

Pre-Reading Activities

1. Read the following passage. Can you guess who “she”, “her” and “herself” refer to? Try to fill in the gaps.

In the morning I sat **her** in her wooden high chair and **she** watched me busy myself around the kitchen. I gave **her** a fresh bowl of water and a raw egg. **She** cracked the shell **herself** and slurped the yellow yoke in one gulp. I could tell **she** was still a little drowsy. **She** was breathing peacefully and slowly, her little ___ chest rising and falling. **Her** eyes literally followed me from counter to counter to cupboard, out into the hall to pick up the post. I poured **her** a bowl of muesli and put some fresh blueberries in it. **She** enjoys that. Nobody tells you how flattering it is, how loved you feel, your child following your every move like that. **Her** beady eyes watched me open my post as if it was the most interesting thing anybody could do. The post was dull as usual, a gas bill and junk. I sighed, went to the kitchen bin and threw everything in but the bill. When I turned back around, there **she** still was, smiling at me, **her** ___ curling around her mouth. **Her** eyes lit up, fierce with love.

Listen to the recording and check whether your guesses were correct. Does HER in the first sentence refer to a human or an animal? Find the clues in the text.

2. Which expressions from the list below can be used to describe human babies and which are related to animals? Can any of the expressions be used for both purposes?

snatch smth in the street

smack smb's nose

sit in a high chair

stroke smb's nose

take smb out

bares one's teeth

sleep under the covers