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Level 3 – 9th August, 2019

Child-sized parrot once lived in New Zealand

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found fossils that once belonged to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that ever lived. It was probably as tall as a three-year-old child and weighed around eight kilograms. The researchers found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called the new parrot Hercules, after a strongman of ancient Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is twice the size of all other known parrots. The largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that also lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered species list.

New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a symbol of the country. Scientists say these are vulnerable. This means they could become endangered if their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were overhunted to extinction early in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably ate nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps even other parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot, anywhere. There are many more unexpected species yet to be discovered."

Sources: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/giant-parrot-1.5238617>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/08/07/scientists-just-discovered-prehistoric-parrot-nearly-size-kindergartner/>
<https://www.cnet.com/news/giant-dog-sized-parrot-was-more-cannibal-than-copycat/>

WARM-UPS

1. BIRDS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about birds. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

scientists / fossils / bones / New Zealand / strongman / Ancient Greece / species / famous / national symbol / vulnerable / environment / extinction / seeds / extinct

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. RESEARCH: Students A **strongly** believe more money should be spent on finding ancient fossils; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. GIANTS: How would you feel about these things being giant (as big as a three-year-old child)? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

A giant...	How You Would Feel?	Why?
sparrow		
cockroach		
ant		
spider		
bed bug		
strawberry		

5. BONE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "bone". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. THE BEST BIRDS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best birds at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- swan
- eagle
- emu
- parrot
- humming bird
- penguin
- pigeon
- peacock

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. fossil | a. Any of the pieces of hard white stuff making up the skeleton in humans and other animals. |
| 2. bone | b. Find out how heavy or light something is. |
| 3. probably | c. The old bones or skin, or the shape of a prehistoric organism left in a rock. |
| 4. weigh | d. Naturally unable to fly. |
| 5. ancient | e. Very, very, very old. |
| 6. flightless | f. Seriously at risk of totally disappearing. |
| 7. endangered | g. Almost certainly. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. symbol | h. Found something or someone unexpectedly. |
| 9. vulnerable | i. A period of one hundred years. |
| 10. extinction | j. Not thought of as being likely to happen. |
| 11. century | k. A thing that represents or stands for something else. |
| 12. unexpected | l. Weak and easy to harm or be put in a position of danger. |
| 13. species | m. A group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals that can exchange genes or can breed. |
| 14. discovered | n. The state or process of a species, family, or larger group of animals or plants totally dying out. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Scientists found fossils from the biggest parrot in history. **T / F**
- b. The giant parrot weighed about eighteen kilograms. **T / F**
- c. The scientists used a wing bone to guess the size of the parrot. **T / F**
- d. The largest parrot in New Zealand today is the kea. **T / F**
- e. The symbol of New Zealand is a flightless bird. **T / F**
- f. There was once a bird in New Zealand over three-and-a-half metres tall. **T / F**
- g. The giant parrot became extinct around 19 million years ago. **T / F**
- h. A researcher said there are no more new species to discover. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. giant | a. sign |
| 2. probably | b. surprising |
| 3. ancient | c. threatened |
| 4. size | d. found |
| 5. endangered | e. of long ago |
| 6. symbol | f. destruction |
| 7. famous | g. huge |
| 8. extinction | h. height |
| 9. unexpected | i. well known |
| 10. discovered | j. likely |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. fossils that once belonged | a. 15th century |
| 2. a strongman of ancient | b. bird |
| 3. Hercules is twice the size of all | c. of the country |
| 4. a flightless | d. extinction |
| 5. The kakapo is on the critically | e. other known parrots |
| 6. The kiwi is a symbol | f. to a giant parrot |
| 7. These flightless birds were the biggest | g. yet to be discovered |
| 8. They were overhunted to | h. Greek mythology |
| 9. early in the | i. endangered species list |
| 10. many more unexpected species | j. birds that ever lived |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found fossils that once (1) _____ to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized (2) _____ are from the biggest parrot that ever lived. It was (3) _____ as tall as a three-year-old child and weighed around eight kilograms. The researchers found the (4) _____ in New Zealand. They have called the new parrot Hercules, after a strongman of (5) _____ Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is (6) _____ the size of all other known parrots. The largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, a (7) _____ bird that also lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered species (8) _____.

fossils
flightless
belonged
probably
list
twice
bones
ancient

New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a (9) _____ of the country. Scientists say these are (10) _____. This means they could become (11) _____ if their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever (12) _____. They were overhunted to extinction early in the 15th (13) _____. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably ate nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps (14) _____ other parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever found an (15) _____ giant parrot, anywhere. There are many more unexpected species yet to be (16) _____."

lived
symbol
endangered
even
vulnerable
extinct
discovered
century

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

- 1) Scientists have found fossils that once _____ giant parrot
 - a. bill longed to a
 - b. belied to a
 - c. be longed to a
 - d. belonged to a
- 2) They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot _____
 - a. that never lived
 - b. that every lived
 - c. that ever lived
 - d. that even lived
- 3) the new parrot Hercules, after a strongman of _____ mythology
 - a. aim chant Greek
 - b. an chant Greek
 - c. ancient Greek
 - d. aim cent Greek
- 4) The largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, _____
 - a. a flighty loss bird
 - b. a fly less bird
 - c. a flight-loss bird
 - d. a flightless bird
- 5) The kakapo is on the critically endangered _____
 - a. species lest
 - b. species list
 - c. species lost
 - d. species last
- 6) New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a _____ country
 - a. cymbal of the
 - b. symbol of the
 - c. sin ball of the
 - d. seen ball of the
- 7) They were overhunted to extinction early in the _____
 - a. 15th century
 - b. 10th century
 - c. 50th century
 - d. 5th century
- 8) it probably ate nuts, fruit and seeds, and perhaps even _____
 - a. another parrots
 - b. others parrots
 - c. the other parrot
 - d. other parrots
- 9) Until now, no one has ever found an _____
 - a. exact giant parrot
 - b. extant giant parrot
 - c. extinct giant parrot
 - d. exit giant parrot
- 10) There are many more unexpected species yet _____
 - a. to been discovered
 - b. to being discovered
 - c. to bee discovered
 - d. to be discovered

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found fossils that (1) _____ a giant parrot. They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that ever lived. It was (2) _____ as a three-year-old child and weighed around eight kilograms. The researchers found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called the new parrot Hercules, after a (3) _____ Greek mythology. The scientists studied the (4) _____ they found and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is twice the size of all other known parrots. The (5) _____ know of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that also lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically (6) _____.

New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi (7) _____ of the country. Scientists say these are vulnerable. This means they could become (8) _____ environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were overhunted (9) _____ in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably ate nuts, (10) _____, and "perhaps even other parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever (11) _____ giant parrot, anywhere. There are many more unexpected species yet (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

1. What did fossils once belong to?
2. How much did scientists say Hercules weighed?
3. What bone did scientists use to find the size of Hercules?
4. How much bigger was Hercules than other parrots?
5. What list did the article say the kakapo was on?
6. What is a symbol of New Zealand?
7. How tall was a bird called the moa?
8. When did the moa become extinct?
9. When did Hercules the parrot live?
10. What did a researcher say there would be more discoveries of?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

- 1) What did fossils once belong to?
 - a) a fossil exhibition
 - b) a museum
 - c) a bone collector
 - d) a giant parrot
- 2) How much did scientists say Hercules weighed?
 - a) 18kg
 - b) eight kilograms
 - c) ten kilograms
 - d) 80kg
- 3) What bone did scientists use to find the size of Hercules?
 - a) a wish bone
 - b) a breast bone
 - c) a skull
 - d) a leg bone
- 4) How much bigger was Hercules than other parrots?
 - a) five times the size
 - b) three times the size
 - c) twice the size
 - d) ten times the size
- 5) What list did the article say the kakapo was on?
 - a) a watch list
 - b) a to-do list
 - c) a top ten list
 - d) a critically endangered list
- 6) What is a symbol of New Zealand?
 - a) a hobbit
 - b) a cloud
 - c) a kiwi
 - d) a rugby ball
- 7) How tall was a bird called the moa?
 - a) 3.6 metres
 - b) 3.8 metres
 - c) 2.6 metres
 - d) 2.8 metres
- 8) When did the moa become extinct?
 - a) millions of years ago
 - b) late in the 18th century
 - c) early in the 15th century
 - d) over 1,000 years ago
- 9) When did Hercules the parrot live?
 - a) 300 years ago
 - b) 19 million years ago
 - c) 100 thousand years ago
 - d) half a million years ago
- 10) What did a researcher say there would be more discoveries of?
 - a) unexpected species
 - b) giant parrots
 - c) innovations
 - d) inventions

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Role A – Swans

You think swans are the best birds. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their birds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): eagles, penguins or parrots.

Role B – Eagles

You think eagles are the best birds. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their birds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): swans, penguins or parrots.

Role C – Penguins

You think penguins are the best birds. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their birds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): parrots, swans or eagles.

Role D – Parrots

You think parrots are the best birds. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their birds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): penguins, eagles or swans.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'giant' and 'parrot'.

giant	parrot

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• belonged• three• called• leg• twice• critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• symbol• means• 3.6• 15• 19• yet
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

BIRDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Write five GOOD questions about birds in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HERCULES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'parrot'?
3. What do you know about fossils?
4. Were animals from a million years ago better than today's animals?
5. What do you think of the name Hercules?
6. What would you do if you saw a metre-high parrot?
7. Would you like to be a scientist on this project?
8. What is your favourite bird, and why?
9. What ancient animals lived in your country?
10. How can we protect birds that are endangered?

Child-sized parrot once lived in New Zealand – 9th August, 2019
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HERCULES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'bird'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about parrots?
15. What things is New Zealand famous for?
16. What is the symbol of your country?
17. How happy are you there are no more 3.6-metre-tall birds?
18. Do you think the Hercules parrot was dangerous?
19. Would you like to visit New Zealand?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found fossils that once (1) _____ to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that (2) _____ lived. It was probably as tall as a three-year-old child and (3) _____ around eight kilograms. The researchers found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called the new parrot Hercules, after a strongman of (4) _____ Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is (5) _____ the size of all other known parrots. The largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that also lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered species (6) _____.

New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a symbol (7) _____ the country. Scientists say these are vulnerable. This means they could become endangered (8) _____ their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were (9) _____ to extinction early in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably ate nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps even (10) _____ parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. (11) _____ now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot, anywhere. There are many more unexpected species (12) _____ to be discovered."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) possessed | (b) belonged | (c) owned | (d) member |
| 2. | (a) never | (b) ever | (c) even | (d) every |
| 3. | (a) whey | (b) waylaid | (c) weight | (d) weighed |
| 4. | (a) elderly | (b) ancient | (c) history | (d) out-of-date |
| 5. | (a) two | (b) twice | (c) duplicate | (d) paired |
| 6. | (a) lost | (b) last | (c) list | (d) lest |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) as | (c) of | (d) by |
| 8. | (a) that | (b) so | (c) if | (d) and |
| 9. | (a) overly | (b) overturned | (c) overhauled | (d) overhunted |
| 10. | (a) ether | (b) another | (c) others | (d) other |
| 11. | (a) Until | (b) Through | (c) Prior | (d) Earlier |
| 12. | (a) soon | (b) besides | (c) yet | (d) already |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Scientists have found lsfsios
2. elobdgen to a giant parrot
3. pyarobl as tall as a three-year-old child
4. anetnci Greek mythology
5. a fgstslhlie bird
6. on the critically endangered picesse list

Paragraph 2

7. The kiwi is a ymsolb of the country
8. Scientists say these are lvebranleu
9. overhunted to tcinnotxei
10. early in the 15th rtnyecu
11. There are many more unexpected peseisc
12. yet to be rdscveedoi

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () vulnerable. This means they could become endangered if their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand
- () bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were overhunted
- () around a metre tall. This means Hercules is twice the size of all other known parrots. The largest
- () anywhere. There are many more unexpected species yet to be discovered."
- () New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a symbol of the country. Scientists say these are
- () to extinction early in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably ate
- () Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said Hercules was
- () nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps even other parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well
- () known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot,
- () lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered species list.
- (**1**) Scientists have found fossils that once belonged to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that ever
- () found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called the new parrot Hercules, after a strongman of ancient
- () lived. It was probably as tall as a three-year-old child and weighed around eight kilograms. The researchers
- () parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that also

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

1. Fossils giant once to belonged parrot . a that
2. as a as child . tall It was probably
3. fossilized bones found . Scientists leg they the studied
4. the size other Hercules twice is of parrots .
5. is endangered species the The kakapo list . on
6. country . The is of kiwi the symbol a
7. if stays environment the Become same . their endangered
8. early the extinction in century . Overhunted to 15th
9. well its is giant New Zealand for birds . known
10. discovered . more unexpected species to Many be yet

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found *fossil / fossils* that once belonged to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized *bone / bones* are from the biggest parrot that ever lived. It was *probably / probable* as tall as a three-year-old child and *weight / weighed* around eight kilograms. The researchers found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called the *new / newly* parrot Hercules, after a strongman of ancient Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they *found / find* and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is *twice / two* the size of all other known parrots. The largest parrot scientists *know / known* of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that *also / plus* lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered *specials / species* list.

New Zealand is *famous / famously* for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a *symbolic / symbol* of the country. Scientists say these are *vulnerability / vulnerable*. This means they could become *dangerous / endangered* if their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These *flightless / flighty* birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were overhunted to *extinct / extinction* early in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. A researcher said it probably *eats / ate* nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps even *another / other* parrots". A researcher said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot, *anywhere / everywhere*. There are many more unexpected species *since / yet* to be discovered."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

S c__ n t_s t s h_v_ f__ n d f_s s_l s t h_t _n c_
b_l_n g_d t__ g__ n t p_r_r_t. T h_y s_y t h_ f_s
s_l_z_d b_n_s _r_ f_r_m t h_ b_g g_s t p_r_r_t t h_t
_v_r l_v_d. I t w_s p_r_b_b_l_y _s t_l_l _s _ t h
r__ - y__ r -_l_d c h_l_d _n d w__ g h_d _r__ n d __ g
h t k_l_g r_m s. T h_ r_s__ r c h_r s f__ n d t h_ f_s
s_l s _n N_w Z__ l_n d. T h_y h_v_ c_l_l_d t h_
n_w p_r_r_t H_r c_l_s, _f t_r _ s t_r_n g m_n _f _n
c__ n t G r__ k m y t h_l_g y. T h_ s c__ n t_s t s s
t_d__ d t h_ f_s s_l_z_d l_g b_n_s t h_y f__ n d _n
d s__ d H_r c_l_s w_s _r__ n d _ m_t_r_ t_l_l. T
h_s m__ n s H_r c_l_s _s t w_c_ t h_ s_z_ _f _l_l t
h_r k n_w n p_r_r_t s. T h_ l_r g_s t p_r_r_t s c__ n
t_s t s k n_w _f _s t h_ k_k_p_, _ f_l_g h t_l_s s b_r
d t h_t _l_s_ l_v_s _n N_w Z__ l_n d. T h_ k_k_p_
_s _n t h_ c_r_t_c_l_l_y _n d_n g_r_d s p_c__ s l_s t.

N_w Z__ l_n d _s f_m__ s f_r_t s f_l_g h t_l_s s b_r
d s. T h_ k_w__ s _ s y m b_l _f t h_ c__ n t_r_y. S
c__ n t_s t s s_y t h_s_ _r_ v_l_n_r_b_l_. T h_s m__ n
s t h_y c__ l_d b_c_m_ _n d_n g_r_d _f t h__ r _n
v_r_n m_n t s t_y s t h_ s_m_. A n_t h_r f_m__ s
N_w Z__ l_n d b_r d _s t h_ 3.6 - m_t_r_- t_l_l m__
. T h_s_ f_l_g h t_l_s s b_r d s w_r_ t h_ b_g g_s t
b_r d s t h_t _v_r l_v_d. T h_y w_r_ _v_r h_n t_d
t__ x t_n c t__ n __ r_l_y _n t h_ 15 t h c_n t_r_y.
H_r c_l_s l_v_d _b__ t 19 m_l_l__ n y__ r s _g_. A
r_s__ r c h_r s__ d _t p_r_b_b_l_y _t_ n_t s, f_r__ t
_n d s__ d s, _n d " p_r h_p s _v_n _t h_r p_r_r_t s "
. A r_s__ r c h_r s__ d: " N_w Z__ l_n d _s w_l_l
k n_w n f_r_t s g__ n t b_r d s. U n t_l n_w, n_
n h_s _v_r f__ n d _n _x t_n c t g__ n t p_r_r_t,
_n y w h_r_. T h_r_ _r_ m_n y m_r_ _n_x p_c t_d s
p_c__ s y_t t_ b_ d_s c_v_r_d. "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

scientists have found fossils that once belonged to a giant parrot they say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that ever lived it was probably as tall as a threeyearold child and weighed around eight kilograms the researchers found the fossils in new zealand they have called the new parrot hercules after a strongman of ancient greek mythology the scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said hercules was around a metre tall this means hercules is twice the size of all other known parrots the largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo a flightless bird that also lives in new zealand the kakapo is on the critically endangered species list new zealand is famous for its flightless birds the kiwi is a symbol of the country scientists say these are vulnerable this means they could become endangered if their environment stays the same another famous new zealand bird is the 36metretall moa these flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived they were overhunted to extinction early in the 15th century hercules lived about 19 million years ago a researcher said it probably ate nuts fruit and seeds and perhaps even other parrots a researcher said new zealand is well known for its giant birds until now no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot anywhere there are many more unexpected species yet to be discovered

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190809-giant-parrot.html>

Scientists have found fossil that once belonged to a giant parrot. They say the fossilized bones are from the biggest parrot that ever lived. It was probably as tall as a three-year-old child and weighed around eight kilograms. The researchers found the fossils in New Zealand. They have called it a new parrot Hercules, after a strong man of ancient Greek mythology. The scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found and said Hercules was around a metre tall. This means Hercules is twice the size of all other known parrots. The largest parrot scientists know of is the kakapo, a flightless bird that also lives in New Zealand. The kakapo is on the critically endangered species list. New Zealand is famous for its flightless birds. The kiwi is a symbol of the country. Scientists say these are vulnerable. This means they could become endangered if their environment stays the same. Another famous New Zealand bird is the 3.6-metre-tall moa. These flightless birds were the biggest birds that ever lived. They were overhunted to extinction nearly in the 15th century. Hercules lived about 19 million years ago. Researchers said it probably ate nuts, fruit and seeds, and "perhaps even other parrots". Researchers said: "New Zealand is well known for its giant birds. Until now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot, anywhere. There are many more unexpected species yet to be discovered."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. NEW ZEALAND: Make a poster about New Zealand. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. ENDANGERED BIRDS: Write a magazine article about spending lots of money to help endangered birds. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on extinct birds. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to find more. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. a 3. g 4. b 5. e 6. d 7. f
8. k 9. l 10. n 11. i 12. j 13. m 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b F c F d F e T f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. giant | a. huge |
| 2. probably | b. likely |
| 3. ancient | c. of long ago |
| 4. size | d. height |
| 5. endangered | e. threatened |
| 6. symbol | f. sign |
| 7. famous | g. well known |
| 8. extinction | h. destruction |
| 9. unexpected | i. surprising |
| 10. discovered | j. found |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A giant parrot
2. Eight kilograms
3. A leg bone
4. Twice the size
5. The critically endangered list
6. The kiwi
7. 3.6 metres
8. Early in the 15th century
9. About 19 million years ago
10. Unexpected species

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Fossils that once belonged to a giant parrot.
2. It was probably as tall as a child.
3. Scientists studied the fossilized leg bones they found.
4. Hercules is twice the size of other parrots.
5. The kakapo is on the endangered species list.
6. The kiwi is a symbol of the country.
7. Become endangered if their environment stays the same.
8. Overhunted to extinction early in the 15th century.
9. New Zealand is well known for its giant birds.
10. Many more unexpected species yet to be discovered.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)