

**Passage 1. The Tuatara of New Zealand**

1 True	Now just <b>two species of tuatara</b> survive, and only in New Zealand. <b>One</b> is the Brothers Island tuatara which, until recent re-introductions to sanctuaries (safe places for wildlife), only survived on North Brother Island. <b>The other</b> species is the common tuatara, which survives on many other offshore islands. Although <b>the tuatara species appear similar</b> , they have genetic differences. Tuatara bones have been found in many parts of New Zealand. Where dated, they are usually a few hundred to 5,000 years old.
2 False	<b>...Tuatara bones have been found in many parts</b> of New Zealand. Where dated, they are <b>usually a few hundred to 5,000 years old.</b>
3 Not given	<b>... . Males are larger than females</b> , and have <b>more developed spines</b> in the crest along the <b>neck, back and tail.</b>
4 False	The male tuatara courts the female by approaching her with a proud walk. Tuatara mate in late summer, and the <b>female</b> usually <b>lays 6-10 eggs</b> the following spring, <b>in a shallow nest at ground level</b> . She may guard the nest for a few nights, <b>then return to her burrow underground...</b>
5 Not given	The eggs incubate for about a year, so <b>hatchlings</b> emerge about the time that eggs are being laid the following season. Evidence indicates the gender of <b>tuatara hatchlings</b> is <b><u>determined by both genetic and environmental factors</u></b> . It is said that it is more likely for warmer eggs to produce <b>male tuatara</b> , and cooler eggs to produce <b>females</b> . The hatchlings receive no parental care and need to find their own food.
6 True	It is said that it is more likely for warmer eggs to produce male tuatara, and cooler eggs to produce females. The <b>hatchlings receive no parental care</b> and need to <b>find their own food</b> .
7 80	Tuatara live for a relatively long time, reaching reproductive maturity at about 15 years, and may breed for many decades. Their maximum lifespan is not known for certain, but <b>many tuatara have reached 80 years</b>
8 teeth	. <b>Teeth</b> are <b>their main weapons</b> , and a bite can cause serious injury. Tuatara are carnivorous, eating invertebrates, lizards and the baby seabirds with which they often share burrows.
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	injury. Tuatara are carnivorous, <b>eating</b> invertebrates, lizards and the <b>baby <u>seabirds</u></b> with which they often <b>share burrows</b> .
10 Polynesian	Tuatara were once widespread and <b>abundant</b> on the New Zealand mainland, but when <b><u>Polynesian</u> settlers</b> arrived in New Zealand, in about 1250-1300 AD, they <b>brought with them Pacific rats</b> which killed tuatara. By the time of European settlement,
11 mainland	By the time of European settlement, <b>in the 1840s, tuatara were almost extinct on the New Zealand <u>mainland</u></b> .
12 common	. A few, such as the Poor Knights <b><u>common</u> tuatara lives on islands off the north-eastern coast</b> of New Zealand, and on some islands in <b>Cook Strait</b> .
13 2500	The largest population is <b>on Stephens Island</b> , where there are estimated to be <b>as many as <u>2,500</u> per hectare</b> in some places, and a total of at least 30,000. The total number of tuatara on all the islands is estimated to be between 50,000 and 100,000.

## Passage 2. The Tasmanian Tiger

14 striped	The Tasmanian tiger, or thylacine, was a carnivorous marsupial (a meat-eating mammal which carries its young in a pouch). It was <b>given the name "tiger"</b> because it had <b><u>striped</u> fur</b> , and because <b>it was ferocious</b> .
15 Australia	Between 24 million and 15 million years ago, many types of thylacine <b>roamed across <u>Australia</u></b> , their powerful jaws playing a role in maintaining a balance in the ecosystems of their day. Some species were for sized, while others were barely the size of Kittens.
16 12 million years	But when <b>a period of climate change</b> cooled Australia about <b><u>12 million years</u></b> ago the numbers of these ancient thylacines <b>began to decline</b> . By about 3 million years ago, only one species was left...
17 Tasmanian  18 Europeans	About 4,000 years ago, these vanished completely Australia, <b><u>Tasmania</u> was then the last remaining place</b> where thylacines existed. They ruled the animal life of <b>that island</b> unchallenged until <b><u>Europeans</u> with sheep, dogs, and a great indifference to native flora and fauna</b> , seem to have <b>brought about their extinction</b> . In 1936, the last captive was in Tasmanian bush, but no definitive evidence has been found. Despite this, there are many who keep searching.

19 B	<p><b>Randolph Rose</b>, Associate Professor of Zoology at the University of Tasmania says that he <b>dreamed of seeing a thylacine</b>, but is now convinced that <b>his will go unfulfilled</b>. The consensus among conservationists is that usually; any animal with a population base of less than 1,000 is headed for extinction within 60 years,” says Rose. “Sixty years ago, there was only one thylacine that we know of, and that was in Hobart Zoo,” he says. Take it from me, <b>the tiger is gone</b>. ...</p>
20 A	<p><b>Hans Naarding</b>, whose sighting of a striped animal two decades ago was the highlight of a lifetime of animal spotting, remains puzzled by the time and money people waste on tiger searches. He says resources would be better applied to saving another endangered animal, the Tasmanian devil, and helping declining migratory bird populations. Could the thylacine still be out there? Sure, 'Naarding says 'I know the vast south-west wilderness of Tasmania well. They could survive ... (But if this is the case, it will not be long before they do disappear completely.' Naarding believes that <b>any discovery of surviving thylacines would be rather pointless</b>'. 'How do you bring a species back from extinction? He asks what could you do with it? If there are thylacines out there, they are <b>better off right where they are</b>.'</p>
21 D	<p>Wildlife biologist Nick Mooney has the unenviable task of investigating all so-called sightings of the tiger. It was Mooney who was first consulted in late February 2005 about the authenticity of new digital photographic images of a thylacine allegedly taken by a tourist. On the face value, <b>Mooney</b> says, this particular account of a sighting and the photographs submitted as proof amount to one of the most convincing cases for the species survival that he has seen. <b>Many other sightings</b> have been <b>hoaxes</b>, and many sincere seekers are <b>victims of obsession</b>. It is a blind optimism that something is , rather than a something isn't, "Mooney says. If something crosses the road, it's not a case of "I wonder what that was? "Rather, it is a case of " That's a thylacine ! "</p>
22 C	<p>But <b>Dr David Pemberton</b>, curator of zoology at the Tasmanian Museum states that, <b>despite scientific thinking that a relatively large number of animals required to sustain a population the Florida panther</b> is down to a dozen or so animals, and, while it does have some inbreeding problems, is still ticking along. <b>After all</b>, animals can be notoriously elusive. The strange fish known as <b>coelacanth</b>,</p>

23 A	When the news broke, said Naarding. 'I was besieged by television crews, including four or five from Japan, and others from the United Kingdom, Germany, New Zealand and South America.
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25 B	In 1981, Dutch-born zoologist Hans Naarding was in Tasmania conducting a survey of Latham's snipe, a species of endangered bird. One night he saw an animal in the light from the searchlight mounted on his vehicle. He described as about the size of a large dog, but with slightly sloping hindquarters and a fairly thick tail continuing straight on from its backbone. He said that it had 12 distinct stripes on its back, running down to the point where the tail began. He reported the sighting to the Director of Tasmania's National Parks. When the news broke, said Naarding. 'I was besieged by television crews, including four or five from Japan, and others from the United Kingdom, Germany, New Zealand and South America. Government and private search parties combed the region, but no further sightings were made...
26 D	After all, animals can be notoriously elusive. The strange fish known as coelacanth, with its 'proto legs', was thought to have died out with the dinosaurs 700 million years ago until a specimen was dragged to the surface in a shark net off the coast of South Africa in 1938.

### Passage 3. The Cane Toad in Australia

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28 vii (identification)	Cane toads are large heavily-built amphibians with dry, warty skin. They have a bony head and over their eyes are bony ridges that meet above the nose. They sit upright and move in short rapid hops. Their hind feet have leathery webbing between the toes and their front feet are unwebbed. Adult cane toads have large swellings - the parotoid glands-on each shoulder behind the eardrum. Cane toads may be grey,



	<p>yellowish, olive-brown or reddish brown, and their bellies are pale with dark mottling. <b>Average-sized adults</b> are ten to fifteen centimetres long The largest female measured in Queensland was twenty-four centimetres long and weighed one point three kilograms. <b>Male cane toads</b> are smaller and wartier than females. During the breeding season males develop dark lumps (nuptial pads) on their first two fingers, these help them cling to a female while mating. <b>Their</b> mating call is a long loud purring trill. <b>Cane toad</b> spawn is exclusive in Australia. It is laid in long strings of transparent jelly enclosing double rows of black eggs. The spawn tangles in dense dark masses around water plants, and hangs in ropy strands if picked up.</p>
29 ix (distribution)	<p>... The natural range of cane toads <b>extends from the southern United States to tropical South America</b>. In 2002, cane toads occurred <b>throughout the eastern and northern half of Queensland</b> and have extended their range to the <b>river catchments surrounding Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory</b>. In New South Wales, they occur as far south as <b>Yamba and Port Macquarie</b>.</p>
30 ii (habitat)	<p>Cane toads tolerate <b>a broad range of environmental and climatic conditions</b> and appear to be able to <b>adjust and survive in almost any environment system</b>, including sea water for short periods of time. This to a large extent explains their success in their spreading in Australia. Cane toads are <b>found in environments ranging from sand dunes and coastal heath to the margins of rainforest and mangroves</b>. They are most abundant <b>in open clearings in urban areas, and in grassland and woodland</b>.</p>
31 i (Diet)	<p>Cane toads <b>eat almost anything they can swallow</b>, including pet food, carrion and household scraps, but most of their food consists of living insects. Beetles, honey bees, ants, winged termites, crickets and bugs <b>are eaten in abundance</b>. Marine snails, smaller toads and native frogs, small snakes, and small mammals <b>are occasionally eaten</b> by cane toads. The tadpoles of cane toads <b>eat</b> algae and other aquatic plants which they rasp off with five rows of tiny peg-like teeth. They also <b>filter</b> organic matter from the water. Large tadpoles sometimes eat cane toad eggs.</p>
32 x (environmental impacts)	<p>The protestors were right. Firstly, cane toads <b>compete for the resources of native animals</b>, like food, which affects native populations. Secondly, cane toads don't have as many</p>

	established predators as native animals and so <b>their population grows quickly</b> . Finally, some native <b>animals who would normally feed on frogs try to eat toads and get poisoned</b> .
33 ix (dangers)	All stages of the cane toad's life-cycle are <b>poisonous</b> . No humans have died in Australia from cane toad poison, but <b>overseas, people have died</b> after eating toads and even soup made from boiled toad eggs. Cane toads are also <b>poisonous to pets</b> . In Hawaii, up to fifty dogs a year have died after having cane toads in their mouths. Signs of dogs being poisoned through ingestion include profuse salivation, twitching, vomiting, shallow breathing, and collapse of the hind limbs. Death may occur by cardiac arrest within fifteen minutes. A cane toad responds to threat by turning side-on so its parotid glands are directed towards the attacker. The poison usually oozes out of the glands, but toads can squirt a fine spray for a short distance if they want. The poison is absorbed through mucous membranes such as eyes, mouth and nose, and in humans may <b>cause intense pain, temporary blindness and inflammation</b> .
34 B	<b>During the breeding season, males develop dark lumps (nuptial pads)</b> on their first two fingers, these help them cling to a female while mating. Their mating call is a long loud purring trill.
35 B	... Cane toad <b>spawn</b> is <b>exclusive in Australia</b> . It is laid in long strings of transparent jelly enclosing double rows of black eggs. The spawn tangles in dense dark masses around water plants, and hangs in ropy strands if picked up.
36 F	At that time, some naturalists and scientists warned of the dangers of <b>liberating cane toads in Australia</b> . Their <b>protests</b> resulted in a brief moratorium on the release of toads, but releases resumed in 1936. The protestors were right.
37 G	All stages of the cane toad's life-cycle are poisonous. No humans have died in Australia from cane toad poison, but overseas, <b>people have died</b> after <b>eating toads and even soup made from boiled toad eggs</b> . Cane toads are also poisonous to pets. In Hawaii, up to fifty dogs a year have died after having cane toads in their mouths...
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39 roots	<b>Cane toads were introduced to Australia to eat French's Cane Beetle and the Greyback Cane Beetle.</b> The whitegrub larvae of these beetles <b>eat the <u>roots</u> of sugar cane</b> and kill or stunt the plants. The Australian Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations imported about a hundred toads from Hawaii to the Meringa Experimental Station near Cairns...
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