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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 and 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.”

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 . Residents 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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