

Activity 1.5 *Prediction within the sentence*

Keep the text below covered. Move the card down the page until you reach the line marked *. The sentence we are studying is presented one word at a time, printed in bold type on the left-hand side of the page. When you have answered the questions, move the card down until you get to the next *, and so on.

- 1 **An** What sort of word will follow? (Noun? Verb? etc). Which of the following words is most probable?
a large b animal c eat *

That was fairly easy, wasn't it? Now the text continues:

- 2 **An animal** What sort of word will follow? Which word is most probable?
a is b existence c live *

Why did you exclude *existence* and *live*? Now continue; decide what sort of word will follow and then choose the most likely in each case:

- 3 **An animal is bound** a must b for c to *
4 **An animal is bound to** a locate b depend c activity *
5 **An animal is bound to depend** a on b whether c although *
6 **An animal is bound to depend on** a similarly b other c supply *
7 **An animal is bound to depend on other** a plants b environment c living *
8 **An animal is bound to depend on other living**
a creatures b animals c plants *
9 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures,**
a ultimately b for c eg *

Did you notice the comma after *creatures*? Do you want to change your choice? *

- 10 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately**
a these b animals c plants *
11 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately plants,**
a for b because c to *
12 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately plants,**
for a food b its c influence *
13 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately plants,**
for its a activity b food c concealment *
14 **An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately plants,**
for its food a shelter b amount c supply *

FULL SENTENCE:

An animal is bound to depend on other living creatures, ultimately plants, for its food supply.

END OF ACTIVITY. RETURN TO TEXT ON p13.

I am not suggesting that readers are conscious of predicting in normal circumstances. Usually they are not; attention is only drawn to it when an expectation is contradicted (as in the example of the bus driver on p8). But it does seem to be the case that as we

Activity 1.6 *Prediction within the paragraph*

Below is a short text. You are going to use it to see how far it is possible to predict what the writer will say next.

Take a piece of card and use it to mask the text. Move the card down the text to the first*. One of the alternatives **a**, **b** or **c** is the next sentence in the text; choose the one you think fits and then move the card down to the next *. Check your prediction (ie the sentence you chose) against what the text actually says and use the new knowledge to improve your next prediction. To increase the accuracy of your predictions, look back to earlier parts of the text and keep in mind the overall development of the story as well as the detail in each sentence.

A Son to be Proud of

Last week, Rahman's wife had an accident. Rahman's youngest child, Yusof, was at home when it happened. He was playing with his new toy car.

- a It was a plastic one which had not cost much money.
 - b Rahman had given it to him the week before, for his third birthday.
 - c His grandmother lived in a different town. *

Rahman had given it to him the week before, for his third birthday. Suddenly, Yusof heard his mother calling 'Help! Help!'

- a He ran to the kitchen.
 - b He went on playing with his car.
 - c He started to cry. *

He ran to the kitchen. His mother had burned herself with some hot cooking oil.

- a She was very foolish and Rahman was angry with her.
 - b She was crying with pain and the pan was on fire.
 - c Yusof ran back to fetch his car. *

END OF ACTIVITY
