

# "World's smallest reptile discovered in Madagascar"

## GAP FILL

Scientists say they have discovered what could be the smallest reptile in the world. It is a kind of chameleon and is the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of a sunflower seed. Chameleons are usually around 35-40cm long. Scientists found two of the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ lizards - a male and a female - in the mountains in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Madagascar. They are just 22mm long from nose to (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The length of the male's body is 13.5mm. At first, the scientists thought the tiny reptiles were (5) \_\_\_\_\_, but later realised they were (6) \_\_\_\_\_-grown adults. The scientists called the miniature creatures nano-chameleons. The scientists tried to find more of the nano-chameleons, but "(7) \_\_\_\_\_ great effort" could not find any (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*northern*  
*juveniles*  
*despite*  
*size*  
*tiny*  
*others*  
*tail*  
*fully*

Madagascar is home to two-thirds of the world's chameleon (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Scientists believe they may have originated there. However, the chameleon's survival is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ by deforestation on the island. One of the scientists said the nano-chameleons are lucky to survive. He said: "The nano-chameleon's (11) \_\_\_\_\_ has unfortunately been (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to deforestation, but the area was placed under protection (13) \_\_\_\_\_, so the species will survive." A study published by the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ "Nature Climate Change" stated that nearly all of Madagascar's eastern rainforest could (15) \_\_\_\_\_ by 2070 if deforestation and climate change does not slow down. This would put many of the island's (16) \_\_\_\_\_ species in danger.

*recently*  
*threatened*  
*journal*  
*unique*  
*subject*  
*species*  
*disappear*  
*habitat*

## GAP FILL

# "Jeff Bezos stepping down as Amazon CEO"

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of Amazon.com, Jeff Bezos, will step down from his role as CEO (Chief Executive Officer). Mr Bezos, 57, announced he will finish as CEO later this year. Instead of (2) \_\_\_\_\_ CEO, he will take on the new (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of Amazon's executive chair. He will pass on the position of CEO to Andy Jassy. Mr Jassy is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ head of Amazon Web Services - a cloud computing business. Mr Bezos has been in (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of Amazon since founding the company in his garage in 1995. The company started as an online bookseller but (6) \_\_\_\_\_ into a global online marketplace. It branched out into (7) \_\_\_\_\_ video, music, and audiobooks. It also produces consumer electronics, including Kindle e-readers, Fire tablets and Echo (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*being*  
*charge*  
*founder*  
*streaming*  
*currently*  
*devices*  
*role*  
*turned*

Amazon is one of the world's biggest Internet companies and one of the most (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It is worth around \$1.7 trillion. The company has made Mr Bezos one of the world's richest people. Bezos commented on his (10) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "This journey began some 27 years ago. Amazon was only an idea, and it had no (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The question I was asked most (12) \_\_\_\_\_ at that time was, 'What's the Internet?' Today, we (13) \_\_\_\_\_ 1.3 million talented, dedicated people, serve hundreds of millions of customers and businesses, and are (14) \_\_\_\_\_ recognized as one of the most successful companies in the world." Mr Bezos also (15) \_\_\_\_\_ the Washington Post newspaper and the space travel company Blue Origin, which (16) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to Mars.

*employ*  
*success*  
*valuable*  
*owns*  
*frequently*  
*widely*  
*aims*  
*name*

## -ED and -ING Adjectives Exercise 1

Choose the correct adjective:

1. My nephew was (amusing / amused) by the clown.
2. It's so (frustrating / frustrated)! No matter how much I study I can't seem to remember this vocabulary.
3. This lesson is so (boring / bored)!
4. I'm feeling (depressed / depressing), so I'm going to go home, eat some chocolate, and go to bed early with a good book.
5. I thought her new idea was absolutely (fascinated / fascinating).
6. This maths problem is so (confusing / confused). Can you help me?
7. The teacher was really (amusing / amused) so the lesson passed quickly.
8. The journey was (exhausting / exhausted)! Twelve hours by bus.
9. The plane began to move in a rather (alarming / alarmed) way.
10. He was (frightening / frightened) when he saw the spider.
11. I was really (embarrassing / embarrassed) when I fell over in the street.
12. That film was so (depressing / depressed)! There was no happy ending for any of the characters.
13. I'm sorry, I can't come tonight. I'm completely (exhausting / exhausted).
14. We are going in a helicopter? How (exciting / excited)!
15. Don't show my baby photos to people, Mum! It's so (embarrassing / embarrassed)!
16. It's okay, it's only me. Don't be (alarming / alarmed).
17. My sister is so (exciting / excited) because she is going on holiday tomorrow.
18. I hate long flights, I'm always really (boring / bored).
19. She looked very (confusing / confused) when I told her we had to change the plan.
20. John was (fascinated / fascinating) by Mandarin when he first started learning languages. He decided to study more and now he can speak it fluently.



## Some / Any / 'No Article' Exercise 1

**(This is an extract from my book: 'A' and 'The' Explained).**

Fill the gap with 'some' or 'no article' (Ø).

1. Can you buy \_\_\_\_\_ pasta? [I'm thinking of the amount we need for tonight.]
2. We need \_\_\_\_\_ mushrooms [I'm not thinking about the amount].
3. John drinks \_\_\_\_\_ coffee every morning [coffee, not tea].
4. Add \_\_\_\_\_ water to the soup if it's too thick [a certain amount of water].
5. I really want \_\_\_\_\_ tea – could you get me a cup?
6. We could have \_\_\_\_\_ rice for dinner [rice, not pasta].
7. I ate \_\_\_\_\_ bread and two eggs for lunch [I'm thinking about the amount].
8. She bought \_\_\_\_\_ new furniture [a certain amount of furniture].
9. Did you get \_\_\_\_\_ carrots? [I'm not thinking about the amount.]
10. I'd like \_\_\_\_\_ tea, please! [Tea, not juice or coffee.]

## Because / Because Of / Therefore

Complete the sentences with because of, because, or therefore.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ it rained, we stayed home.
2. It rained \_\_\_\_\_ we stayed home.
3. We stayed home \_\_\_\_\_ the rain.
  
4. The hurricane was moving directly toward a small coastal town. \_\_\_\_\_ all residents were advised to move inland until it passed.
  
5. The residents moved inland \_\_\_\_\_ the hurricane.
  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ the hurricane was moving directly toward the town, all residents were advised to move inland.
  
7. Piranhas, which are found in the Amazon River, are ferocious and bloodthirsty fish. When they attack in great numbers, they can devour an entire cow in several minutes \_\_\_\_\_ their extremely sharp teeth.
  
8. A tomato is classified as a fruit, but most people consider it a vegetable \_\_\_\_\_ it is prepared and eaten in the same ways as lettuce, onions and other vegetables.
  
9. In ancient Rome, garlic was believed to make people courageous. Roman soldiers \_\_\_\_\_, ate large quantities of it before a battle.