

- Instrucciones:
- a) Duración: 1 hora
 - b) Puntuación hasta 10 puntos
 - c) Traducir el siguiente texto (incluyendo el título). No se puede usar diccionario

The Asian elephant that speaks Korean

An Asian elephant named Koshik has learnt to imitate human speech, saying words in Korean that can be understood by speakers of the language. It is not clear why Koshik started imitating human speech, but biologists Angela Stoeger and Tecumseh Fitch suggest in research published in the journal *Current Biology* that it might be related to his experiences as a young elephant. For the first five years of his life Koshik was the only elephant at the Everland Zoo in South Korea, and consequently was only in the company of people during that important phase of his learning and development. It is thought that he started to adapt his vocalisations to those of humans in order to reinforce his links with them.

Researchers state that similar cases have been seen in some other species and in very special cases. There have been reports of elephants imitating the sound of engines, and even of a male elephant in a zoo saying words in two different languages, although this case was never investigated by scientists.

A few years ago, Koshik appeared in newspaper headlines and attracted thousands of tourists with his unusual ability, but the researchers have now made a number of tests where they asked native Korean speakers to write down what they heard when listening to recordings of the elephant. They concluded that the elephant could pronounce the five Korean words for 'hello', 'sit down', 'no', 'lie down' and 'good'. Unfortunately, the scientists have found no evidence that Koshik understands the meaning of the words he is using.