

Dynamic Listening Comprehension Unit 4 Chapter 1 (Video #7)
Asian and African Elephants

The African and the Asian elephants are the largest land animals in the world. They really are enormous animals. The African and the Asian elephants are alike, or similar, in many ways, but there are differences between the two types of elephants, too.

What are some of the similarities between the African and the Asian elephant? Well, for one thing, both animals have long noses, called trunks. An elephant sometimes uses its trunk like a third hand. Both kinds of elephants use their trunks to pick up very small objects and very large, heavy objects. They can even pick up trees with their trunks. For another thing, both the African and the Asian elephants have very large ears, although the African elephant's ears are considerably larger. In addition, both animals are intelligent. They can be trained to do heavy work. They can also be trained to do tricks to entertain people. In other words, they both work for people, and they entertain people also.

As I said before, the African and the Asian elephants are alike in many ways, but they are also quite different, too. Let me explain what I mean. The African elephant is larger and heavier than the Asian elephant. The African male elephant weighs between 12,000 and 14,000 pounds. In contrast, the average Asian male elephant weighs between 7,000 and 12,000 pounds.

Another major difference between the two kinds of elephants is the size of the ears. Asian elephants have smaller ears than the African elephants do. The teeth are different, too. The African elephant has two very large teeth. These teeth are called tusks. The Asian elephant sometimes does not have any tusks at all. The elephants differ in color, too. The African elephant is dark gray in color while the Asian elephant is light gray. Occasionally, an Asian elephant is even white in color! The last big difference between the two elephants is their temperament. The Asian elephant is tamer than the African elephant. In other words, the African elephant is much wilder than the Asian elephant. As a result, it is more difficult to train the African elephant to perform tricks to entertain people. That's why the elephants you see in the circus are probably Asian elephants, not African elephants.

Yes, there certainly are differences between the African and the Asian elephants, but there is one big similarity between the two animals: they are both fascinating and enormous animals.

Look at the expressions and words used for making comparisons

The African and the Asian elephants are the largest land animals in the world. They really are enormous animals. The African and the Asian elephants are **alike**, or **similar**, in many ways, but there are **differences** between the two types of elephants, too.

What are some of the **similarities** between the African and the Asian elephant? Well, for one thing, **both animals** have long noses, called trunks. An elephant sometimes uses its trunk like a third hand. **Both kinds of** elephants use their trunks to pick up very small objects and very large, heavy objects. They can even pick up trees with their trunks. For another thing, **both the African and the Asian elephants** have very large ears, although the African elephant's ears are considerably **larger**. In addition, **both** animals are intelligent. They can be trained to do heavy work. They can also be trained to do tricks to entertain people. In other words, they **both** work for people, and they entertain people also.

As I said before, the African and the Asian elephants **are alike** in many ways, but they are also quite **different**, too. Let me explain what I mean. The African elephant is larger and heavier than the Asian elephant. The African male elephant weighs between 12,000 and 14,000 pounds. **In contrast**, the average Asian male elephant weighs between 7,000 and 12,000 pounds.

Another major difference between the two kinds of elephants is the size of the ears. Asian elephants have **smaller** ears **than** the African elephants do. The teeth are **different**, too. The African elephant has two very large teeth. These teeth are called tusks. The Asian elephant sometimes does not have any tusks at all. The elephants **differ** in color, too. The African elephant is dark gray in color **while** the Asian elephant is light gray. Occasionally, an Asian elephant is even white in color! The last big **difference** between the two elephants is their temperament. The Asian elephant is **tamer than** the African elephant. In other words, the African elephant is much **wilder than** the Asian elephant. As a result, it is **more difficult** to train the African elephant to perform tricks to entertain people. That's why the elephants you see in the circus are probably Asian elephants, not African elephants.

Yes, there certainly are **differences** between the African and the Asian elephants, but there is one big **similarity** between the two animals: **they are both** fascinating and enormous animals.

Pay attention to parts of speech (verbs, nouns, adverbs, and adjectives), and think about how you form your sentences. For example, look at these three ways to say the same thing:

1. The two types of dogs are **different**. (adjective)
2. The two types of dogs have many **differences** between them. (noun). There are many **differences** between them.
3. The two types of dogs differ in many ways. (verb)

be alike

differences between

similarities between

both animals

both kinds of ____

both ____ and ____

both

in contrast, on the other hand, while

another difference

... er than, more ____ than

differ (v.) difference (n.) different (adj.)

resemble (v.)

similar (adj.) similarity (n.)

Present the information in these four parts

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Similarities**
- 3. Differences**
- 4. Conclusion**

Listen to the short lecture about elephants and write notes in the table about the differences and similarities between African and Asian elephants.

	African Elephant	Asian Elephant
trunk		
ears		
body size		
weight		
wild/tame		
tusks		
color		

Listen to the short lecture about elephants and write notes in the table about the differences and similarities between African and Asian elephants.

	African Elephant	Asian Elephant
trunk	long, pick up small objects or heavy large objects	long, pick up small objects or heavy large objects
ears	larger	large
size	larger	large
weight	heavier, male 12,000-14,000 pounds	male 7,000-12,000 pounds
wild/tame	wild	tame
tusks	longer	long, sometimes no tusk
color	dark gray	light gray, sometimes white

While you look at only these notes, write a summary of the lecture. A good summary is about 1/3 of the length of the original. In this case, that will be about 130-150 words. The original text is 406 words.

Summary from the notes

Read this summary aloud. Pay attention to the consonant-vowel linking that is indicated by red font. As you speak, join the linked words. Don't stop between words. If you can do this linking well, you will begin to speak at a natural pace. Pay attention also to the final s at the end of words (used in third person singular present tense verbs, plural nouns and possessives) and pronounce it clearly. The final s appears frequently in every English text, but it is a common pronunciation difficulty.

I'm going to tell you about the differencess and similaritiess between African and Asian elephants. Both animalss are large and intelligent. Both elephantss have long trunkss that they use to pick up large, heavy objectss or small light objectss. Both elephantss have large earss. However, the African elephant is larger and heavier than the Asian elephant. The former weighs a maximum of 14,000 poundss, and the latter weighs a maximum of 12,000 poundss. The African elephant is wild, but the Asian elephant is tame and easier to train to work and entertain people. Both elephantss have tuskss, but the African elephant's tuskss are longer. Finally, they differ in color. The African elephant is dark gray whereas the Asian elephant is light gray.

(summary: 122 words, original text: 406 words, the summary word count is 30% of the original)
third person singular 三人称单数 *san nin sho tansu*

The African (1) elephant's trunk (2) picks up large (3) objects.

(1) possessive

(2) third person singular present tense verb

(3) plural noun

Make a table showing the differences in appearance between American black bears and grizzly bears. Find the information by searching on the Internet.

	American black bear	grizzly bear

Write a summary that explains the differences and similarities between the two types of bears. Use the vocabulary and expressions that are useful for making comparisons.

Listening exercise

Student A: Read aloud up to each slash mark, then stop.

Student B: Repeat what student A says.

What are some of the similarities / between the African and the Asian elephant? / Well, for one thing, / both animals have long noses, / called trunks. / An elephant sometimes uses its trunk / like a third hand. / Both kinds of elephants / use their trunks / to pick up very small objects / and very large, heavy objects. / They can even pick up trees / with their trunks. / For another thing, / both the African and the Asian elephants / have very large ears, / although the African elephant's ears / are considerably larger. / In addition, / both animals are intelligent. / They can be trained / to do heavy work. / They can also be trained / to do tricks to entertain people. / In other words, / they both work for people, / and they entertain people also.

Listening exercise

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From 00:32 in the video

1. What are some of the similarities _____?
2. Well, for one thing, _____, called trunks.
An elephant sometimes uses its trunk
3. _____. Both kinds of elephants use their
4. trunks _____ and very large, heavy
objects.
5. _____ with their trunks. For
another thing,
6. _____ have very large ears,
7. _____ are considerably larger.
8. _____. They can be trained to do heavy
work. They can also be trained
9. _____. In other words, they both work
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Stressed syllables and stressed one-syllable words

What are some of the similarities **between** the **African** and the **Asian** elephant? Well, for **one** thing, **both** animals have **long noses**, called **trunks**. An elephant **sometimes** **uses** its **trunk** like a **third hand**. **Both** kinds of elephants **use** their **trunks** to pick up **very small objects** and **very large, heavy objects**. They can **even** pick up **trees** with their **trunks**. For **another** thing, **both** the **African** and the **Asian** elephants have **very large ears**, **although** the **African** elephant's **ears** are **considerably larger**. In **addition**, **both** animals are **intelligent**. They can be **trained** to do **heavy work**. They can **also** be **trained** to do **tricks** to **entertain** people. In **other words**, they **both** work for **people**, and they **entertain** people **also**.

Dynamic Listening Comprehension Unit 4 Chapter 1 (Video #7)
Asian and African Elephants Error Correction Exercise

There is one error in each sentence.

1. The African and the Asian elephants are the largest land animal in the world.
2. They really enormous animals.
3. The African and the Asian elephants are alike, or similar, in many ways, but there are differences between the two type of elephants, too.
4. What are some of the similarities between the Africa and the Asian elephant?
5. Well, for one thing, both animals have long nose, called trunks.
6. An elephant sometimes uses its trunk like third hand.
7. Both kinds of elephants use their trunks to picking up very small objects and very large, heavy objects.
8. They can even pick up tree with their trunks.
9. For another thing, both the African and the Asian elephants have very large ears, although the African elephant's ears are considerable larger.
10. In addition, both animals be intelligent.
11. They can be train to do heavy work.
12. They can also trained to do tricks to entertain people.
13. In other word, they both work for people, and they entertain people also.
14. As I said before, the African and the Asian elephants are alike in many ways, but they are also quite difference, too.
15. Let me explain why I mean.
16. The African elephant is large and heavier than the Asian elephant.
17. The African male elephant weighs between 12,000 and 14,000 pound.
18. In contrast, the average Asian male elephant weigh between 7,000 and 12,000 pounds.

19. Another major difference between two kinds of elephants is the size of the ears.
20. Asian elephants have small ears than the African elephants do.
21. The tooth are different, too.
22. The African elephant has too very large teeth.
23. These teeth are called tusk.
24. The Asian elephant sometime does not have any tusks at all.
25. The elephants different in color, too.
26. African elephant is dark gray in color while the Asian elephant is light gray.
27. Occasionally, Asian elephant is even white in color!
28. The last big difference between the two elephant is their temperament.
29. The Asian elephant is tamer than African elephant.
30. In other words, the African elephant is much wild than the Asian elephant.
31. As a result, is more difficult to train the African elephant to perform tricks to entertain people.
32. That's why the elephants you see in the circus probably Asian elephants, not African elephants.
33. Yes, there certainly are differences between the African and the Asian elephants, but there is one big similar between the two animals:
34. they are both fascinating and enormous animal.

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Asian and African Elephants Error Correction Exercise ANSWERS

There is one error in each sentence.

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20. Asian elephants have smaller**er** ears than the African elephants do.
21. The **teeth** are different, too.
22. The African elephant has **two** very large teeth.
23. These teeth are called tusks**s**.
24. The Asian elephant sometimes**s** does not have any tusks at all.
25. The elephants **differ** in color, too.
26. **The** African elephant is dark gray in color while the Asian elephant is light gray.
27. Occasionally, **an** Asian elephant is even white in color!
28. The last big difference between the two elephants**s** is their temperament.
29. The Asian elephant is tamer than **the** African elephant.
30. In other words, the African elephant is much wilder**er** than the Asian elephant.
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32. That's why the elephants you see in the circus **are** probably Asian elephants, not African elephants.
33. Yes, there certainly are differences between the African and the Asian elephants, but there is one big similarity**y** between the two animals:
34. they are both fascinating and enormous animals**s**.