

UNIT 7 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

Amy: Welcome back to *Today's Bizarre*, I'm your host Amy Patterson, and today our topic is a strange one. Earlier this week, two 17-year-old hikers in northern California allegedly saw, and took a short video of a creature that appears to be, the mythical Bigfoot, or as others call it, Sasquatch. The giant animal is only seen briefly, and at a distance, before it scurried off into the woods. With us today is Bigfoot expert, Roger Mullins, who will tell us a little bit more on the story. Welcome Roger.

Roger: Thanks, Amy. Good to be on the show.

Amy: So, the first thing on everyone's mind. What did these kids see?

Roger: That's a good question. I've seen the video a number of times, and from what I can tell, the video seems authentic. But because the animal—or whatever it is—is off in the distance and is surrounded by tree branches and bushes, it is pretty difficult to know *exactly what* you are seeing. It is claimed to be Bigfoot by the hikers, but I'm a bit skeptical. There are a lot of bears in that part of California, and bears have been known to walk on two feet for short distances. So that could very possibly be what is in the video.

Amy: So tell us a little bit more about the legend of Bigfoot. There hasn't been a major sighting in years, and now this amazing video.

Roger: Many cultures have stories about giant, human-like creatures that live in the wilderness. In the Himalayas it is called Yeti, in North America, it's Bigfoot or Sasquatch, in Japan, it's Hibagon, and in Australia a creature named Yowie is said to exist. All are believed to be much taller than the average person, and are covered in hair.

Amy: So what's the difference between Bigfoot and Sasquatch?

Roger: Well, Sasquatch was derived from the Halkomelem word for a creature that lived in the mountains of the northwest United States and Western Canada near present-day Vancouver and Seattle. Not coincidentally, those are the regions where the creature is most often reported to be seen. The term Bigfoot has been used more recently to describe—

Amy: Let me guess: the size of the creature's feet.

Roger: That's correct. It's believed that the creature has feet that are two feet long and almost a foot wide. That's more than twice the size of an average human and much bigger than any bear species on the planet. A few footprints believed by some to be from Bigfoot have been found, though many, if not all, are considered to be fake by the larger scientific community.

Amy: What do you think, Roger? Is Bigfoot real? Or is it just a myth?

Roger: Well, that's a good question. It's certainly real in the tales of many cultures. But no dead Bigfoot or Yeti body has ever been found, and the vast majority of Bigfoot sightings are in areas where there are large black bear populations. Without any evidence except for a few controversial videos, it's hard to prove, despite the often quoted words of Carl Sagan: "Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence."

Amy: There you have it. We'll be back after a short break and a message from our sponsors.