

32 Days with Scorpions



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

PATTAYA, THAILAND ¹For 32 days, Kanchana Ketkeaw, 30, lived **inside** a very big **glass** box in a shop in Thailand. She left it for **only** 15 minutes every eight hours when she took a bath. ²She lived **alone** in her glass room, with only a bed, a TV, **newspapers**, and a **refrigerator**. ³And 3,400 dangerous scorpions*! The little animals **climbed** everywhere—on the bed, up the walls, and over the **floor**. “It was like my room at home,” she said later, “but with thousands of little friends.”

⁴Shoppers and **tourists** stopped and watched. Kanchana, an **artist**, often performs with scorpions. ⁵Nine scorpions stung** Kanchana this time, but she wasn’t afraid. ⁶She gave them good **food**—usually **eggs** and meat. Some scorpions died and **other** scorpions were born in her 32 days with them.

*scorpions: small animals with six legs and a long tail

**stung: hurt by pushing a small, sharp part into your skin

NEW WORDS

inside *prep*

alone *adv*

climb *v*

artist *n*

other *det*

glass *n*

newspaper *n*

floor *n*

food *n*

only *adv*

refrigerator *n*

tourist *n*

egg *n*

>> See Glossary on page 92. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

3. Check your comprehension

Check (✓) the endings that are true.

a. Kanchana

- ___ never left the glass room for 32 days.
- ___ had a refrigerator in her room.
- ___ climbed up the walls of her glass box.
- ___ is an artist.

b. The scorpions

- ___ took a bath every day.
- ___ stung Kanchana.
- ___ ate eggs and meat.
- ___ stayed away from Kanchana.

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- a. Kanchana lived in ___ a big gl ___ box in a shop in Thailand.
- b. She was al ___ for 32 days, with only some news ___ rs, a TV, and 3,400 scorpions!
- c. Many shoppers and to ___ ts stopped to watch the art ___.
- d. Some scorpions were born and ot ___ scorpions died in her 32 days with them.

5. Listen to the story track 18

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- What was inside Kanchana's glass room?
- Why did she live there for 32 days?
- Who watched her?
- What happened to some of the scorpions?

About you...

- What question would you like to ask Kanchana?
- Would you like to be an artist like her? Why or why not?
- Are you afraid of any animals? Which ones?
- What do you have in your room at home?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

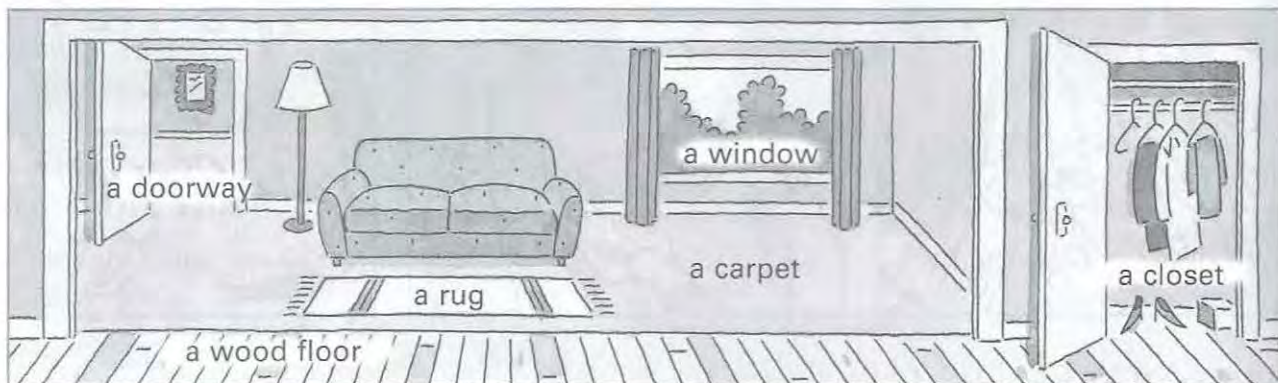
FOOD		
good/bad delicious spicy healthy/unhealthy junk vegetarian	food	Kanchana gave the scorpions good food. <i>What delicious food this is!</i> <i>My family eats spicy food at restaurants.</i> <i>He eats a lot of unhealthy food.</i> <i>I don't like soda and junk food.</i> <i>My favorite vegetarian food is noodles with tofu.</i>

- I eat a lot of _____ food and not much _____ food.
- My favorite _____ food is _____.
- I like to eat _____ at restaurants.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the picture.

A ROOM



- There is _____ in my room, but it's not very big.
- There is _____ near my bed.
- I don't have _____ in my room.

10. Take a dictation track 19

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

only refrigerator inside climb floor food



CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA Many people want a pet*. But some people (1) _____ have a small home, with no room (2) _____ for a dog or a cat. What can they do? They can get a cockroach**!

Cockroaches are more and more popular. "Yes, they are unusual pets," says John Olive, a worker in Australia's pet business. "But they are easy pets and not much work."

Pet cockroaches are not those little animals on the (3) _____ and

walls behind your (4) _____.

These cockroaches are huge—about four centimeters long and very fat. They have no wings, so they cannot fly. And they are not dirty.

The animals learn well, says Steve Austin, a cockroach lover in Australia.

They can (5) _____ over little hills and get their (6) _____.

And they can come to you when you call their name!

*pet: an animal that you keep in your home

**cockroach: an insect that lives in homes and comes out at night



Talk about the stories

Which story is more surprising? Which one did you like better? Why?