

Birdwatching: an unusual hobby

Elementary level

Warm-up

1. What do you usually do in your free time?
2. What do your family members and friends like doing?
3. Which of these hobbies would you like to try?
 - scuba diving
 - belly dance
 - origami
 - standing on nails



Task 1 — Usual & unusual hobbies



Make a list of usual and unusual hobbies:

USUAL	UNUSUAL

Vocabulary to use:

reading, soap carving, tattooing, cooking, sewing, video blogging, archery, playing chess.

What about birdwatching? Is it unusual?

Task 2 — Birdwatching quiz

Choose the right answer:

1. This bird is called ...



- a) a swan.
- b) a raven.
- c) an eagle.

2. They are called ...



- a) glasses.
- b) telescopes.
- c) binoculars.

3. This man is ...



- a) feeding birds.
- b) eating birds.
- c) looking at birds.

Task 3 — Birding for beginners

Read the text.

If you're interested in nature and want to learn more about it, birding is a fun hobby. It is a hobby that you can take with you anywhere in the world. There are only three things you need to get started: bird guide, binoculars, good mood.

Be present while you are in nature. What's around you right now? Feel the air, hear the sounds. Bring water and snacks. Protect yourself from the sun by wearing a hat and sunscreen.

Are these sentences true or false?

1. You need a lot of things for birdwatching.
2. You can practice birding only in national parks.
3. Binoculars help you to see birds.
4. It's important to feel what's around.



Task 4 — Guide for birdwatching

Watch the [video](#) and answer the questions:

1. What is ornithology?
2. Why do we need a guide?
3. Should you stay quite?
4. How many birds could she see?



Task 5 — Look at birds! Listen to them!

Take a look at [this photo gallery](#) and discuss the questions:

- Which birds do you like the most?
- Which birds don't you like?
- Did you see them in real life?
- Is it easy to take pictures of birds?
- Do you enjoy listening to birds?

Listen to [birds' sounds](#) and try to guess them!



Keys

Task 2 (birdwatching quiz)

1b 2c 3a

Task 3 (reading)

1. You need a lot of things for birdwatching — FALSE, there are only 3 things you need.
2. You can practice birding only in national parks — FALSE, you can do it everywhere.
3. Binoculars help you to see birds — TRUE.
4. It's important to feel what's around — TRUE.

Task 4 (video)

1. Ornithology is a study of birds.
2. We need a field guide because we need to know what birds we see (we can look up the name and write it down to the notebook).
3. You should stay quiet to hear birds.
4. She could see 4 birds.