

## Learning from Animals

*An extension of "The hunters hunted — by photographers"*

Animals use characteristics like camouflage, stealth, keen senses of smell, hearing, and sight, and speed to hunt prey. Read **"The hunters hunted — by photographers"** (page 12-13, *What's Up* April 2018). Modern warfare uses similar strategies to overcome hostile nations. Instead of natural abilities, it uses technology.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAIRWORK

- Table 1 describes five strategies that modern warfare may have learnt from wildlife. Name the characteristics used in these strategies. (Hint: Use the list of characteristics mentioned in the introduction.)

| TABLE 1 | Characteristics used | Description of strategies   |
|---------|----------------------|---|
|         | a. Camouflage        | Colours and materials are used to conceal fighters, gun positions, vehicles and such from the enemy by making them blend in with the surrounding terrain.   |
|         | b. _____             | Acoustic sensors are used to detect sounds generated by submarines and other objects about a 1,000 km away.   |
|         | c. _____             | Very advanced technology is used in a network of listening posts worldwide to listen to satellite and phone communication, and even that between computers on a global scale. The information gathered provides an advantage over the enemy.                                      |
|         | d. _____             | The Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirit bomber is designed to fly without being detected by radar or infra-red sensors. It is even painted with non-reflective paint so as to make it difficult to spot visually. It allows the bomber to sneak up on the enemy without being discovered. |
|         | e. _____             | Night vision devices (NVD) mounted on rifle scopes and built into night goggles allow soldiers to see long distances clearly in almost absolute darkness. This makes it difficult for the enemy to do anything under the cover of darkness.                                       |

- Redraw Table 2 on the back of the sheet. Name an animal and describe how it uses the characteristic to hunt its prey. An example is given.

| TABLE 2 | Characteristics used | Name an animal and describe the strategy it uses to hunt prey        |
|---------|----------------------|--|
|         | Camouflage           | Chameleons change their body colour to blend in with the background. |
|         | Night vision         |  |
|         | Keen hearing         |  |
|         | Stealth              |  |