



LOGSE: Septiembre 2004
MATERIA: INGLÉS

What's it Like to Be a Dog?

Do animals have rich emotional lives? For example who spend a lot of time with animals, these are silly questions. Common sense tells us that our animal companions do indeed show happiness, sadness anger, jealousy and grief. However, common sense is sometimes difficult to reconcile with *science sense*, which looks for repeatable observations under controlled conditions. But emotions are often brief and unrepeatable.

For centuries, the inner lives of animals were ignored because we assumed animals were automatons – biological machines ruled simply by urges and instincts, responding mechanically to stimuli they were confronted with. However, we share nearly 99 percent of our genetic material with our nearest biological relative, the chimpanzee. Is it possible, then, that with so much in common, we have emotions and other creatures do not?

Like people, animals behave in recognizable ways when feeling happiness, grief or anger. In addition, the study of neurobiology reveals that different species of animals have in common both certain brain structures and the chemicals that transmit information within those structures. Today many scientists are accepting that non-human animals do indeed experience emotions and there is increasing evidence that birds, reptiles and fish experience some kind of emotional activity as well. The study of animal emotions has become an exciting field that is quickly making up for lost time. According to some scientists, in the last ten years we have probably learned a much as we did in the previous one hundred.

1. Are the following sentences TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- As far as animal emotions are concerned, common sense and science sense are always in agreement.
- Nowadays an important part of the scientific community has come to the conclusion that non-human animals do have feeling.

2. In your own words and based on the ideas from the text answer these questions.

- Why did animal emotions go unnoticed for many years?
- What scientific evidence is there to show that animals experience emotions?

3. Find a synonym in the text for the following words or phrases.

- truly (paragraph 1)
- besides (paragraph 3)
- growing (paragraph 3)
- too (paragraph 3)



4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given:

- a) Is scientists _____ (study) more about the characteristics of animal behaviour in the future, they _____ (understand) more about human personality.
- b) Two animals _____ show intense emotions are whales and dolphins. Their emotional lives _____ (explore) for many years.
- c) Scientists say that most wonderful things about _____ work) with chimpanzees is discovering their intelligence. In fact, they are _____ (intelligent) animals in the world.

Rewrite the following sentence in reported speech with the words given:

- d) My experiments will prove the existence of the emotional lives of animals” said Darwin.
- Darwin said

5. Write about 100 to 150 words on ONE of the following topics.

- a) Have you ever seen a film or read a book about an animal showed its feeling. Explain.
- b) Do you think animals really have emotional lives like humans. Discuss.

