

When it rains cats and dogs, in come the mice



- 1 Squeaks behind the skirting board? The skitter of tiny feet on your laminate floor at night? Toothmarks in unexpected places? Hard cheese, you've got mice.
- 2 "There are a lot of them for the time of year," says Zeno Hoffmans, a consultant at pest control company De4 Nederland. "We haven't had a cold winter with hard frosts, so everything simply stays alive – it's like having an autumn that goes on for four months. Also it has been quite wet, and mice don't like wet weather, so they'll creep in at ground level, and work their way up the building."
- 3 Once mice find enough to eat, they're unstoppable. "A pair with an adequate food supply can produce 2,800 offspring in a year. They have six to twelve babies six times a year, and they all mate with their parents and siblings. It's like an inverted pyramid."
- 4 ...
- 5 Another tip: store food in 6-1. If mice can munch their way through insulating foam, they'll make short work of a cardboard box. Don't leave crumbs lying around toasters and 6-2, put dirty dishes straight in the dishwasher, and vacuum regularly, particularly behind the stove and cupboards if you can, though that's obviously not possible if you have 6-3. And even the squeakiest of squeaky-clean kitchens may offer another food source for mice: 6-4. Mice love pet food, it's nutritious to boot, and there's a reliable supply because it gets topped up every day or so. If I were a mouse, I'd make a beeline for the kitchen.

adapted from *parool.nl*, 2020

Tekst 3 When it rains cats and dogs, in come the mice

- 1p 3 'When it rains cats and dogs, in come the mice' (titel)
→ In welke zin wordt duidelijk gemaakt **waarom** de muizen dan naar binnen komen?
Citeer (= schrijf over uit de tekst) de eerste twee woorden van deze zin.
- 1p 4 What is described as 'an inverted pyramid' (paragraph 3)?
The way in which
A mice are finding better ways to survive in extreme weather conditions.
B mice will work together to reach food that is stacked in high places.
C one couple of mice multiply into a large population in just a short time.
- 1p 5 De inhoud van alinea 4 staat hieronder, maar niet in de juiste volgorde.
→ Noteer de letters van de delen in de juiste volgorde in de uitwerkbijlage.

[a] At least that's the theory. "It takes a mouse sixty seconds to gnaw through insulating foam," says Hoffmans. "They leave scent marks behind wherever they go, so it's potentially an open invitation to hundreds of other mice. A bit of foam isn't going to keep them away."

[b] Hoffmans recommends good old-fashioned steel wool. "Mice try to gnaw through it, but they don't like it because it cuts their gums. They'll try again the following night, and then they'll give up and go to your neighbours' place instead."

[c] Some say the best way to get rid of mice is to stop them entering in the first place, by sealing cracks and other gaps with insulating foam.

- 2p 6 In alinea 5 zijn vier woordgroepen weggelaten.
→ Bepaal voor **6-1**, **6-2**, **6-3** en **6-4** welke woordgroep daar het best past.
Noteer de letter van de woordgroep achter elk nummer in de uitwerkbijlage.

Let op: er blijft één woordgroep over.

Kies uit:

- a a fitted kitchen
- b domesticated varieties
- c hard plastic containers
- d other appliances
- e that bowl for the dog on the floor

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift.