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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/644/2021_2022_2011_E5_B9_B4_E5_85_AC_c88_644469.htm 2011年公共英语三级考试考前每日一练（3.10）。百考试题#0000ff>公共英语等级考试站为您接下来的考试做足准备，一举拿下公共英语等级考试！
Certain animals have an intuitive awareness of quantities. They know without analysis the difference between a number of objects ands a smaller number. In his book The Natural History of Selbourne (1786), the naturalist Gilbert White tells how he surreptitiously removed one egg a day to make up plover ’ s nest, and how the mother laid another egg each day to make up for the missing one. He noted that other species of birds ignore the absence of a single egg but abandon their nest if more than one egg has been removed. It has also been noted by naturalist that a certain type of wasp always provides five-never four, never six-caterpillars for each of their eggs so that their young have something to eat when the eggs hatch. Research has also shown that both mice and pigeons can be taught to distinguish between odd and even numbers of food pieces. These and similar accounts have led some people to infer that creatures other than human can actually count. They also point to dogs that have been taught to respond to numerical questions with the correct number of barks, or to horses that seem to solve arithmetic problem by stomping their hooves number of times. Animals respond to quantities only when they are connected to survive as a species-as in the case of the eggs-or survive as individuals -as in the case of food.

There is on transfer to other situations or from concrete reality to the abstract notion of numbers. Animals can “ count ” only when the objects are present and only when the numbers involved are small-no more than seven or eight. In lab experiments, animals trained to count one kind of object were unable to count any other type. The objects, not the numbers, are what interest them. Animal ’ s admittedly remarkable achievements simply do not amount to evidence of counting, nor do they reveal more than innate instinct, refined by the genes of successive generations, or the results of clever, careful conditioning by trainers. 6. What is the main idea of the passage? A. Careful training is required to teach animals to perform tricks involving numbers B. Animas cannot count more than one kind of object C. of all animals, dogs and horses can count best D. Although some animals may be aware of quantities, they cannot actually count 7. The author refers to Gilbert ’ s book in paragraph 1 in order to___. A. show how attitudes have changed since 1786 B. Contradict the idea that animals can count. C. provide evidence that some birds are aware of quantities. D. Indicate that more research is needed in this field. 8. The word “ surreptitiously ” in line 4 is closest in meaning to ___. A. quickly B. secretly C. occasionally D. stubbornly 9. The author mentions that all of the following are aware of quantities in some way EXCEpT___. A. plovers B. mice C. caterpillars D. wasps 10. According to the information in the passage, which of the following is LEAST likely to occur as a result of animal ’ s intuitive awareness of quantities? A. A pigeon is more attracted by a box containing two pieces of food than by a box containing one

piece. B. When asked by its trainer how old it is, a monkey holds up five fingers. C. When one of its four kittens crawls away, a mother cat misses it and searches for the missing kitten. D. A lion follows one antelope instead of a herd of antelopes because it is easier to hunt a single prey. #ff0000>点击查看答案及解析》》 点击查看完整版：#ff0000>2011公共英语三级考试考前30天冲刺试题（8） #ff0000> 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com