

*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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### Transcript

Who is **top dog** of the California waves?

About 50 animals wearing **life jackets** took part in the annual dog surfing competition in San Diego.

They were **eager** to follow their owners to the water and looked pretty confident and skilled at keeping their **balance** on the surfboards.

The owners **guarantee** that their pets are safe and enjoying the ride. At least this dog seems happy.

The event raises money for the San Diego Humane Society and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

### Vocabulary

#### **top dog**

(idiom) a dominant person in a group or in their field

#### **life jackets**

something you wear to make you float if you fall into water

#### **eager**

keen

#### **balance**

the ability to stay in the same position and not fall

#### **guarantee**

promise that something will happen

**Watch this video online: Surfing dogs** <http://bbc.in/1SMPoSS>

## Exercise

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from news reports.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

**top dog / life jackets / eager / balance / guarantee**

1. Meet Atlas, a humanoid robot capable of crossing rough terrain and maintaining its \_\_\_\_\_ on one leg even when hit from the side.

2. Three anglers are "extremely lucky to be alive" after being rescued from a capsized boat off the Devon coast, Portland Coastguards have said.

The men had no \_\_\_\_\_ and ended up in the water after their 16ft (4.8m) boat overturned at speed before sinking off Seaton, coastguards said.

3. Police were called to a Cardiff supermarket after reports of clashes between customers \_\_\_\_\_ to take advantage of Black Friday sales.

4. The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) has said it cannot \_\_\_\_\_ that all £2bn National Lottery money taken to fund London 2012 will be returned.

It is hoped profits from land sold after the Olympic Games will reimburse National Lottery funds.

5. An Essex drug dealer described as the " \_\_\_\_\_ " in a £2m ecstasy ring has been convicted after police officers recorded coded conversations.

## Answers

1. Meet Atlas, a humanoid robot capable of crossing rough terrain and maintaining its **balance** on one leg even when hit from the side.

**Source:** Pentagon-funded Atlas robot refuses to be knocked over  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-24427821>

2. Three anglers are "extremely lucky to be alive" after being rescued from a capsized boat off the Devon coast, Portland Coastguards have said.

The men had no **life jackets** and ended up in the water after their 16ft (4.8m) boat overturned at speed before sinking off Seaton, coastguards said.

**Source:** Anglers rescued off Devon coast 'had no life jackets'  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-14352781>

3. Police were called to a Cardiff supermarket after reports of clashes between customers **eager** to take advantage of Black Friday sales.

**Source:** Eager shoppers in Black Friday rush at Tesco in Cardiff  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-30242609>

4. The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) has said it cannot **guarantee** that all £2bn National Lottery money taken to fund London 2012 will be returned.

It is hoped profits from land sold after the Olympic Games will reimburse National Lottery funds.

**Source:** No guarantee on lottery money for 2012 Olympics  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/8556776.stm>

5. An Essex drug dealer described as the "**top dog**" in a £2m ecstasy ring has been convicted after police officers recorded coded conversations.

**Source:** Drug ring 'top dog' found guilty  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/essex/7852078.stm>