Only Human

As the new coronavirus spread across China and the world, experts began looking for where it began. Scientists believe the virus started in animals before jumping to humans. The virus is similar to those found in bats, but it is unlikely that bats would transmit it directly to humans. Scientists have looked for another possible transmitter and have settled on the exotic animal called the pangolin. The scales of this endangered animal, a cross between an anteater and armadillo, are prized in traditional Chinese medicine. Perhaps pangolins were on sale at the Seafood Market in Wuhan, where the virus originated.

Root of the Matter

A bad penny always turns up

When someone says *a bad penny always turns up*, they mean either a disreputable person or a disastrous event is likely to return. The phrase quite literally comes from pennies. In the Middle Ages, coins were made of pure copper, silver, or gold, and sometimes small pieces or “toenails” would be cut from the whole coin. Bad pennies were those with so many clippings taken out of them that they had lost much of their value. By the 14th century, disreputable men were likened to bad pennies, and by the 18th century, the metaphor was in common usage as a proverb and in print.

Word Scramble

C I Z L U Z Q A I

Indicating amused puzzlement

ANSWER: QUIZZICAL

Riddle Me This

You bought me for dinner but never eat me. What am I?

ANSWER: Cutlery