



*Fred & Rita are talking about **Hawaii***

It's a wet November afternoon. Fred & Rita are in the library. Rita is looking out the window. Fred is looking at this phone. Rain is falling from the grey sky



Rita: I hate this weather! I wish I were on a beach in Hawaii.

Fred: *Looks up and shakes his head.* I don't think you do!

Rita: Why not? It's hot there, isn't it? With lovely beaches? And palm trees?

Fred: Plenty of palm trees. And lots of shade for your hammock.

Rita: So why do I not want to be on the beach in Hawaii?

Fred: *Leans forward and lowers his voice* Because there are r-a-t-s!

Rita: *Horried* Urgh! Rats? In Hawaii? Really?

Fred: Hawaii has always had a major rat problem. It got so bad that local farmers even brought some mongooses to the islands.

Rita: Mongooses? Surely it's mongeese? Like goose becomes geese.

Fred: *Shrugs* Not according to Wikipedia. Anyway, they brought in the mongooses from India to get rid of the rats.

Rita: But the plan didn't work?

Fred: No, it has made things worse. Do you know why?

Rita: I don't know. Perhaps mongooses don't like surfing or sunbathing.

Fred: No, Brother Mongoose loves hanging out around the beaches. And so do the rats. But they almost never meet.

Rita: Why not?

Fred: Because rats are nocturnal. You don't see them during the day, do you?

Rita: I try not to see them any time.

Fred: Mongooses cause problems during the day. And then rats only come out at night.

Rita: *Sighing* Cancel that flight to Hawaii. Perhaps the rain isn't so bad after all.



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Quick Check: True or false

1. Fred & Rita are in Hawaii
2. It is raining in Hawaii.
3. Rita wants to be on a beach
4. Hawaii has a rat problem
5. Rats prefer the night.
6. Mongooses hunt rats.
7. Rita needs to cancel her flight.
8. Rita likes the rain.

Writing/Describing



1. What is happening in the picture? Write a short paragraph and include these words:

palm-tree, hammock, nocturnal, shade, nocturnal, hunt

2. What is the mongoose thinking? Write your own words in the thought bubble.

Listening

Listen to some [fun facts about Hawaii](#). Answer these questions.

1. What is the capital of Hawaii?	
2. What are the official state languages?	
3. Which fruit does Hawaii grow most?	
4. When did Hawaii become a US state?	
5. Why is Hawaii different to other US states?	

1. Write down three more facts about Hawaii

2. Use the information you have to write 50-75 words about Hawaii.

Speaking & Listening

Is what Fred says true? Or partly true? Or not true at all? What do you think?

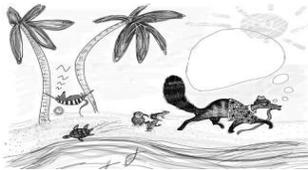
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Answers

Quick Check: True or false

1. Fred & Rita are in Hawaii *False*
2. It is raining in Hawaii. *False*
3. Rita wants to be on a beach *True*
4. Hawaii has a rat problem *True*
5. Rats prefer the night. *True*
6. Mongooses hunt rats. *False*
7. Rita needs to cancel her flight. *False*
8. Rita likes the rain. *False*

Writing/Describing



1. What is happening in the picture? Write a short paragraph and include these words:

palm-tree, hammock, nocturnal, shade, nocturnal, hunt.

It is a hot day in Hawaii. The mongoose hunts on the beach but the rat is asleep in the hammock. Rats are nocturnal so they sleep during the day. The palm trees give shade etc.

2. What is the mongoose thinking? Write your own words in the thought bubble.

Open to fun versions e.g. 'Where are these rats they told us about?'

Listening *Listen to some [fun facts about Hawaii](#). Answer these questions.*

1. What is the capital of Hawaii?	
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Write down three more facts about Hawaii/50-75 words. Encourage learner to use the information they have collected to write a paragraph/paragraphs.

Is what Fred says true? Or partly true? Or not true at all? What do you think?

Partly true – Hawaiian farmers did import mongooses to hunt rats – resulting in a major mongoose problem – [see here](#). But Fred is also exaggerating – Rita would be unlikely to find either rats or mongooses a major problem as a tourist.

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