

NIVEL BÁSICO
LISTENING COMPREHENSION 1

Listen to Rachel speaking about her pet and choose the correct option. **You will hear this listening TWICE. Don't forget to copy your answers in the answer chart. You now have 30 seconds to read the questions.**

1. Rachel has a ...

- a) wild rat b) garden rat c) domestic rat

2. Rachel's rat is ...

- a) grey with black eyes b) black with grey eyes c) brown with dark eyes

3. Having a pet rat has advantages because ...

- a) they are intelligent b) you can train them to do difficult things c) they live a long life

4. Hector ...

- a) washes himself b) smells horrible c) doesn't sleep at night

5. Hector loves ...

- a) dog biscuits b) rice c) tomatoes

6. Hector lives in ...

- a) the kitchen b) a cage c) the garden

7. Hector ...

- a) sleeps all night b) is only active in the evening c) is very active at night

8. Hector is ...

- a) 3 years old b) 2 months old c) 2 years old

9. Rats make good pets because ...

- a) they live a long life b) they are cheap c) don't need any attention

ANSWERS

1.-	2.-	3.-	4.-	5.-	6.-	7.-	8.-	9.-

NOW YOU HAVE 30 SECONDS TO CONSIDER YOUR ANSWERS.

KEY:

Listening 1. Listen to Rachel speaking about her pet and choose ...

1.-	2.-	3.-	4.-	5.-	6.-	7.-	8.-	9.-
C	A	A	A	C	B	C	C	B

Tapescript Listening 1 Pest or pet?

Jackie: Many listeners will know that this year it the Chinese Year of the Rat. And for this week's podcastsinenglish.com I'm talking to Rachel. Hi Rachel...

Rachel: Hi Jackie.

Jackie: ... Because she was born in the Year of the Rat and because she has a pet rat. Now Rachel, why do you have a rat as a ... as a pet, I mean rats are horrible! They're dirty and... and they have lots of disease.

Rachel: Yeah, well, you know the rats you see in the streets are horrible. That's true. However I have a domestic rat, and it's very different. Our rat is beautiful – he's grey all over with black eyes. And you know they make very good pets.

Jackie: How... how can they make good pets?

Rachel: Well, they are very intelligent, they're very intelligent animals. You can train them to do simple tricks. They're friendly; they like to be with people.

Jackie: But they bite, don't they?

Rachel: No, not if you're friendly with them.

Jackie: But they smell, don't they?

Rachel: No, they're very clean animals. They don't smell. Hector. Hector he's our rat, he washes his face with water and he cleans himself many, many times a day.

Jackie: Mmm, really? Ok but what do you feed him?

Rachel: Well, that's very easy because rats eat almost everything as you know. He likes fresh fruit and vegetables though. Also he has dog biscuits because they're good for his teeth. He likes pasta, and he likes rice, he likes anything that we eat really. If there's any food left over after a meal then we give it to Hector...his favourite food is tomatoes!

Jackie: (Laughs) so where does Hector sleep?

Rachel: Well, he lives in a cage. There's a box for him in the cage. It's a big cage and there are toys for

him to play with too.

Jackie: So does he sleep at night or during the day?

Rachel: Well, he's very active at night but he's awake in the day too. The best time is early evening for

him when he comes out of his cage and plays with us.

Jackie: You play with him?

Rachel: Of course!

Jackie: Uurrhh! So how long do they live for?

Rachel: Well, only two or three years.

Jackie: Only two or three years? Oh, that's not very long! How old is Hector?

Rachel: Well, he's two now so I'm afraid he won't be with us for very much longer. But that's another

reason why rats make good pets, you know if you buy a dog it can live for 10 years or more, and a cat

can live for 14 to 20 years. Sometimes that can cause problems.

Jackie: Mmm, ok. So you recommend rats as pets, then.

Rachel: Definitely, they're cheap and they're easy to keep. And if you look after rats well and give them

lots of love they'll be great fun to have.

Jackie: Mmm, well, we have lots of cats now so I'm not sure we'll get a rat as a pet for a while! But, er...

anyway thanks, Rachel.

Rachel: You're welcome.