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Irish Dolphins may have a unique dialect Irish scientists monitoring dolphins living in a river estuary in the southwest of the country believe they may have developed a unique dialect to communicate with each other. The Shannon Dolphin and Wildlife Foundation (SDWF) has been studying a group of up to 120 bottlenose dolphins in the River Shannon using vocalisations collected on a computer in a cow shed near the River Shannon. As part of a research project, student Ronan Tierney digitised and analysed a total of 1,882 whistles from the Irish dolphins and those from the Welsh dolphins. On a computer and separated them into six fundamental whistle types into 32 different categories. Of the categories, 11 were used most by both sets of dolphins — but eight were only heard from the Irish dolphins. “ We are building up a catalogue of the different whistle types they use and trying to associate them with behaviour like foraging, resting, socialising and the communications of groups with calves, ” project leader Simon Bellows said. “ Essentially we are building up what is like a dictionary of words they use or sounds they make. ” Bellows is a

mari ' ne biologist . said the dolphins ' (clicks are used to find their way around and to find prey . The whistles are Communications . "They do a whole range of other sounds like barks, groans and a kind of gunshot . " he said . " The gunshot is an intense pulse of sound. Sperm whales use it to stun their prey . " " When I first heard it I was surprised as I thought sperm whales were the only species who used it . We can speculate the dolphins are using it for the same reason as the sperm whales . " Below said . References 8 in local legend indicate there have been dolphins in the Shannon estuary for generations and they may even have been resident there as far back as the 6th century 9 . They are regularly seen by passengers on the Shannon ferry and an estimated 25 , 000 tourists every year take special sightseeing tours on local boats to visit them .

词汇 : Irish adj . 爱尔兰的 socialise v . 社交 , 交往 dolphin n . 海豚 bottle-nose dolphin 宽吻海豚 sperm whale 巨头鲸 click n . 咔哒声 , 喀嚓声 estuary n . 河口 , 江口 vocalisation n . 发声 shed n . 小屋 , 棚 digitalise v . 使数字化 whistle n . 啸声 forage v . 搜寻(食物) prey n . 被捕食的动物 gunshot n . 射击声 groan n . 呻吟 , 叹息 pulse n . 脉冲 stun v . 击昏 注释 : 1 . The Shannon Dolphin and Wildlife Foundation(SDWF) : 香农海豚与野生生物基金会。 2 . the Shannon River : 香农河[位于爱尔兰共和国的中西部] 3 . cow shed : 牛棚 4 . those指代前半句的whistles 5 . Ronan Hickey ' —separated them into six fundamental whistle types and 32 different categories : Ronan Hickey将啸声划分成6大类32种 6 . most=Inos|categor ' ies 7 . both sets of dolphins 是指the Irish dolphins和the Welsh dolphins

。 8 . Residencies in local legend : : 当地传说中的有关说法 9
 . the,,,may even have been resident there as far back as the 6th
 century : 海豚可能早在公元6世纪就在香农河河口繁衍生息
 , resident是形容词 , 意思是 “ 居住的 ” 。 练习 : 1 . The
 difference in eating habits between the bottle-nose dolphins and the
 sperm whales interested the SDWF scientists . A . Right B
 . Wrong C . Not mentioned 2 . Ronan Hickey analyzed almost
 2000 different dialects of the bottlenose dolphins . A . Right B
 . Wrong C . Not mentioned 3 . Of the 32 categories , eight were
 produced only by the Irish dolphins . A . Right B . Wrong C
 . Not mentioned 4 . Whistles COULD also be used to communicate
 between adult dolphins and baby dolphins . A . Right 来源 : 考试
 大 B . Wrong C . Not mentioned 5 . Sperm whales can produce
 stronger ultrasonic waves to kill their prey than dolphins . A . Right
 B . Wrong C . Not mentioned 6 . As early as the 6th century
 , Irish fishermen started raising dolphins in the Shannon estuary
 . A . Right B . Wrong C . Not mentioned 7 . Irish dolphins
 attract tourists and over 25 , 000 people come to see them every year
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