

MY NAME: _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____

This week, I will be concentrating on:

- Reading more Applying grammar rules Learning new words
- Spelling correctly Writing creatively Listening carefully

This week, I am reading...

I chose this text because...

This text looks: Easy Hard Just right

Behind the Scenes at the Zoo

What would it be like to work at a zoo?

¹ Miki and Takashi stood with their parents behind the fence at Monkey Island on a sunny Saturday afternoon. They watched the monkeys frolic on the rocks and soak up the sun.

² "Look, Miki!" exclaimed Takashi. "That one has a baby on her back!"

³ "I wish I could come here every day," said Miki to her family. "I don't think I'd ever get tired of seeing the animals."

⁴ "It sounds like you might like to be a zookeeper," Mr. Yamamoto said thoughtfully. "Do you see that woman wearing the tan pants and top? I'm pretty sure she is a zookeeper. If you're interested, we could ask her whether she has a few minutes to tell us about her job."

⁵ Miki introduced herself and explained that she wanted to learn about a career in zookeeping. The woman, whose name was Annette, joined Miki, Takashi, and Mr. and Mrs. Yamamoto at a picnic table in a grassy area near Monkey Island.

⁶ "How long have you been a zookeeper?" asked Takashi.

⁷ Annette smiled. "I've been working here for almost 15 years," she said. "I have a degree in zoology, like most of the other zookeepers here."

⁸ "Is a degree in zoology a requirement for your job?" asked Miki.

⁹ Annette shook her head. "No, but a degree related to the study and behavior of animals definitely helps. A few of the zookeepers have degrees in biology, and some others have worked in veterinary medicine."

¹⁰ "What are the best and worst parts about being a zookeeper?" asked Miki.

¹¹ "Well, seeing the animals every day is the best part," said Annette. "Zookeepers often

form a strong bond with the animals under their care. Sometimes, we have to remind ourselves that the zoo animals are wild creatures, not pets," she added.

¹² "I think the worst part is that the work can be difficult and unpleasant," continued Annette. "The cages are often smelly, and we have to work in all kinds of weather. The zookeepers have to make sure the animals are clean and well fed and that they are kept in appropriate conditions."

¹³ "Do you ever teach the animals to do tricks?" wondered Takashi.

¹⁴ "That's a good question, Takashi," said Annette. "Some visitors to the zoo do expect that the animals here will know how to perform. We are careful not to teach the animals to do things just to entertain people. Some animals, like the monkeys, enjoy playing, so we play games with them. Animals who are very intelligent need to have some intellectual stimulation, so we try to provide that as well."

¹⁵ "So, what do you think, Miki? Does it sound like zookeeping is something you might be interested in pursuing?" asked Annette.

¹⁶ "I'm even more excited by the idea now than I was before!" said Miki.

¹⁷ "I think that cleaning the litter box at home should be your chore now," joked Takashi. "I don't want to be a zookeeper, but it would be good practice for you!"



Mark each sentence below **F** if it is in first-person point of view and **T** if it is in third-person point of view.

1. Annette enjoys her job.
2. I have to remind myself that the zoo animals are still wild creatures.
3. Takashi thinks Miki should start changing the litter box at home.
4. I would love having a job where I could work with animals every day.
5. Do you think Miki will continue to look for more information about becoming a zookeeper? Why or why not?

6. On the lines below, write one sentence from the story that shows that Miki might enjoy a job as a zookeeper.

7. Why does Mr. Yamamoto tell Miki she should talk to the zookeeper?

8. Why don't zookeepers usually teach the zoo animals to do tricks?

9. *Zookeepers often treat the zoo animals like pets.* Is this statement true or false?

10. Would you enjoy working in a zoo? Explain.

READING ACTIVITY

Title of text: _____

Author(s) of text: _____

Instructions:

1. Draw your favourite character from the story.
2. WRITE 1 or 2 SENTENCES ABOUT HIM or HER.

Sentences: _____
