

Reading and Grammar Pre-assessment.

Read the following passage:

(1) But none of it was any good here, because this calf was alive. (2) At my furthest stretch I had got my finger as far as the commissure of the mouth and had been startled by a twitch of the little creature's tongue. (3) It was unexpected because calves in this position are usually dead, asphyxiated by the acute flexion of the neck and the pressure of the dam's powerful contractions. (4) But this one had a spark of life in it and if it **came out** it would have to be in one piece.

1) What is going on? Describe the general situation in one sentence.

they feel blessed because the calf is alive when actually, calves in this position are usually dead.

2) Based on the evidence in the passage above, give a general meaning for each of the underlined terms.

Commissure: _____

Asphyxiated: _____

Flexion: _____

Dam: _____

3) Which of the sentences in the passage above are simple sentences? [Write the number(s).] 1

4) Which of the sentences in the passage above are compound sentences? 2

5) Which of the sentences in the passage above are complex sentences? 3

6) Write a noun clause (you may one from the passages if there is one).

got my finger as far as the commissure of the mouth.

7) Write an adjective clause (you may one from the passages if there is one).

dam's powerful contraction

8) Write an adverbial clause (you may one from the passages if there is one).

asphyxiated by the acute flexion.