

## Listening Script for TPO Test 17 Speaking Question 4

script proofread by 新托福真题绿化大师 (QQ 1223317581)

**Narrator:**

Now listen to part of a lecture on this topic in a zoology class.

**Professor:**

Let's start with an example you may be familiar with. What's one thing dogs typically do when they feel threatened, when they want to protect themselves? That's right. They show their teeth and when we see this, we know this behavior mean basically stay away.

Now, here's how this behavior became a recognizable warning. A long long time ago, a dog sensing danger would get ready to bite whatever animal was threatening him. It started by baring its teeth. But the purpose of doing this was something very simple - the dog instinctively was making sure it wouldn't bite its own lips when it bit the other animals. OK? But what happened? Other dogs, other animals, over time, they learned that this teeth baring always came before a dog was going to bite. And so they started to read it as a signal to be careful, to keep away or risk getting bitten.

This scenario repeated time after time also led to the dog's awareness that by simply showing its teeth, a lot of the time that was protection enough. What had been a simple physical preparation to bite had developed into a kind of defense mechanism in and of itself. The dog learnt it did not need to actually attack but could get the right result from just communicating the possibility of an attack through showing its teeth. It started to use this behavior as a warning signal.