

David Attenborough is one of Britain's most popular wildlife experts. In this video clip he introduces us to a very special bird which can make some great sounds.



Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercise. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- | | | |
|--------|----------------|--|
| 1..... | foresters | a. complicated |
| 2..... | a plume | b. a competitor |
| 3..... | a chainsaw | c. to win someone over |
| 4..... | to persuade | d. a feather |
| 5..... | a rival | e. to pretend to be someone or something else |
| 6..... | complex | f. a person or animal competing for the same thing |
| 7..... | to impersonate | g. a tool used to cut wood which runs on electricity or petrol |
| 8..... | a contender | h. people that work in a forest |

1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best answer to these questions.

- Where does the lyre bird live?
 - Northern Australia
 - Southern Australia
 - Western Australia
- How does the lyre bird persuade females to come close and admire his plumes?
 - He sings very complex songs.
 - He cleans his plumes.
 - He makes a nest in the forest.
- What type of bird is fooled by his impersonation?
 - A crow.
 - A cuckoo.
 - A kookaburra.

4. How many bird calls can he imitate?
 - a. About ten different species.
 - b. About twelve different species.
 - c. About twenty different species.

5. How does he outsing his rivals?
 - a. He incorporates other bird calls and their dances.
 - b. He incorporates other sounds from the forest.
 - c. HE incorporates other forest animal sounds.

6. He also sings the sounds of ...
 - a. a camera flash, a car alarm and of the foresters using chainsaws.
 - b. a camera shutter, a car engine and of the foresters using chainsaws.
 - c. a camera shutter, a car alarm and of the foresters using chainsaws.

Discussion

Do you like watching nature documentaries?
Which types of bird are common in your country?

There are ...
I think that ...
I like ...

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.