# Carnivores vs herbivores

## Topic
Animals, carnivores and herbivores

## Aims
- To practise listening for specific information
- To discuss interesting facts about animals
- To promote critical thinking skills
- To review vocabulary related to animals

## Age group
Teens

## Level
B1+

## Time
45 - 60 minutes

## Materials
- Carnivores vs herbivores student worksheet
- Access to Youtube and this clip: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtnLNmB3ZNE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtnLNmB3ZNE)

## Introduction
Some animals feed on plants while others are meat-eaters. Ask your students if they know names for these types of animals in English (*herbivores* and *carnivores*). Ask for examples for each type.

## Procedure

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<td><strong>1. Lead in</strong></td>
<td>Some animals feed on plants while others are meat-eaters. Ask your students if they know names for these types of animals in English (<em>herbivores</em> and <em>carnivores</em>). Ask for examples for each type.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Task 1: Before you watch (5-10 minutes)</strong></td>
<td>Ask students in pairs / groups to put the animals into two categories. If you have internet access, they can look these up on the internet.</td>
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Lesson plan

- Check answers **Answers:** Carnivores: Lion, Cheetah, Wolf; Herbivores: Gazelle, Antelope, Zebra, Koala, Buffalo, North-American Pronghorn. A baboon is an omnivore (both).

### 3. Task 2 - Useful terms (10 minutes)

- There are some terms such as **prey**, **predator**, **hooves** etc which appear in the video. They are contextualized and should not pose difficulty while watching. However if you feel your students would benefit from pre-learning some of these, do this vocabulary activity.

- Ask students in pairs / groups to match the words with the definitions in the right

- Early finishers / stronger students can proceed to Activity B

- Check the answers. Provide translations, if appropriate

  **Answers:** Carnivore - an animal that eats meat; herbivore - an animal that eat only plants; predator - an animal that kills and eats other animals; prey - an animal that is killed for food by another animal; horns - two hard pointed growths on the heads of some animals; hoof - the hard part part on the bottom of some animals' feet; herd - a large group of animals that live and eat together.

- **Task 2:** A **predator** is any animal that hunts and eats other animals, which are called the **prey**. Generally, **carnivores** are predators and **herbivores** are prey. To be successful hunters, predators need to be able to see, smell or hear their prey. To avoid being eaten, the prey have to run fast or defend themselves by using their **horns** or kicking with their **hooves**. Predators are very important in the balance of nature, usually hunting only the sick or weak members of a **herd**. This leaves the strong and healthy animals to reproduce.

### 4. Task 4 - Never-ending battle on the plains (20 minutes)

- Ask students to read the facts about animals and decide in pairs / groups whether they are true or false before watching the video.

- **Play the Youtube clip:** Triumph of the herbivores  
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtnLNmB3ZNE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtnLNmB3ZNE)

- After watching students compare and discuss the answers in their groups.

- Play the clip a second and third time if necessary

- Conduct whole class feedback

- **Answers:** a) False (numbers bring safety), b) true, c) Not mentioned, d) False (all herbivores have to be able to run fast. They run on tiptoes so that they cover more ground with each stride), e) True, f) Not mentioned, g)
5. Task 5 - Discussion (10 minutes)
- Students discuss the questions in small groups. Encourage them to give their own ideas and share opinions - there are no correct answers here.

6. Follow up - Feed the animals
- This optional activity is an online game, in which students should take the animals to the right feeding station according to their diet. If you don’t have access to the Internet in class, students can play this game at home.

7. Task 6: Verbs starting with out- (10 minutes)
- The task focuses on the verbs with the prefix *out*-
- **Answers:**
  - *In the story, the wolf is stronger, but the fox manages to outsmart him.*
  - *All things considered, the advantages clearly outweigh the possible disadvantages.*
  - *In our class, the girls outnumber the boys.*
  - *Last year Toyota outperformed other Japanese cars.*
- All these verbs appear in situations where you compare things (e.g. fox and wolf, Toyota and other cars) and have to do with one doing more or better than the other (e.g. *outweigh* = *weigh more than*).

8. Optional follow up / Homework activities
- Students look up the remaining facts (the ones not mentioned in the video), find videos on Youtube that illustrate them and present them in class
- Students find other interesting facts about animals and present them in class

**Contributed by**

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