

Five sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences A-F the one which best fits each gap (1-5). There is one extra sentence, which you do not need to use.

## More than just a pet

Have you ever thought that your pet has the potential to be a hero? Think about it the next time you are playing fetch with your dog, or you watch your cat sleeping. Your beloved pet might just be the next hero on the evening news.

### DOGS



These animals are more than just man's best friend. Sometimes they are even used during times of war. (1) \_\_\_\_ Today, dogs are commonly used in search and rescue missions. This is particularly the case during disasters when the dogs help to find missing people. There are a couple of ways that dogs can find missing people, but they all involve the dog's sense of smell. Some dogs are trained to 'airscent'. They raise their heads to the air and try to locate a person by the smell carried in the air. These dogs are trained to sniff out a general human scent, not a specific person. They are also used by the military and police as 'bomb sniffing' dogs, because they can smell certain chemicals used in explosives.

Another type of search method is 'trailing' or 'tracking'. (2) \_\_\_\_ In these cases, the dogs are usually searching for someone specific and have an item that belonged to the person they are looking for so they can know what the person's specific scent smells like. Some dogs can be used for specific types of searches. For example, some dogs are trained to find people under water or snow, or people who are. Some animals are even trained to give a response to their handler when they find a person. (3) \_\_\_\_ They also have different reactions when they find the scent of the person, but not the person themselves. The dog and the handler need to have a good relationship so that the handler can understand these cues from the dog.

### PIGEONS



These birds have a very long history as tools of communication. Several ancient civilisations used pigeons to carry messages, such as the Persians, Greeks and Romans. (4) \_\_\_\_ Pigeons were an effective way to communicate information in modern times, too. Before inventions like the telegraph and phone, pigeons would carry time sensitive information like financial and stock news. In fact, stock information travelled from London all the way to Paris by way of the carrier pigeon! In the 1800s, the Pigeon Post was created to carry small pieces of mail and news long distances. The official mail system meant that each pigeon was registered by their government, just like a postal worker is today. The pigeon post even had its own stamps!

Pigeons weren't just famous letter carriers. (5) \_\_\_\_ Homing pigeons were widely used for carrying secret messages from one unit to another, across very long distances. The pigeons were able to travel from country to country and relay the messages with no trouble. The pigeons carried their messages in many dangerous places with extreme weather conditions, like deserts, the frozen arctic and jungles and many pigeons were injured while carrying through their messages. However, this didn't stop them from getting home and completing the mission successfully. For this reason, many pigeons received medals for their service. One of the medals, the The Dicken Medal, was created specifically for animals which perform heroic acts during wartime.

- A. The dog might jump up in the air if they find a person alive, or sit down if they find someone who is dead.
- B. They were also a crucial part of military strategy during war because pigeons were used during nearly every major war in history.
- C. He is the most famous military dog.
- D. Many dogs received medals and were even promoted to the rank of an officer for their services.
- E. The Greeks used pigeons to spread news of the winners at the Olympic games and the Romans used them to send messages about the outcomes of battles.
- F. Dogs that use this method smell the ground and look for clues like footprints and broken twigs or grass.