



“Reading Series 2 - Porcupines” @ <http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free>

“This” refers to..

- A. relatively little pressure.
- B. the end of the quill.
- C. the last four millimeters of each quill.
- D. difficult post-attack extraction.

Reading Text - Porcupines:

Porcupines are slow-moving creatures that lack the speed to run away from predators. To compensate for this, defence comes in the form of some 30,000 quills that cover the back of each animal. Relatively little pressure is required for them to leave a porcupine's body and enter the tissue of its attacker, while barbs attached to the quills' ends make post-attack extraction difficult and painful. These devices, which cover just the last four millimetres of each quill, are the reason for **this**.

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SOME WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN THE TEXT

Barbs: a sharp points facing away from the tip of an arrow (for example) to make it difficult to remove.

Compensate: make up for something.

Extraction: remove something from a fixed position.

Predators: animals that hunt, kill and eat other animals for food.

Tissue: skin, flesh or muscle.