

Open comprehension

1 Look at the text in exercise 3. What kind of text is it?

- a an email
- b a blog post
- c a newspaper article

2 Match the animals in the box to the descriptions.

cheetah • kangaroo • monkey • penguin • shark • whale

- 1 It's a big cat and it's very fast.
- 2 It lives in the sea, but it isn't a fish. It's very big.
- 3 It's a black and white bird. It can't fly.
- 4 It lives in the sea and it's got lots of teeth. It's a kind of fish.
- 5 It lives in trees. It's got hands and a tail.
- 6 It's got small arms and big legs. It jumps a lot.

Exam tip

Before you read, look at the text. Is it an article? Is it an email? Different types of text have different information. Think about the type of text before you read because it helps you to understand the information in it.

3 Answer the following questions in your own words according to the information given in the text. Do not copy from the text.

- 1 Why does Maya mention buses in the first paragraph?
- 2 Why aren't whale sharks scary?
- 3 What does Maya say about whale sharks' age?
- 4 What are scientists trying to find out about whale sharks?

Nature girl

Whale sharks

Hi! I'm Maya.



My favourite animal is the whale shark, and I'd like to tell you more about this amazing animal. First of all, it's not a whale. It's a shark, but it's bigger than many whales! It's the biggest shark in the world. It's also the biggest fish in the world, because of course, sharks are fish. The biggest whale shark is 18 metres long. That's longer than a bus! (The smallest shark in the world, the dwarf lantern shark, is smaller than a person's hand!)

You might think that sharks are scary animals with big teeth, but whale sharks are calm and friendly. Their teeth are very small, so they eat tiny plants and animals, and sometimes small fish. They don't have to hunt for their food – they just open their big mouths!

Whale sharks can have a long life. Scientists have found a whale shark that was 50 years old. That's the oldest whale shark that they know about, but they think that some whale sharks are older.

Whale sharks swim slowly. Their usual speed is only around 5 kilometres per hour. That's slower than many people walk. However, they can swim very far to find food. For example, scientists found one whale shark that swam around 7,800 kilometres in one journey!

One thing about whale sharks is a mystery. Scientists still don't know where their babies are born. They are trying to find out so that they can help to save them. Sadly, the number of whale sharks in our oceans is decreasing quickly. We must save them!



4 Find words that have these meanings.

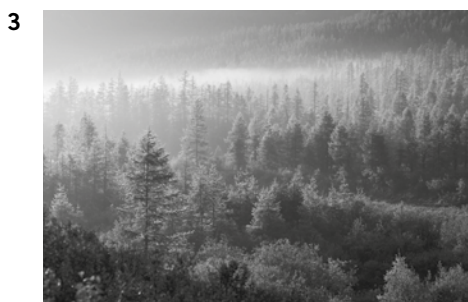
- a to find and kill an animal for food (paragraph 2)
- b how fast something or someone goes (paragraph 4)
- c something we don't know or understand (paragraph 5)
- d becoming smaller or less (paragraph 5)

A2 Key Part 5

- 1 Read the text in exercise 3 quickly. Which of these geographical features does Adam mention? Tick (✓) the boxes.

beach <input type="checkbox"/>	cave <input type="checkbox"/>	cliff <input type="checkbox"/>	desert <input type="checkbox"/>
forest <input type="checkbox"/>	island <input type="checkbox"/>	lake <input type="checkbox"/>	mountain <input type="checkbox"/>
ocean <input type="checkbox"/>	river <input type="checkbox"/>	valley <input type="checkbox"/>	waterfall <input type="checkbox"/>

- 2 Look at the photos and write a word from exercise 1.



✓ Exam tip

In Key Part 5 tasks, first read the complete text. Don't stop to think about the gaps. This is to get a general understanding of the text. Then look again at the gaps and especially the words which come just before and after the gap. Fill in the gap with the best word. Read the sentence again with your answer in the gap to check it.

- 3 For each question, write the correct answer. Write one word for each gap.

From: Adam
To: Isla



(1) was your weekend?
I (2) to an island call Mull, in Scotland.
It's beautiful! We saw (3) amazing
waterfall where a river goes over a cliff. (4)
are also some beautiful beaches, so we went swimming.
It was cold! We walked up a mountain called Ben More. I
(5) very tired after that! We also visited a
smaller island called Staffa. It's got amazing cliffs and a
cave. You can swim into the cave, (6) we
didn't do that because it looked scary!
Have you ever (7) to an island?
Write back soon!
Adam