



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Into the Dragon's Den 进入龙穴

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### Divers Battle Deadly Dragon 潜水员与龙搏斗

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

What does the word dragon make you think of?

The chances are, if you are thinking of a Chinese dragon or 'long', you will think of a long serpent-like mythical creature which is benevolent, wise and lucky.

In a Western cultural context, what people call dragons are quite different; fearsome, fire-breathing creatures which look like dinosaurs, live in caves and guard piles of treasure.

But for three British divers who found themselves washed up on a remote Indonesian island last week, there was little time to worry about the symbolic significance of dragons.

Instead they found themselves having to fight off a real "man-eating" Komodo dragon.

Dehydrated and exhausted after treacherous currents had carried them for 12 hours through shark-infested waters, the divers' relief at reaching dry land must have been short-lived when they found themselves face-to-face with a Komodo dragon.

Komodo dragons are the largest living lizards in the world, can grow to over two metres long, and are very dangerous. The animals have sharp teeth, long muscular tails and toxic saliva, which contains over 80 kinds of bacteria. Their prey, which includes large mammals such as goats, deer, and very occasionally humans, become infected with this lethal cocktail of bacteria and die within a couple of days of being bitten.

In this case, the frightened divers pelted the animal with sticks and rocks until it slithered away into the jungle. They then survived by eating shellfish until they were rescued.

So are these lizards, of which only 4,000 survive in the wild, as scary as they sound? Ian Stephen, who looks after two Komodos in London Zoo says the animals are actually very intelligent and love playing.

Just be careful which games you play with them.

## Glossary 词汇表

<b>serpent-like</b> – 像蛇的	<b>mythical creature</b> – 神秘动物
<b>benevolent</b> – 乐善好施的	<b>fearsome</b> – 令人生畏的
<b>fire-breathing</b> – 口吐火焰的	<b>divers</b> – 潜水员
<b>washed up</b> – 冲上（岸边）	<b>symbolic significance</b> – 象征意义
<b>fight off</b> – 反击	<b>dehydrated</b> – 脱水的
<b>treacherous currents</b> – 暗流；险流	<b>shark-infested</b> – 鲨鱼遍布的
<b>short-lived</b> – 短命的；一时的	<b>muscular</b> – （肌肉）强健的
<b>toxic saliva</b> – 有毒唾液	<b>bacteria</b> – 微生物
<b>prey</b> – 被捕食的动物；受害者	<b>lethal cocktail</b> – （致命的鸡尾酒）致命毒液
<b>slithered</b> – 蜿蜒爬行	<b>in the wild</b> – 野生的

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真？哪句是假？请圈出正确答案。

1. Western dragons are usually thought of as scary. True / False
2. The divers had planned to go to the island with the Komodos. True / False
3. Komodo dragons normally hunt humans. True / False
4. Komodos usually kill their prey with their muscular tails. True / False
5. The divers used fire to scare the Komodo dragon. True / False

## 2. Verbs, Adjectives and Nouns 1

Fill in the table below putting the verbs, adjectives and nouns in the right column. The first ones have been done for you.

在下表中填入正确的动词，形容词和名词。参照第一个示范。

Verbs	Nouns	Adjectives
fight off	prey	mythical

prey

benevolent

mythical

slithered

fight off

dehydrated

fearsome

divers

muscular

### 3. Verbs, Nouns and Adjectives 2

Complete the sentences below with one of the correct verbs, nouns and adjectives from above.

从上一练习词汇中选择正确的动词，名词或形容词填入下列句子中。

1. Both Chinese and Western dragons are \_\_\_\_\_, but the difference is Western dragons are seen as \_\_\_\_\_, whereas Chinese dragons are \_\_\_\_\_.
2. As the divers had been floating in salt water for a long time, they felt \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Komodo dragons are strong animals, with long and \_\_\_\_\_ tails.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ had to \_\_\_\_\_ the dragon with rocks and sticks, after which it \_\_\_\_\_ back into the jungle.
5. Komodo dragons eat a wide range of \_\_\_\_\_, including large mammals.

#### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with the Komodo dragon story in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与有关科莫多龙的英语单词。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的 (g) 垂直的 (i) 或对角的 (m) 形式出现。

a	j	g	m	y	t	h	i	c	a	l	a
b	s	d	s	o	k	p	p	h	i	f	j
g	l	d	e	h	y	d	r	a	t	e	d
a	i	b	b	g	l	o	s	e	y	a	i
s	t	k	j	j	i	q	a	t	y	r	v
d	h	b	s	h	u	w	d	f	f	s	e
b	e	n	e	v	o	l	e	n	t	o	r
c	r	b	r	d	b	r	s	m	y	m	s
t	e	q	p	z	x	n	q	n	e	e	g
s	d	f	e	a	r	s	o	m	e	w	f
z	y	w	n	m	u	s	c	u	l	a	r
b	a	c	t	e	r	i	a	k	l	o	y

dehydrated prey slithered divers benevolent  
mythical bacteria fearsome muscular serpent

## Answers 答案

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

- Western dragons are usually thought of as scary. **True**
- The divers had planned to go to the island with the Komodos. **False**
- Komodo dragons normally hunt humans. **False**
- Komodos usually kill their prey with their muscular tails. **False**
- The divers used fire to scare the Komodo dragon. **False**

### 2. Verbs, Nouns and Adjectives 1

在下表中填入正确的动词, 形容词和名词。参照第一个示范。

Verbs	Nouns	Adjectives
fight off	prey	mythical
slithered	divers	benevolent
		dehydrated
		fearsome
		muscular

### 3. Verbs, Nouns and Adjectives 2

Complete the sentences below with one of the correct verbs, nouns and adjectives from above.

从上一练习词汇中选择正确的动词, 名词或形容词填入下列句子中。

- Both Chinese and Western dragons are mythical, but the difference is Western dragons are seen as fearsome, whereas Chinese dragons are benevolent.
- As the divers had been floating in salt water for a long time, they felt dehydrated.
- Komodo dragons are strong animals, with long and muscular tails.
- The divers had to fight off the dragon with rocks and sticks, after which it slithered back into the jungle.
- Komodo dragons eat a wide range of prey, including large mammals.

### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

			m	y	t	h	i	c	a	l		
	s						p				f	
	l	d	e	h	y	d	r	a	t	e	d	
	i								e		a	i
	t									y	r	v
	h		s								s	e
b	e	n	e	v	o	l	e	n	t	o	r	
	r		r								m	s
	e		p								e	
	d	f	e	a	r	s	o	m	e			
			n	m	u	s	c	u	l	a	r	
b	a	c	t	e	r	i	a					