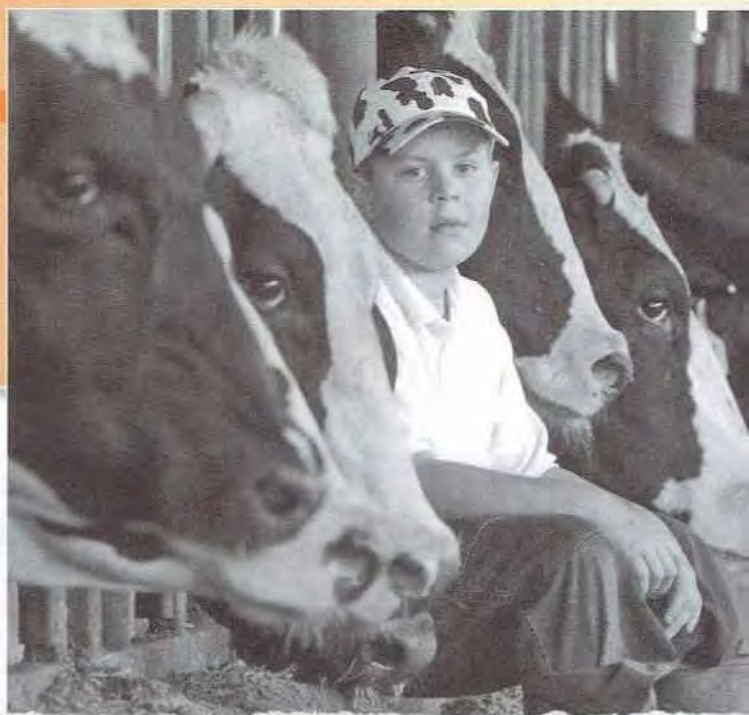


Cows Prefer Beethoven



1. Read the story

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

HEPHZIBAH, GA., USA ¹Mr. McElmurray, a **farmer**, had a problem. His 300 cows were not giving him **enough** milk. He often **complained** about it to his ten-year-old son, Daniel. ²The boy had an idea. “**Should** we play music for the cows?” he **wondered**. “**Perhaps** then they will give us more milk.”

³So Daniel did an **experiment**. For a week he played loud rock music for the cows. But it did not help at all. ⁴The next week the cows listened to country music. They gave only a little **extra** milk. ⁵The third week Daniel played classical music*—Beethoven, Mozart, and Bach—for the cows. They

gave much more milk than before—450 kilograms more! Classical music was clearly their favorite.

⁶Daniel **entered** a school competition** and won first place for his experiment. ⁷“I **guess** slower, quieter music helps cows **relax**,” he said afterward. ⁸Daniel is proud that he was able to **solve** his father’s problem. But now there is another problem on the **farm**. His father does not like classical music!

* classical music: music from 18th and 19th century Europe

** competition: a game or test that people try to win

NEW WORDS

farmer *n*
enough *det*

complain *v*
should *v*

wonder *v*
perhaps *adv*

experiment *n*
extra *adj*

enter *v*
guess *v*

relax *v*
solve *v*

farm *n*

>> See Glossary on page 95. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.



3. Check your comprehension

Put the sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–6.

- ___ Daniel entered a school competition.
- ___ He played different kinds of music for the cows for three weeks.
- ___ The experiment showed that the cows prefer classical music.
- ___ Daniel's father complained that his cows were not giving enough milk.
- ___ He won first place for his interesting experiment.
- ___ Daniel decided to try to solve his father's problem.

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Daniel's father, a fa_____, wasn't getting en_____ milk from his cows.
- He often com_____ed about it, so Daniel decided to do an exper_____.
- "Per_____s music will help the cows give us ex_____ milk," he thought.
- He was proud that he could so_____ the problem on the f_____.

5. Listen to the story track 30

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...

- Why did Daniel do the experiment?
- What did he learn about the cows? Does this surprise you?
- What happened when Daniel entered the competition?
- What do you think will happen on the farm in the future?

About you...

- What is your favorite kind of music?
- What kind of experiments have you done?
- What competitions have you entered?
- How do you help your family?

8. Learn word partnerships

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

COMPLAIN	
complain about something (to someone)	<p>Mr. McElmurray complained about his cows to Daniel.</p> <p><i>John complains about his job to his coworkers. I like to complain about the weather.</i></p>
complain constantly loudly	<p><i>My sister complains constantly about the noise. Mimi complained loudly about the food.</i></p>

- I _____ constantly about _____.
- Sometimes I complain _____ to _____.
- _____ complained about _____ to me.

9. Learn word groups

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

WAYS TO RELAX



listen to
music



eat out



see a movie



take a nap



take a walk



play a game

- On Sundays, I love to _____.
- I don't often _____.
- In the evening, I often _____.

10. Take a dictation track 31

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 87.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

should experiment wondered
eat out relax guess extra

Diners Prefer Beethoven

LEICESTER, ENGLAND Researchers* at the University of Leicester had an interesting question. “Will diners** spend more money if a restaurant plays music?” they (1) _____.

So they did an (2) _____ at a restaurant named Softley’s. First, they played no music at all. Diners spent about \$38.00 each. When the restaurant played rock music, diners spent a little more—about \$40.00 each. When classical music was playing, diners spent a lot of (3) _____ money—more than \$44.00 each!

“We found that people who (4) _____ prefer classical music,” one researcher explained. “Mozart and Beethoven help them (5) _____ and feel richer, and they spend more money in a restaurant.” Diners who heard classical music were buying more desserts*** and coffees.

“I (6) _____ in the future we (7) _____ be more careful about our music,” said James Davis, the restaurant owner. “We’ll play what the diners like.”



* researchers: people who study something carefully and do experiments to find out more about it
** diners: people who are eating in a restaurant
*** desserts: sweet things that you eat at the end of a meal



Talk about the stories

Imagine that you and a partner are Daniel McElmurray and James Davis. You are meeting for the first time. Tell each other about the experiments and how they will change your lives.