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BEFORE READING

1 Listen and complete the text about ospreys.

birdwatchers branch claws diving
 hunts migrate nest prey



The osprey (Latin name: *Pandion haliaetus*) is an amazing bird to look at.

Its body is 50-60 cm long, and its wingspan is 150-170 cm.

One thing that makes it so interesting for (a) is that, unlike most other birds of (b), the osprey (c) fish. It catches them by flying high above the lake and then (d) into the water, holding out

its (e) to catch the fish just before it hits the water. It then holds the fish in its claws and flies out of the water to eat the fish on the (f) of a tree, or at its (g)

The nest is a huge pile of sticks at the top of a tree. It is up to 1.5 metres in width, and the birds return to the same nest year after year.

Ospreys (h) from Europe to sub-Saharan Africa to spend each winter, and return the following April to nest.



2 Read or listen to the text again and answer the following questions.

- a What is the width of an osprey's wings?
- b Where do ospreys live in the winter months?
- c What makes ospreys a particularly interesting bird of prey for birdwatchers?

3 Find out the meaning of *Pandion haliaetus*.



4 Match the words to their definitions. Use Exercise 1 to help.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| a <input type="checkbox"/> birdwatchers | e <input type="checkbox"/> hunts |
| b <input type="checkbox"/> branch | f <input type="checkbox"/> migrate |
| c <input type="checkbox"/> claws | g <input type="checkbox"/> nest |
| d <input type="checkbox"/> diving | h <input type="checkbox"/> prey |

- 1 sharp parts of a bird's feet
- 2 people who study birds outdoors as a hobby
- 3 part of a tree that grows out from the centre part
- 4 moving down quickly through air or water
- 5 place where birds put their eggs and sometimes sleep
- 6 when a bird or animal moves from one place to another, usually because of the weather
- 7 searches for and catches an animal to eat
- 8 an animal that is hunted and eaten by another animal

5 Match the descriptions to the pictures of characters from the story.



- a** Hello, I'm Don's dad. Don's really into birdwatching and I love looking at the pictures he takes.
- b** Hello, I'm Don Ball. I'm 15 and I love birdwatching. I've got brown hair.
- c** Hello there. I'm Sergeant Keddle. I'm the policeman in Saltley. It's usually quiet here. But then Don and Mike discovered something interesting.
- d** Hi, I'm Mike Peters, I'm 15 and I'm Don's best friend. I've got blond hair and my most prized possession is my binoculars.





1 A TEXT INVITATION



I was coming home from school on the bus on Tuesday, when I got a text message from Mike. It was very short: Mkt X 7. UGNT. I knew that this meant he wanted to meet me at the Market Cross at seven o'clock that evening and that it was something urgent. It was also a bit unusual. We'd arranged* to meet after school on Friday to plan our weekend's birdwatching as usual, so this must be something special. I felt excited!

Let me give you some background*. My name's Don Ball. I'm fifteen and I go to Blueway Comprehensive School*. Mike (or Mike Peters, to give him his full name) is the same age and goes to the local grammar school, but we've been friends since junior school. We both live in the village of Saltley, which is in the Midlands. We've been birdwatching together since we were 11. I suppose* we're quite good at it now, because we do it regularly, read about it, use the net to find out about birds, and we're members of a club for birdwatchers, too.

When I got home, I got some biscuits and orange juice and went up to my room to get on with* my homework so that I could go out and meet Mike later. It took me longer than usual to do it because my mind kept wandering*, thinking of what Mike wanted to tell me. He must have seen an unusual bird. (Of course, I thought his text message must be because of a bird!)

It was early April, and birds which had gone south to warmer countries for the winter were coming back to Britain for the summer now.

We were looking forward to meeting "old friends", but there was always the chance of something rare and unusual arriving, too.


- **arranged:** planned
- **background:** extra details about the characters and story
- **Comprehensive School:** secondary school for boys and girls of all abilities
- **get on with:** (here) do immediately
- **suppose:** think
- **wandering:** (here) thinking of one thing then another

AFTER READING**VOCABULARY**

1 Use five of the words in the box to complete the sentences.

ahead best commute disused fly hide longest miner

- a It took the two friends the part of an hour to get there.
- b They didn't say much, as they were both thinking about the evening
- c Very soon it will be possible to watch the birds from a near the lake.
- d Half of the town's population work on the nearby farms, while the other half to the nearest big city to work.
- e Don and Mike met at the buildings of Redman's Farm.

2  In pairs, write three sentences with the words left out in Exercise 1.

3 Unscramble the following words with the help of their meaning.

- a heitwls = high sound made by blowing between one's lips
- b deeonccrn = worried
- c hndiyg = small boat
- d adpedl = short oar for moving in a boat
- e tinnacauaqce = person you know, but not very well
- f holtpisgt = strong light used directly onto a place or person
- g olgmyo = dark and depressing
- h dilevere = less afraid and/or worried

AFTER READING

CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH EXAMS

P B1 Preliminary English Test Reading Part 5

1 Read the following news report about ospreys and choose the correct word for each gap.

NEWSPAPER **2**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

OSPREY!

“ A new project for the birds ”

The first osprey to **a**
in England in more than 150 years
b its
public debut in Rutland.

The osprey **c**
was born last month and is the first
success of a six-year breeding project
at Rutland Water.

The birds of prey almost became
d in England
in the 19th century, but they did
survive in Scotland. And since 1997,
a dozen six-week-old ospreys have
been relocated every year from



Scotland to Rutland Water.
Experts are carefully monitoring the
bird. They **e**
it to take its first flight in the next
few weeks.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| a 1 born | 2 live | 3 hatch |
| b 1 has done | 2 has made | 3 is making |
| c 1 chick | 2 check | 3 chuck |
| d 1 extinguished | 2 extent | 3 extinct |
| e 1 expect | 2 suspect | 3 respect |