

A vegetarian hunter (Reading and grammar)

- Description:** A gapped text for reading and discussion.
- Use with or after:** *English Network Plus (New Edition)*, Unit 11.
- Skill:** Reading and grammar
- Focus:** Students complete the text using *too*, *so* and *such*, and then discuss it.
- Time:** 25 minutes
- Preparation:**
- Print out both pages of this file.
 - Make a copy of the second page for each student, and cut on the dotted line to remove the key.
- Procedure:**
- Write the words *consistent*, *gentle*, *rifle* and *hypocritical* on the board, and see if anyone can explain what they mean. *Consistent* means always behaving in the same way or having the same attitudes and standards. *Gentle* means being kind and careful in the way you behave, so as not to hurt or damage anyone or anything. A *rifle* is a long gun which you hold up to your shoulder to shoot. Being *hypocritical* means behaving in a way that is different from what you claim to believe.
 - Tell the class that these three words are all in the same text. Working in pairs, the students should try to predict or imagine what the text might be about. There is no need to discuss this with the whole class, nor should you comment on their predictions.
 - Distribute the text. Ask them to read it through, fill in the gaps together and discuss briefly with their partner about whether their prediction was correct.
 - Distribute the key and answer any questions about it.
 - Ask the students to read the text again and discuss these three questions with a partner (dictate these questions or write them on the blackboard):
 - 1 *Why did Fiona become a vegetarian when she was sixteen?*
 - 2 *Why did she become a hunter when she was twenty-three?*
 - 3 *What do you think of her reasons for these two decisions?*

**Write *too, so* or *such* in the gaps.**

Fiona has always been (1) _____ an independent person! She had been a vegetarian since she was sixteen, and that's why everyone was (2) _____ surprised by what she did when she was twenty-three.

Her vegetarian friends had never been (3) _____ shocked in their lives. They couldn't believe she would do (4) _____ a thing. She had always been (5) _____ gentle and peaceful, but now she had bought a rifle, taken shooting lessons and got her hunting licence.

Now she goes hunting once or twice a month. She shoots birds and small animals – but not (6) _____ many, just a few. She cuts them up herself, and then she cooks them and eats them!

"In a way, I'm still a vegetarian," she claims, "because I never eat any meat that I haven't killed and cut up myself."

"But it's (7) _____ awful to kill animals!" her friends all tell her. "It's (8) _____ a cruel thing to do!"

She smiles gently at this. "The really awful thing is to have someone else do it for you," she says. "That's hypocritical."

"But you were always (9) _____ a consistent vegetarian!"

"True, but I was just lying about it at first. When I was at boarding school the food at the vegetarian table looked (10) _____ much better than what the rest of us were getting. That's why I claimed to be a vegetarian even though I wasn't."

"You were (11) _____ a dishonest person?"

"Well, yes. But then I made friends with all the vegetarians at the table, and after a while I really was one myself. We were all (12) _____ healthy and had (13) _____ a sensible lifestyle. It just seemed (14) _____ natural not to eat meat. And I still don't eat meat (15) _____ often, just once or twice a month."

Key:

1 such, 2 so, 3 so, 4 such, 5 so, 6 too/so, 7 so, 8 such, 9 such, 10 so, 11 such, 12 so, 13 such, 14 so, 15 too/so

