



Junior Elephant Guard Course

Level 1

Name:



Elephant basics

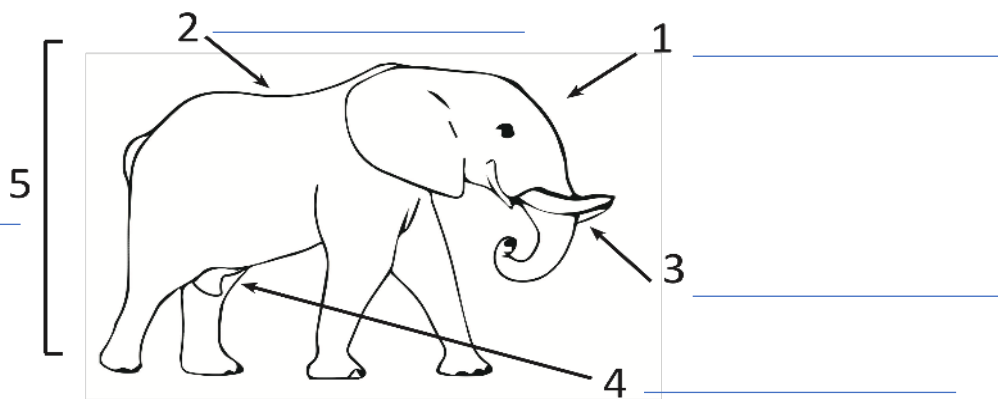
a. How does an elephant look like?

→ Draw an elephant and name the body parts:

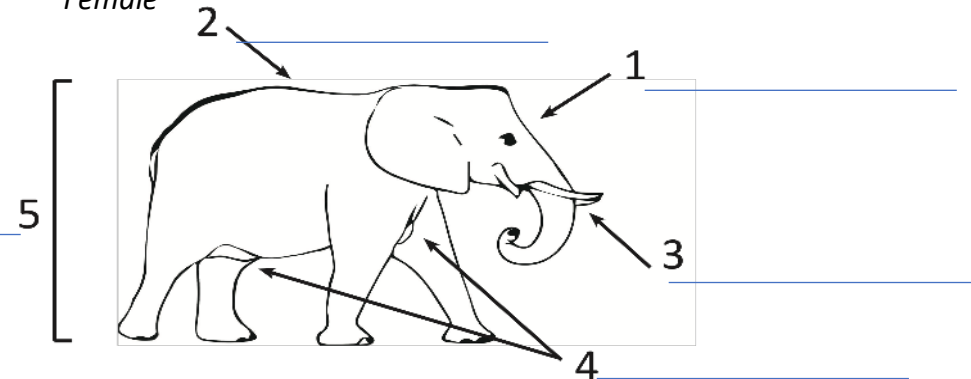


b. Is it a male or female elephant? What are the differences?

Male

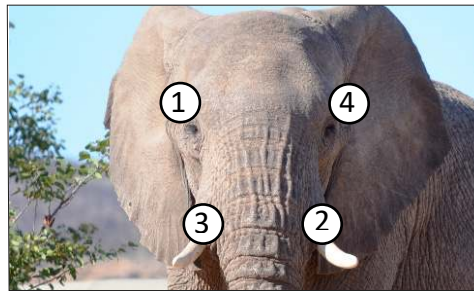
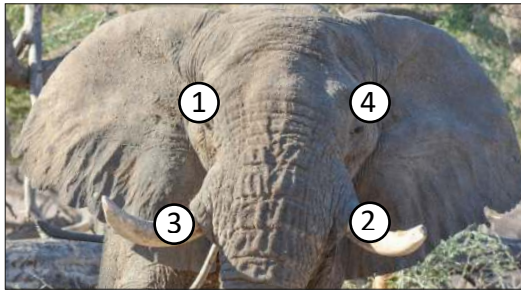


Female



c. How old is the bull elephant?

- a. The forehead of a male elephant develops into an “hourglass” shape.
 → Connect the numbers 1-2-3-4-1 to see how the shape differs!

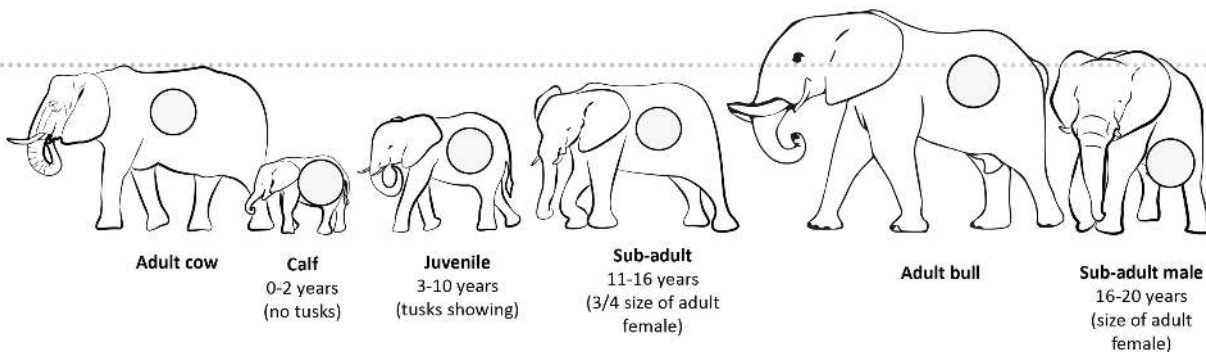


AGE: _____

AGE: _____

d. How big can an elephant be?

- a. How tall can a bull elephant be at the shoulder? _____
- b. How tall can a cow elephant be at the shoulder? _____
- c. Measure the bull's shoulder height on the ground. How many children need to stand on top of each other to reach the elephant's head? _____



Basic Elephant Behaviour: The 4 zones of personal space



COMFORT ZONE

Relaxed elephants



Socializing mother and calf



Socializing herd members



Mother and calf



Elephants drinking



ALERT ZONE



Elephants stop what they are doing and look at you.



Elephant smelling:



Elephant cow touching her face:



Elephant looking up:





WARNING ZONE

Elephants feel unhappy and warn you.



Kick forward, head raised:



Raised head, pointing tusks:



Headshake:





CRITICAL ZONE



Elephants feel threatened and either flee or attack.



FLIGHT



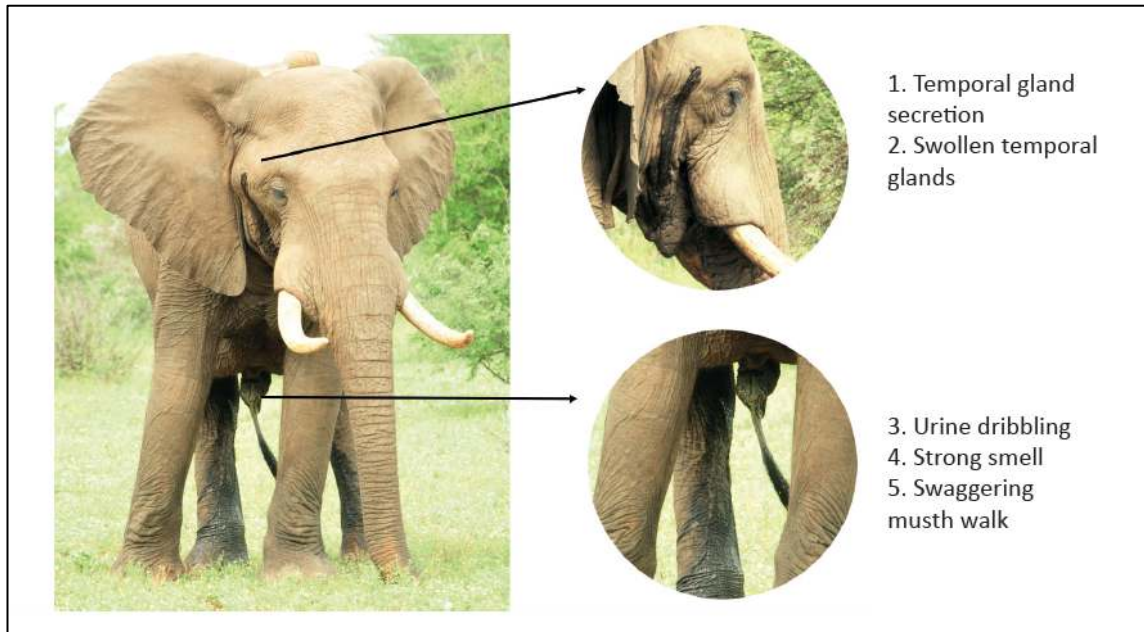
FIGHT

Signs of a real charge (attack): Rushing towards the threat while ear-spreading, head raised or lowered with the apparent intention of following through. The trunk may be tightly curved under so that tusks can make contact first. A Real charge is *usually* silent. Elephants generally display warning signs before they charge, which should give you enough time to avoid a confrontation.

Signs of escape: The elephant curls its tail up in an unnatural angle. It folds its ears back, lift its head and moves away as fast as it can (elephants don't run). It might still look back from time to time. This only happens if you left an escape route for the elephant.



Bulls in musth:



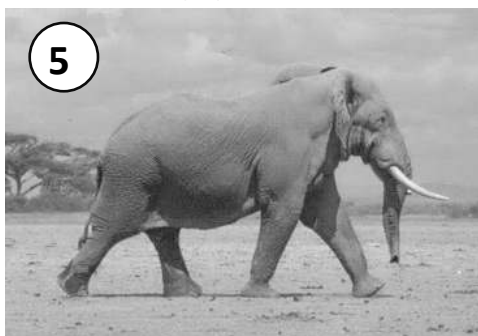
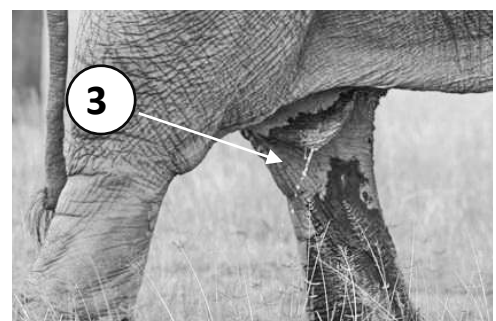
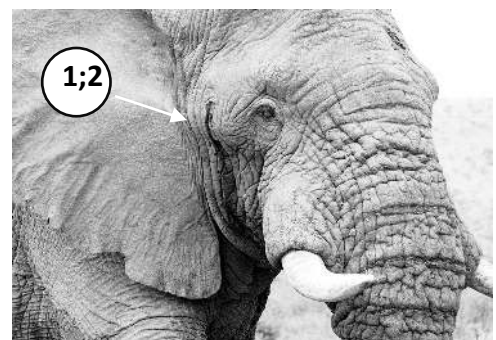
Elephant bulls in musth

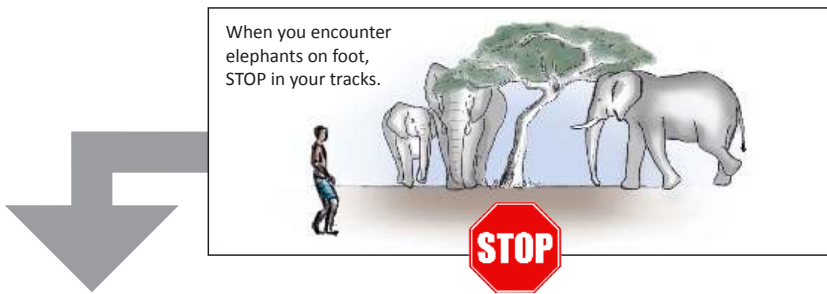
In order to understand elephant behaviour, it is essential to know that bull elephants experience yearly musth cycles that can alter the animal's behaviour drastically.

⚠️ Bulls in musth have a **higher level of testosterone** and therefore tend to be **more aggressive!** During musth, bulls look for receptive females for mating. Testosterone levels in an elephant in musth can be as much as **60 times greater** than in the same elephant at other times!


Physical signs of musth:








1. **Temporal gland secretion:** A dark, oily fluid, which runs down the cheek of the elephant to the corner of the mouth.
2. **Swollen temporal glands:** In full musth, the temporal gland is usually swollen to the size of an orange or a softball.
3. **Continuous urine dribbling & whitish-green penis sheath:** When displaying dominance during musth a male might specifically extrude his penis and gush urine. The hind legs are usually wet with urine.
4. **Strong distinct smell** (similar to horses that sweat)
5. **Swaggering musth walk:** The head is carried high, well above the shoulders, with the chin tucked in. The ears are often tensely spread and carried high. There is a controlled swinging motion of head and tusks.


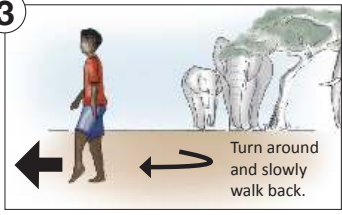






DO!





-  **LISTEN** → Listen for trumpeting.  Listen for branch breaking. 
-  **LOOK & SMELL** → Look & smell for fresh dung. 
-  **LOOK** → Look for tracks of more elephants. 

-  **Be quiet!**
-  **3** Turn around and slowly walk back.





DON'T!

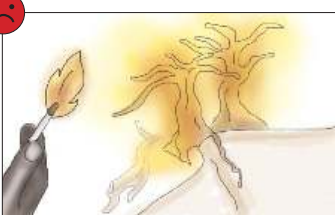





Don't run away from the elephant or do other quick movements!



Don't shout at the elephant!

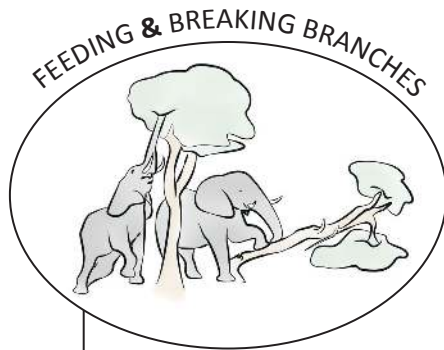


Don't light fires to scare elephants!

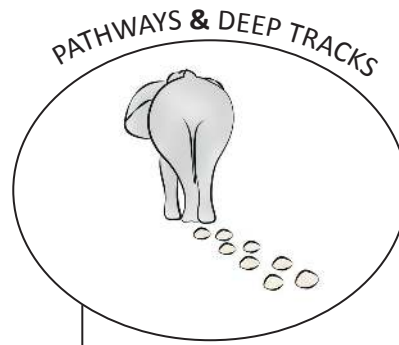


Don't throw rocks at the elephant!

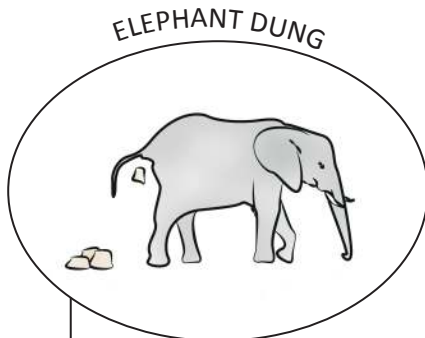
The ecological role of elephants



Elephants **break branches** and make them available for smaller animals (steenbok, duiker, dik-dik, **goats and cows**) to feed on.



Elephants leave **deep tracks** which **help seedlings grow**. **Elephant pathways** lead to hidden springs that help other animals and humans in droughts.



Elephant dung is...
1) perfect fertiliser for seeds

2) food for rodents, insencts, beetles, monkeys, birds etc.

3) home for beetles and insects

4) mosquito repellent

5) fire starter



Elephants **dig for water** underground and make this resource available for other animals and humans to drink!



A project initiated by EHRA

Junior Elephant Guard Course
Level 1

WORKBOOK

My name:



Tracking the elephants



1a. What direction did the elephant go?

- ←
 ↓
 ↑
 →

1b. How can you tell?

2. Indicate in the picture which one is the front foot (F) and which one is the back foot (B)!

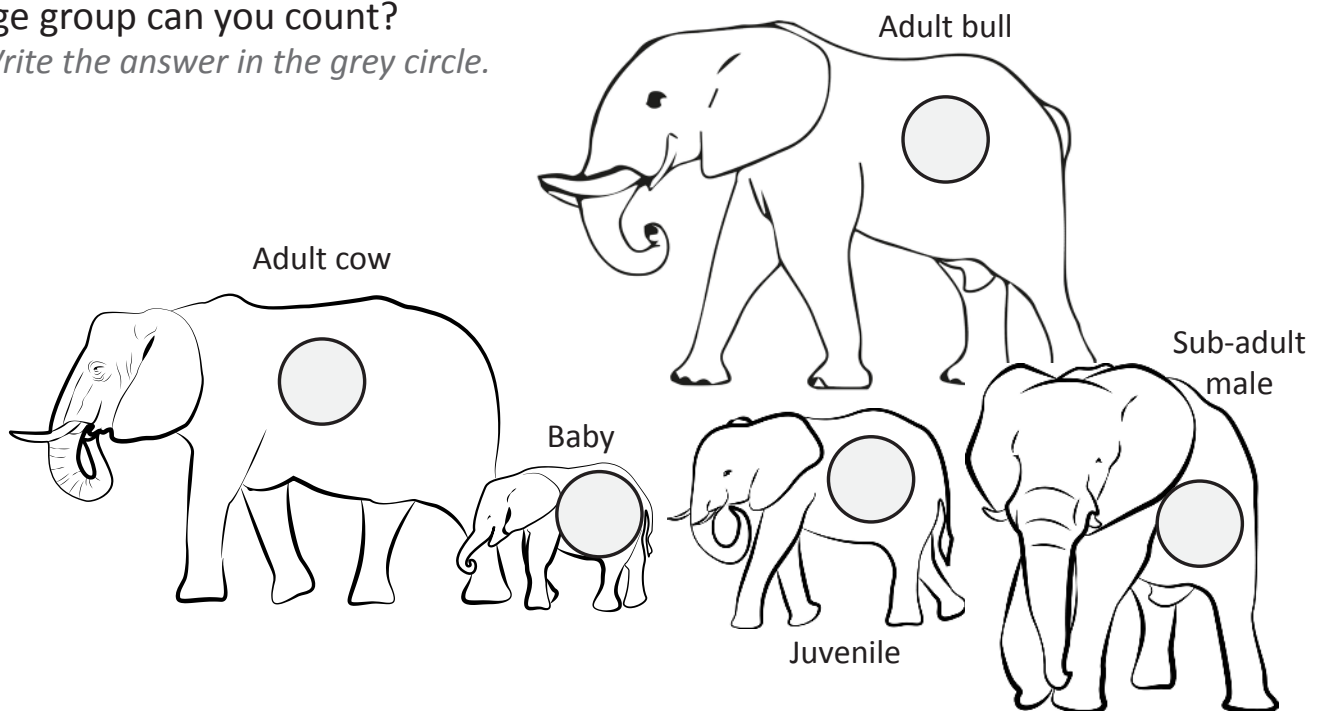
3. In what speed did the elephant travel?

- Slow/ relaxed
 Medium
 Fast

Observing the elephants

4. How many elephants of each age group can you count?

Write the answer in the grey circle.



5. What **vocalization** of the elephants did I hear?

- Trumpeting Barking
 Rumbling Roaring
 Snorting Crying



Tusks = Tande
 Trunk = Slurp
 Ears = Ore

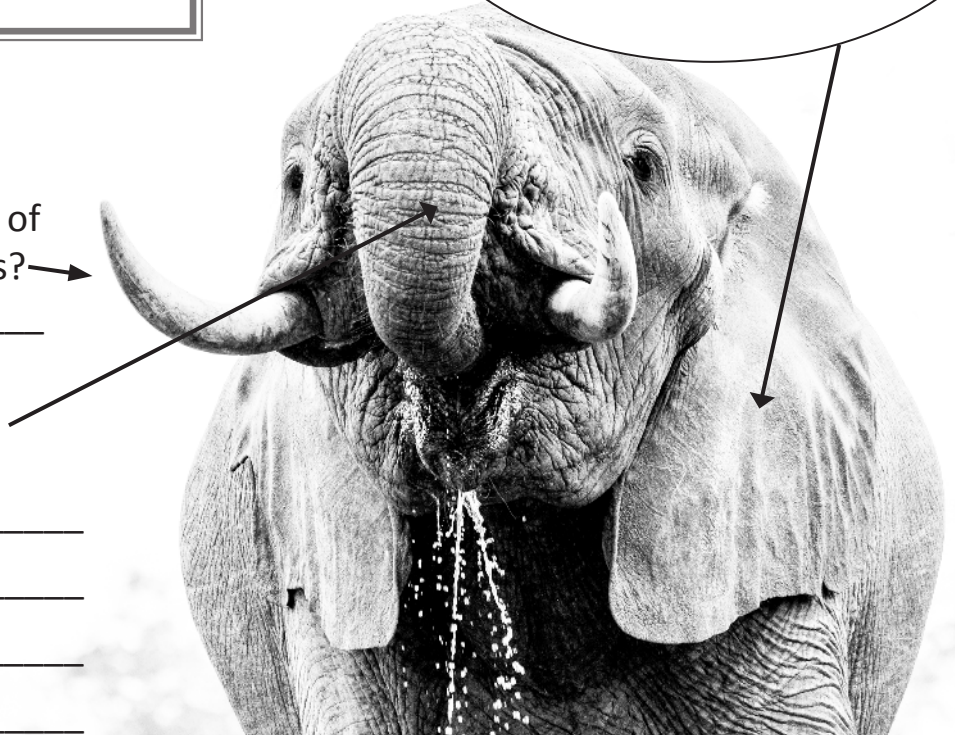
6. What does the elephant use its ears for? _____

7. If you had tusks, which of your teeth would be tusks? →

8. Name 2 facts about the trunk:

1. _____

2. _____



9. What do the elephant eat off the trees?

a) _____ b) _____

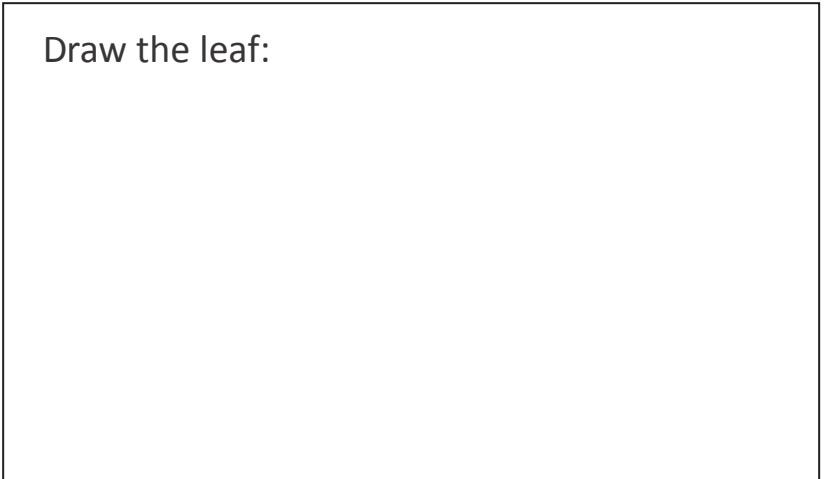
c) _____ d) _____

e) _____ f) _____

10. Which tree did you identify?

Name of tree:

Draw the leaf:



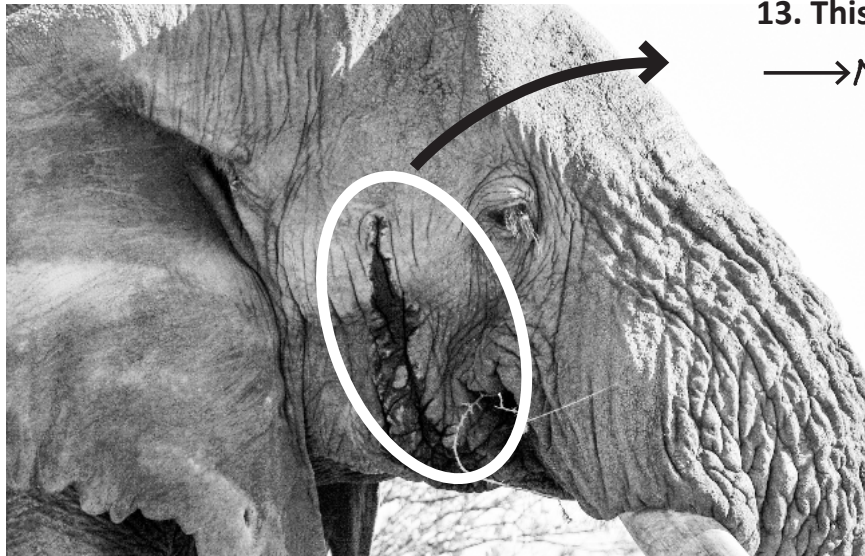
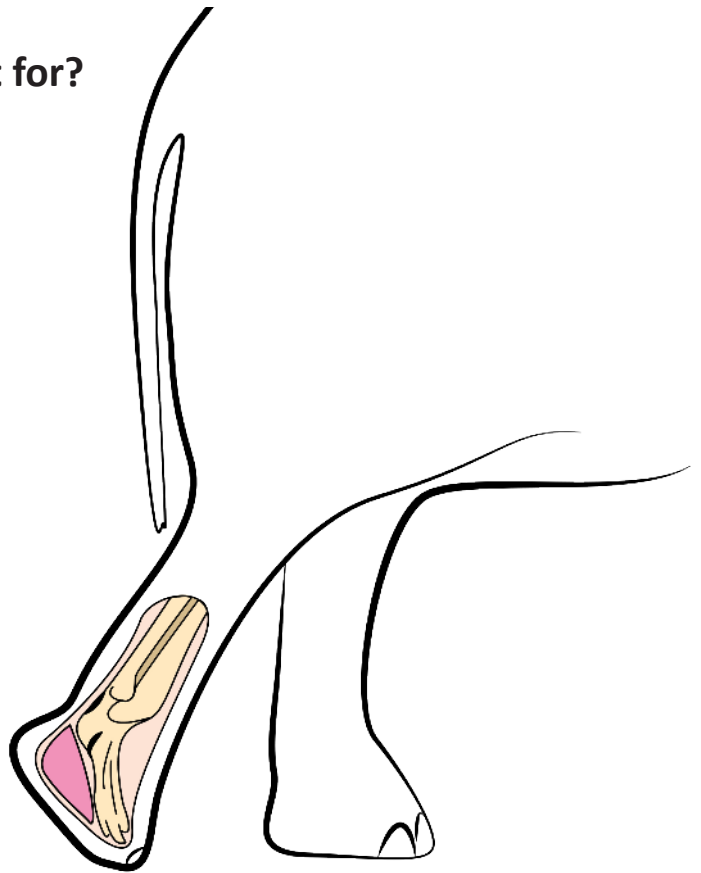
11. What does the elephant use its feet for?

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____

12. How many toenails does the elephant have?

Front foot: _____

Hind foot: _____



13. This bull's condition is called...

→ M _ _ _ _

14. When the bull shows these signs, he is....

- Very relaxed
- Looking for females
- More aggressive
- Very smelly
- Following other bulls

15. What should you do, when you encounter bulls in this condition?

!! Think well before answering !!



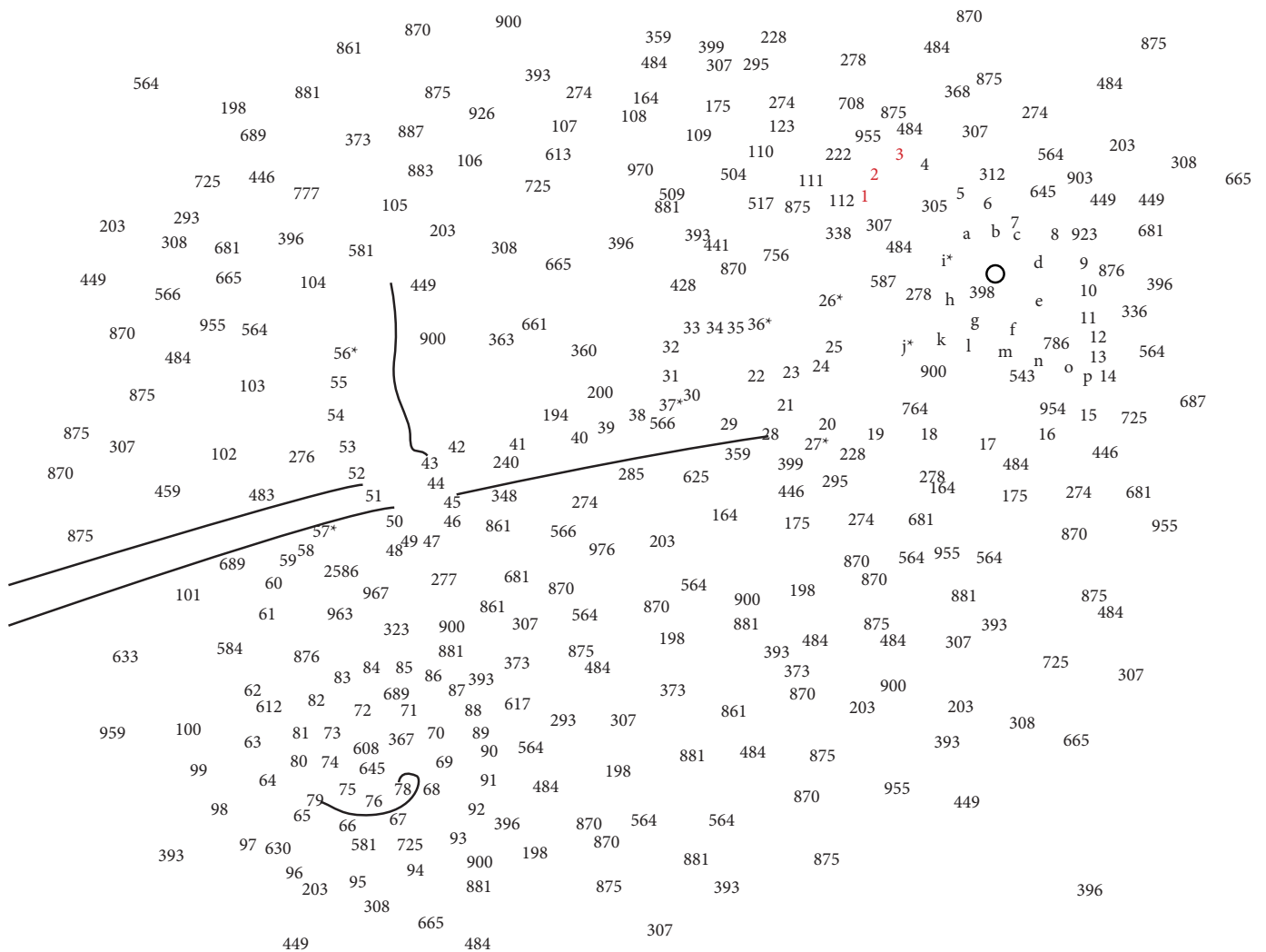
- | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stay very calm | <input type="checkbox"/> Shout at the elephant | <input type="checkbox"/> Be quiet! | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch him from a point of safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approach slowly | <input type="checkbox"/> Slowly walk away | <input type="checkbox"/> Run away | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throw rocks | <input type="checkbox"/> Warn your friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Light fires | |

16. Color by numbers: What animal can you spot?

First connect the Numbers starting from 1 and stop at number 112.

-> If you find a number with a star (26*) **stop** the line and start again at the next number with a star (27*)

-> Now also connect the letters starting from a. Stop at the star* and start again from the next star*.



What is the animal's name?

well done!!