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**Level 1** – 21st March, 2021

## Pigs are intelligent enough to play video games

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-1.html>

Pigs are more intelligent than we thought. They can play video games. Researchers tested their gaming skills. They were surprised because the pigs could play games. Researchers got four pigs to play a simple game at different levels. They had to move a joystick with their nose to move a cursor. If they did it, they got a treat. The lead researcher said: "It's very clear they had some...understanding of what they were being asked to do."

The pigs spent many days playing the game. They played it on three different levels. The higher levels had nicer treats. A scientist said: "The pigs clearly understood the connection between their own behavior, the joystick, and what was happening on the screen." The researchers want to understand how pigs get information, what and pigs can learn and remember. This will help us to understand more about how pigs interact with humans.

Sources: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/pigs-can-learn-play-video-games-if-tempted-treats-180977018/>  
<https://theconversation.com/pigs-can-play-video-games-scientists-discover-154993>  
<https://bigthink.com/surprising-science/pig-intelligence>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Pigs are more intelligent       | a. at different levels |
| 2. They can play                   | b. cursor              |
| 3. Researchers tested their gaming | c. asked to do         |
| 4. play a simple game              | d. skills              |
| 5. They had to move a joystick     | e. than we thought     |
| 6. move a                          | f. they got a treat    |
| 7. If they did it,                 | g. video games         |
| 8. what they were being            | h. with their nose     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The pigs spent many         | a. different levels |
| 2. They played it on three     | b. understand more  |
| 3. The higher levels had nicer | c. on the screen    |
| 4. The pigs clearly            | d. with humans      |
| 5. what was happening          | e. days playing     |
| 6. what pigs can learn         | f. treats           |
| 7. This will help us to        | g. and remember     |
| 8. how pigs interact           | h. understood       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-1.html>

Pigs are more intelligent (1) \_\_\_\_\_. They can play video games. Researchers (2) \_\_\_\_\_ skills. They were (3) \_\_\_\_\_ pigs could play games. Researchers got four pigs to play a simple (4) \_\_\_\_\_ levels. They had to move a joystick with their nose to (5) \_\_\_\_\_. If they did it, they got a treat. The lead researcher said: "It's very clear they had some...understanding of what they were (6) \_\_\_\_\_ do."

The pigs (7) \_\_\_\_\_ playing the game. They (8) \_\_\_\_\_ three different levels. The higher levels (9) \_\_\_\_\_. A scientist said: "The pigs clearly understood the connection between their own behavior, the joystick, and what was happening (10) \_\_\_\_\_." The researchers (11) \_\_\_\_\_ how pigs get information, what and pigs can learn and remember. This will help us to understand (12) \_\_\_\_\_ pigs interact with humans.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-1.html>

Pigs are more intelligent than we thought. They can play video games. Researchers tested their gaming skills. They were surprised because the pigs could play games. Researchers got four pigs to play a simple game at different levels. They had to move a joystick with their nose to move a cursor. If they did it, they got a treat. The lead researcher said: "It's very clear they had some... understanding of what they were being asked to do." The pigs spent many days playing the game. They played it on three different levels. The higher level had nicer treats. A scientist said: "The pigs clearly understood the connection between their own behavior, the joystick, and what was happening on the screen." The researchers want to understand how pigs get information, what and pigs can learn and remember. This will help us to understand more about how pigs interact with humans.

# PIGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210321-pigs-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about pigs 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

