

"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.