



Dogs: Reading tasks

- 1 Do you know what the following expressions mean?
- It's a dog's life.
 - In the today's business world it's a case of dog eat dog.
 - He was dogged by ill health all his life.

- 2 The following are paragraph headings from the reading. Write down a few words you think will appear in each paragraph.

Man's best friend _____
 A rocket dog _____
 A loyal dog _____
 A war dog _____
 A rescue dog _____
 An intelligent dog _____

- 3 Vocabulary: Try and find the six nouns connected with dogs, and the six verbs.

nouns	verbs
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- 4 The following verbs are associated with dogs, but they can be applied to humans too. Match the verbs with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| a snap | 1 a crying sound that a dog makes, especially when it wants something |
| b snarl | 2 the loud sound a dog makes when it's excited |
| c bark | 3 a long, loud cry a dog makes, especially when it is frightened or in pain |
| d growl | 4 when a dog tries to bite something |
| e whine | 5 a low sound that a dog makes to give a warning or show anger |
| f howl | 6 to make a low sound while showing it's teeth |

- 5 Now choose a verb for each of the sentences below.

- The general _____ his orders at the soldiers.
- He _____ abuse at anyone who happened to walk past.
- 'Please, please can I have some sweets, mummy?' the little girl _____.
- It was awful – the baby was _____ the whole time I was there.
- The old man looked mean. 'Don't come any closer,' he _____.
- My boss is in a terrible mood; she's been _____ at people all day.

- 6 Do you agree with the following opinions that were expressed in the text?

- A dog is 'Man's best friend'?
- A dog's most important role is that of companion.
- Dogs have a special relationship with humans.
- There's something about Laika that touches the heart.
- Perhaps even more touching is the story of Hachiko.
- Bertie is an intelligent dog.