


Lesson 1 A puma at large 逃遁的美洲狮

 Listen to the tape then answer the question below.

听录音, 然后回答以下问题。

Where must the puma have come from?



Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America. When reports came into London Zoo that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London, they were not taken seriously. However, as the evidence began to accumulate, experts from the

5 Zoo felt obliged to investigate, for the descriptions given by people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar.

The hunt for the puma began in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her. It immediately ran away when she saw it, and experts confirmed that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered. The search proved

10 difficult, for the puma was often observed at one place in the morning and at another place twenty miles away in the evening. Wherever it went, it left behind it a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits. Paw prints were seen in a number of places and puma fur was found clinging to bushes. Several people complained of 'cat-like noises' at night and a businessman on a fishing trip saw the puma up a tree. The experts were now fully convinced that the animal *was* a puma, but where had it come from? As no pumas

15 had been reported missing from any zoo in the country, this one must have been in the possession of a private collector and somehow managed to escape. The hunt went on for several weeks, but the puma was not caught. It is disturbing to think that a dangerous wild animal is still at large in the quiet countryside.

New words and expressions 生词和短语

puma (title) /'pju:mə/ *n.* 美洲狮
spot (1.2) /spɒt/ *v.* 看出, 发现
evidence (1.4) /'evidəns/ *n.* 证据
accumulate (1.4) /ə'kju:mjuleɪt/ *v.* 积累, 积聚
oblige (1.5) /ə'blaɪdʒ/ *v.* 使……感到必须
hunt (1.7) /hʌnt/ *n.* 追猎; 寻找
blackberry (1.8) /'blækberi/ *n.* 黑莓
human being (1.9) /,hju:mən-'bi:ɪŋ/ 人类

corner (1.9) /'kɔ:nə/ *v.* 使走投无路, 使陷入困境
trail (1.11) /'treɪl/ *n.* 一串, 一系列
print (1.12) /prɪnt/ *n.* 印痕
cling (1.12) /klɪŋ/ (clung /klʌŋ/, clung) *v.* 粘
convince (1.14) /kən'vɪns/ *v.* 使……信服
somehow (1.16) /'sʌmhaʊ/ *adv.* 不知怎么搞地, 不知什么原因
disturb (1.17) /dɪ'stɜ:b/ *v.* 令人不安

Notes on the text 课文注释

- 1 at large 是介词短语, 此处表示“逍遥自在”“行动自由”的意思。
- 2 When reports came into London Zoo that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London, 当伦敦动物园接到报告说, 在伦敦以南 45 英里的地方发现一头野生美洲狮时。这个从句中以 that 引导的从句是 reports 的同位语, 用于进一步说明报告的内容。
- 3 feel obliged to do sth. 是“感到不得不做某事”的意思。

4 it left behind it a trail of, 它身后留下一串……。

a trail of 作 left 的宾语, behind it 是状语, 提到宾语之前是为了使句子结构更紧凑。

5 puma fur was found clinging to bushes 中, clinging 是现在分词, 此处作主语 puma fur 的主语补足语。下文句中 As no pumas had been reported missing ... 一句中, missing 也是现在分词作主语补足语。

6 in the possession of, 为……所有。

参考译文

美洲狮是一种体形似猫的大动物, 产于美洲。当伦敦动物园接到报告说, 在伦敦以南 45 英里处发现一头野生美洲狮时, 这些报告并没有受到重视。可是, 随着证据越来越多, 动物园的专家们感到有必要进行一番调查, 因为凡是声称见到过美洲狮的人们所描述的情况竟是出奇地相似。

搜寻美洲狮的工作是从一座小村庄开始的。那里的一位妇女在采摘黑莓时看见“一只大猫”离她仅 5 码远, 她刚看见它, 它就立刻逃走了。专家证实, 美洲狮除非被逼得走投无路, 否则是决不会伤人的。事实上搜寻工作很困难, 因为常常是早晨在甲地发现那只美洲狮, 晚上却在 20 英里外的乙地发现它的踪迹。无论它走到哪儿, 一路上总会留下一串死鹿以及死兔子之类的小动物。在许多地方看见了爪印, 灌木丛中也发现了粘在上面的美洲狮毛。有人抱怨说夜里听见了“像猫一样的叫声”; 一位商人去钓鱼, 看见那只美洲狮在树上。专家们如今已经完全肯定那只动物就是美洲狮, 但它是从哪儿来的呢? 由于全国的动物园没有一家报告丢了美洲狮, 因此那只美洲狮一定是某位私人收藏家豢养的, 不知怎么设法逃出来了。搜寻工作进行了好几个星期, 但始终未能逮住那只美洲狮。想到在宁静的乡村里有一头危险的野兽继续逍遥流窜, 真令人担心。

Summary writing 摘要写作

In not more than 80 words describe how experts came to the conclusion that the animal seen by many people really was a puma. Do not include anything that is not in the passage.

Answer these questions in note form to get your points:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 What sort of reports were received by London Zoo? |] |
| 2 Were the reports similar in nature or not? | |
| 3 Who saw it first? |] |
| 4 Did it stay in one place, or did it move from place to place? | |
| 5 What did it leave behind it? |] |
| 6 Were paw prints and puma fur found as well or not? | |
| 7 What was heard at night? |] |
| 8 Was the animal seen up a tree or not? | |
| 9 Were experts now sure that the animal really was a puma or not? |] |

Vocabulary 词汇

Give another word or phrase to replace the following words as they are used in the passage: spotted (1.2); accumulate (1.4); obliged to (1.5); claimed (1.6); extraordinarily similar (1.6); immediately (1.8); convinced (1.14).

Composition 作文

Describe the occasion when the woman picking blackberries saw the puma. Expand the following into a paragraph of about 150 words.

Mrs. Stone had spent the whole morning ... It was nearly lunch time, so she decided ... She was just ... when she heard a noise in ... Then she saw an animal which ... She knew it was not a cat because ... The animal suddenly ... and she

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thought it was going to ... She dropped her basket and ... Hearing the sound, the animal ... after which, Mrs. Stone ... and ran all the way home. She told her neighbours that ... but they did not believe her. She also telephoned the police but they ... (86 words)

Letter writing 书信写作

On a full page, show the exact position of each of the following:

The address and date; the beginning of the letter; the Introduction; the Purpose; the Conclusion; the letter-ending; the signature; the postscript. Supply all necessary full stops and commas.

Key structures 关键句型

Simple, Compound and Complex Statements. 简单句、并列句和复合句 (1 KS 73) (参见第 2 册第 73 课关键句型)

Exercise 练习

Underline all the joining words in the passage. Note carefully how simple statements have been joined to make compound or complex statements.

Special difficulties 难点

过去曾有一种传统的规定, 认为英文句子不允许以介词结尾。现在, 这种所谓的禁忌早以破除。在现代英语中, 除正体书面语体外, 以介词结尾的句子很多, 在口语中更为常见。

Where had it come from? (1.14)

Instead of saying:

About whom are you talking?

That is the film about which I told you.

It is better to say:

Who(m) are you talking about?

That is the film I told you about.

(Compare 1 SD 28) (对比第 2 册第 28 课难点)

Exercises 练习

A Complete these sentences by adding a suitable word to the end of each one:

- 1 What are you looking _____ ?
- 2 Where is your mother going _____ ?
- 3 Whom has the letter been sent _____ ?
- 4 This is the house I was born _____ .
- 5 What does your decision depend _____ ?

B Write these sentences again changing the position of the words in italics. Where possible, omit the words *whom* or *which*.

- 1 He is the man *about* whom we have heard so much.
- 2 The shelf *on* which you put those books has collapsed.
- 3 *From* whom did you receive a letter?
- 4 This is the road *by* which we came.
- 5 Where is the pencil *with* which you were playing?

Multiple choice questions 多项选择题

Choose the correct answers to the following questions.

Comprehension 理解

- Experts eventually decided to investigate _____.
 (a) because they did not believe that pumas existed in England
 (b) because they wanted a puma for the London Zoo
 (c) when a woman saw a puma in a small village
 (d) because people's descriptions of the puma had a lot in common
- What particular piece of evidence persuaded the experts that a puma had been seen in the village?
 (a) The puma had not attacked the woman.
 (b) The woman had described the animal she had seen as 'a large cat'.
 (c) A puma had come very close to a human being.
 (d) The puma had behaved like a cat.
- What was the problem the experts were unable to solve?
 (a) How the puma had managed to cover such great distances within a day.
 (b) How the puma had escaped from a zoo.
 (c) Whom the puma had belonged to.
 (d) How the puma had climbed a tree.

Structure 结构

- The accumulating evidence made the experts _____ the animal was a puma. (ll. 4-6)
 (a) to think (b) thinking (c) think (d) thought
- People said _____ the puma. (ll. 5-6)
 (a) to have seen (b) to see (c) they saw (d) they had seen
- _____, it immediately ran away. (ll. 8-9)
 (a) Observing her (b) On being observed
 (c) Having been observed (d) On her being observed
- Pumas never attack a human being except _____ cornered. (l. 9)
 (a) they are (b) being (c) that they are (d) when they are
- The experts were now fully convinced that the animal _____ a puma. (ll. 13-14)
 (a) must be (b) should have been (c) can only be (d) could only have been

Vocabulary 词汇

- The woman saw 'a large cat' _____ five yards away from her. (ll. 7-8)
 (a) at least (b) four or (c) no more than (d) within
- A puma will not attack a human being unless it feels itself to be _____. (l. 9)
 (a) in a corner (b) in a trap (c) at an angle (d) under cover
- A business man on a fishing trip is probably someone who _____. (l. 13)
 (a) sells fish (b) fishes for pleasure
 (c) nets fish (d) earns his living as a fisherman
- A private collector is a man who collects _____. (ll. 15-16)
 (a) for his own benefit (b) on his own
 (c) in private (d) unknown to the public