

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

You have found an interesting short story about an animal in an animal magazine. Read the short story.

Text 2 Short story



Animal World

Endal— the amazing service dog

- 1 Allen Parton was a British soldier. In 1991, he sustained a serious head injury during one of his missions. He lost his memory, not even remembering being married or having children. And to make matters
- 5 worse, he became disabled and could not walk. Parton felt extremely depressed and lost the will to live.
- 2 Everything changed when he encountered Endal. The golden-coloured dog with bright eyes brought Parton lots of joy. During their first meeting, he poked Parton gently with his nose. It felt as cold as ice! This caused Parton
- 10 to laugh for the first time in months. Everyone was astonished by that.
- 3 Parton trained Endal to understand over 100 voice commands, and even more hand signals. Between 1995 and 2009, Endal assisted Parton in getting dressed, bathing and getting money from cash machines. Theirs was an unbreakable bond.
- 15 4 However, Endal almost did not become a service dog. As a puppy, vets discovered that he had a joint condition in his front legs. However, Endal's trainers decided to overlook his health flaw since the dog was extremely intelligent and excelled at learning.
- 5 One day, while on an outing, a car sped past Parton and Endal, knocking
- 20 over Parton's wheelchair. Parton was left lying helpless and in immense pain on the car park ground. Endal immediately tugged Parton to a safe position, covered him with a blanket and handed him his mobile phone. After a moment, Endal realized that his master was unable to move and call for help, so the clever pooch raced towards a hotel and woofed loudly for help.
- 25 At the dog's beckoning, people came to Parton's aid. This dog won 11 awards for his amazing service.

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension 2 *There is a quiz about the short story in the magazine. Answer the questions using information from the short story.*

1 What two things happened as a result of Parton's head injury?

- i) _____
- ii) _____

2 How did Parton feel after meeting Endal?

3 What does 'that' refer to in line 11?



4 Why were people astonished when Parton laughed?

5 Find words or expressions in paragraphs 1–2 that have similar meanings to the following:

- i) unhappy _____
- ii) met _____
- iii) touched _____
- iv) surprised _____

6 What does the word 'unbreakable' imply about Endal and Parton's relationship?

7 How many years did Endal serve Parton?

8 Name three tasks Endal helped Parton with.

- i) _____
- ii) _____
- iii) _____

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

9 Why did Endal almost not become a service dog?



10 Why did Endal win so many awards?

11 Complete the following summary using ideas given in paragraph 4. Write ONE word for each blank. Answers must be grammatically correct.

One day, Parton was out with Endal when a _____ car knocked over his _____. Parton lay on the ground. His body felt _____. He tried _____ but found that he could not. Thinking quickly, Endal decided to _____ Parton to safety. Then he used a blanket to _____ him and _____ him his mobile phone. When Endal saw that Parton could not get _____ on his own, the clever dog quickly _____ to a hotel for assistance.

12 Match the heading to the outline for the short story. Write A–D in the box next to the number I and IV.

Headings

- A A fateful meeting
- B Heroic Endal
- C Parton's serious injuries
- D Help with everyday tasks
- E A story that almost never began

Outline

A, B, C, D

I
II
III
IV
V