Academic Vocabulary   **Read the definitions and complete the sentences.**

forecast

v. to say what you expect to happen in the future

perceive

v. to notice something or someone by using sight, sound, touch, taste, or smell

humidity

n. a measurement of how much water there is in the air

Have a try!

01 Some animals are able to _____ changes in the air pressure and therefore _____ a coming storm.

02 The level of _____ in the air can affect how hot or cold it feels outside.

Academic Vocabulary   **Read the definitions and complete the sentences.**

instinct

n. the way people or animals naturally react or behave, without having to think

detect

v. to discover something, usually using special equipment

survival

n. the ability to stay alive and keep existing in difficult or dangerous situations

✏️ **Have a try!**

01 Humans also have a natural _____ for eating.

02 Some animals can _____ changes in their environment that humans cannot perceive.

03 The basic instinct of all living beings is _____.

Animal Forecasters

Animals of various species, including birds, insects, and mammals have the ability to predict weather changes, such as rainfall, storms, and extreme temperatures.

Animals use their instincts to forecast the weather all year round and they can be found in different regions around the world. For instance, in North America, groundhogs are popular animal forecasters, while in tropical areas, some birds and insects are known to sense changes in pressure and humidity that predict the upcoming rain.

Animals use a combination of sensory tools such as vision, hearing, and smell to detect changes in their environment. Some animals also have special organs that help them sense changes in temperature, pressure, and humidity. For instance, when cows lie down in a field, it is believed to be a sign of rain or an approaching storm. Bees have been observed to be less active

Similarly, dogs have a highly sensitive sense of smell, which allows them to detect tiny changes in the environment, such as the onset of an earthquake.

The ability of animals to perceive incoming weather changes is essential for their survival. By sensing changes in weather conditions, animals can adjust their behavior, such as seeking shelter or changing their feeding patterns, to avoid danger and increase their chances of survival.

In conclusion, animals are nature's living forecasters. By observing animal behaviors, humans have got more crucial information to plan and prepare for incoming weather events.
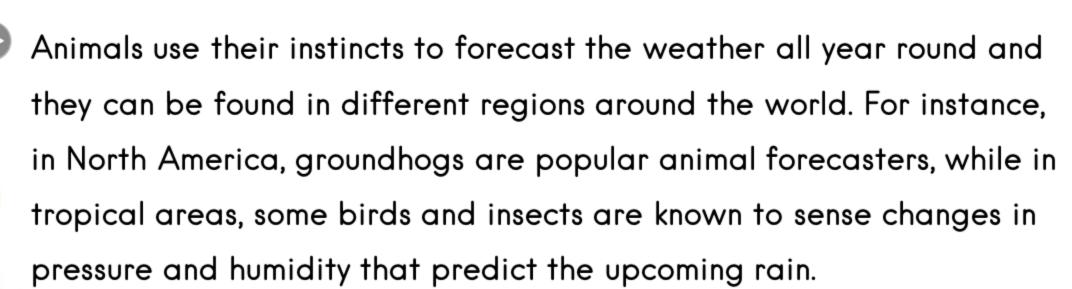
Predict From the Title

- We're going to read an essay together. Look at **the title** of the essay and predict.

"The essay's title is _____. The moment I see the title, I guess I will learn _____ _____ in this essay."

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■ Listen and read the essay. Think about the main idea of the essay.

Animal Forecasters

▶ Animals of various species, including birds, insects, and mammals have the ability to predict weather changes, such as rainfall, storms, and extreme temperatures.

▶ Animals use their instincts to forecast the weather all year round and they can be found in different regions around the world. For instance, in North America, groundhogs are popular animal forecasters, while in tropical areas, some birds and insects are known to sense changes in pressure and humidity that predict the upcoming rain.

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▶ Animals use a combination of sensory tools such as vision, hearing, and smell to detect changes in their environment. Some animals also have special organs that help them sense changes in temperature, pressure, and humidity. For instance, when cows lie down in a field, it is believed to be a sign of rain or an approaching storm. Bees have been observed to be less active before a storm, as they sense the changes in pressure. Similarly, dogs have a highly sensitive sense of smell, which allows them to detect tiny changes in the environment, such as the onset of an earthquake.

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▶ The ability of animals to perceive incoming weather changes is essential for their survival. By sensing changes in weather conditions, animals can adjust their behavior, such as seeking shelter or changing their feeding patterns, to avoid danger and increase their chances of survival.

▶ In conclusion, animals are nature's living forecasters. By observing animal behaviors, humans have gained more crucial information to plan and prepare for incoming weather events.

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Animal Forecasters

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The Main Idea

- **What do you think is the main idea of the essay?**

A animals and humans forecast the weather differently

B the fun facts about how various animals forecast weather changes and why they do it

C different animals can forecast different weather changes

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Animal Forecasters | Paragraph 1

Animals of various species, including birds, insects, and mammals have the ability to predict weather changes, such as rainfall, storms, and extreme temperatures.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- **Shorten Paragraph 1 to get the main idea.**

Animals _____ have

the ability to _____.

SKILL

Focus on the **main structure** of a sentence to get its main idea.

Animal Forecasters | Paragraph 2

Animals use their instincts to forecast the weather all year round, and they can be found in different regions around the world. For instance, in North America, groundhogs are popular animal forecasters, while in tropical areas, some birds and insects are known to sense changes in pressure and humidity that predict the upcoming rain.

- **Paragraph 2 can be divided into two parts:**
  1. **topic sentence**
  2. **supporting examples.**

- **Skim Paragraph 2, circle the topic sentence, and underline the supporting examples.**

SKILL

When you see the phrase **"for instance"**, it means the following sentences are examples or details to support the previous sentence.

Animal Forecasters | Paragraph 3

Animals use a combination of sensory tools such as vision, hearing, and smell to detect changes in their environment. Some animals also have special organs that help them sense changes in temperature, pressure, and humidity. For instance, when cows lie down in a field, it is believed to be a sign of rain or an approaching storm. Bees have been observed to be less active before a storm, as they sense the changes in pressure. Similarly, dogs have a highly sensitive sense of smell, which allows them to detect tiny changes in the environment, such as the onset of an earthquake.

- **Skim paragraph 3, circle the main idea sentence, and underline the supporting examples.**

SKILL

We can explain a clear idea by following this: **" topic sentence"** + **"supporting examples".**

Animal Forecasters | Paragraph 4

The ability of animals to perceive incoming weather changes is essential for their survival. By sensing changes in weather conditions, animals can adjust their behavior, such as seeking shelter or changing their feeding patterns, to avoid danger and increase their chances of survival.

■ **Skim Paragraph 5. Which of the following shows the two parts of the paragraph?**

A
- perceiving weather changes is essential for animals' survival
- why it is essential for their survival

B
- perceiving weather changes is essential for animals' survival
- what the animals do with their abilities

Animal Forecasters | Paragraph 5

In conclusion, animals are nature's living forecasters. By observing animal behaviors, humans have gained more crucial information to plan and prepare for incoming weather events.

■ **Skim and choose the paragraph's function.**

A It tells people that humans should protect animals.

B It summarizes the previous paragraphs.

C It summarizes the essay and points out that animal forecasters can benefit humans.

SUMMARY

Academic Vocabulary

forecast

perceive

humidity

instinct

detect

survival

Read for Main Idea

SKILLS

1. Focus on the **main structure** of a sentence to get its main idea.

2. When you see the phrase **"for instance"**, it means the following sentences are examples or details to support the previous sentence.

3. We can explain a clear idea by following this:

"main-idea sentence" + **"supporting examples"**.

WHAT'S NEXT....

In the next lesson, we're going to read the essay "Animal Forecasters" in detail. See you next time!