curious about them and research their roots. It is a fun way to learn the language.

	<p>◇「콘텐츠산업 진흥법 시행령」제33조에 의한 표시</p> <p>1) 제작연월일 : 2018년 01월 19일</p> <p>2) 제작자 : 교육지대㈜</p> <p>3) 이 콘텐츠는 「콘텐츠산업 진흥법」에 따라 최초 제작일부터 5년간 보호됩니다.</p>
<p>◇「콘텐츠산업 진흥법」외에도「저작권법」에 의하여 보호되는 콘텐츠의 경우, 그 콘텐츠의 전부 또는 일부를 무단으로 복제하거나 전송하는 것은 콘텐츠산업 진흥법 외에도 저작권법에 의한 법적 책임을 질 수 있습니다.</p>	

정답

- 1) [정답]You'll be surprised to know just how many English expressions involve animals.
- 2) [정답]An analogy is a comparison between two things and a convenient way for language to create new meanings.
- 3) [정답]People who are not courageous are called "chickens," while brave leaders are said to be "lionhearted."
- 4) [정답]However, what if the casual observation leads to false assumptions, or misinterpretation gets in the way?
- 5) [정답]The fact is, crocodiles seem to cry while they eat, but this is because their eyes are stimulated when the muscles around the mouth move to eat.
- 6) [정답]"Making a beeline" also belongs to the group of animal expressions based on flawed observation.
- 7) [정답]Now you may wonder if bees really fly straight to where they want to go.
- 8) [정답]It is only when they return home with a load of honey that they make a straight line.
- 9) [정답]In fact, partly due to these expressions, some people still hold the belief that crocodiles weep and bees always fly straight to their destination.
- 10) [정답]Most people, hearing these phrases for the first time, cannot correctly guess their meanings.
- 11) [정답]The king would then give it as a royal "gift" to someone he did not like since the beautiful animal cost a fortune to take care

of.

- 12) [정답]Moreover, it was a serious crime to mistreat a present from the king.
- 13) [정답]The expression, introduced in England in the 18th century, turned out to be useful for describing costly but useless public buildings.
- 14) [정답]Long ago, black wool was worthless because it was almost impossible to dye.
- 15) [정답]Today the expression "black sheep" refers to an odd and unpopular member of a family or a group, perhaps because the unpopular black sheep stood out in a group of white sheep.
- 16) [정답]These interesting expressions are only a few examples of the English expressions having to do with animals.