

Rosa's Animal Adventure: A Spanish Safari

Learning objective: To identify and describe animals in Spanish, using appropriate adjectives and grammatical structures for Year 5.

Read the passage below, which features Rosa the parrot exploring a Spanish-speaking nature reserve. Use your knowledge of vocabulary and sentence structure to answer the questions. For the Greater Depth section, consider how adjectives change to agree with the nouns they describe.

¡Hola! I am Rosa. Today, I am flying over a beautiful nature reserve. Below me, I see many interesting creatures. There is a large lion, 'el león grande', who is sleeping under a tree. Nearby, an elephant is walking slowly; 'el elefante es lento'. I also spot a small cat playing in the grass, 'el gato pequeño'. The animals are wonderful, and each one has a unique personality. I love learning about how they live in their natural habitats!

Word bank: el perro (dog) · el gato (cat) · el león (lion) · el elefante (elephant) · la jirafa (giraffe) · grande (big) · pequeño (small) · rápido (fast) · lento (slow) · es (is) · tiene (has)

1. Identify the Spanish nouns used in the text for 'lion' and 'cat'. Why is it important to include the article 'el' or 'la' when learning new nouns? (2 marks)

2. Translate the phrase 'the small cat is fast' into Spanish, using the vocabulary provided in the word bank. (2 marks)

3. Explain why the adjective 'grande' does not change its ending in the phrase 'el león grande', while other adjectives might need to change if the noun were feminine. (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the descriptions of the lion and the elephant in the passage. Justify why Rosa might describe the elephant as 'lento'. (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the sentence structure if we wanted to describe two lions instead of one? Explain the change needed for the verb 'es'. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from the nature reserve described by Rosa. Label at least three animals in Spanish and add an adjective to describe each one (e.g., 'el elefante grande').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph in Spanish (4-5 sentences) describing your favourite animal. Include its size, its speed, and one thing it has (e.g., 'El tigre es grande y rápido. Tiene rayas.'). Challenge: Research a Spanish-speaking country and identify one animal native to that region to include in your paragraph.