The Blue Whales

The blue whale is not only the biggest whale living today; the blue whale is the biggest creature ever to have lived on Earth. They are mind-bogglingly gigantic; much larger than any of the dinosaurs. Blue whales and the other ocean giants live their whole lives in seawater.

Blue whales commonly reach the colossal length of 29m, that's roughly as long as three London red double-decker buses parked end to end. Blue whales in the Southern Hemisphere are generally larger than those in the Northern Hemisphere and female blues are larger than males.

The longest blue whale on record is a female measured at a South Georgia whaling station in the South Atlantic (1909); she was 33.58m. The heaviest blue whale was also a female hunted in the Southern Ocean, Antarctica, on 20 March 1947. She tipped the scales at 190 tonnes which is equivalent to about 30 elephants or 2500 people.

Blue whales are now extremely rare due to uncontrolled commercial whaling. Some populations could be endangered to the point of extinction.

Match the statement to the right answer!

1. Blue whales commonly reach the colossal length of 29m	●	● Main Idea
2. Blue whales in the Southern Hemisphere are generally larger than those in the Northern Hemisphere and female blues are larger than males.	●	● Habitat
3. The blue whale is the biggest creature ever to have lived on Earth.	●	● Physical features

4. Where is the largest blue whales live?

A. Northern Hemisphere

B. Southern Hemisphere

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C. Eastern Hemisphere

D. Western Hemisphere

5. How much does the heaviest whale weight?

A. 33.58 m

B. 30 m

C. 2500 tons

D. 190 tons

6. Why are blue whales extremely rare right now?

A. Due to uncontrolled commercial whaling

B. Due to global warming

C. There are lots of people who hunt whales

D. Blue whales can't live longer

Read the following text to answer questions number 7 and 8!

Jellyfish

Jellyfish are not really fish. They are invertebrate animals. This means that unlike fish or people, they have no backbones. In fact, they have no bones at all.

Jellyfish have stomachs and mouths, but no heads. They have nervous systems for sensing the world around them, but no brains. They are made almost entirely of water, which is why you can look through them.

Some jellyfish can glow in darkness by making their own light. The light is made by a chemical reaction inside the jellyfish. Scientists believe jellyfish glow for several reasons. For example, they may glow to scare away predators or to attract animals they like to eat.

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Most jellyfish live in salt water, apart from a few types that live in fresh water. Jellyfish are found in oceans and seas all over the world. They live in warm, tropical seas and in icy waters near the North and South poles.

7. Jellyfish body consists of three parts which are stomach, mouth, and head.

   A. True

   B. False

8. Reaction inside their nervous system make some jellyfish can glow in the dark.

   A. True

   B. False

Read the following text to answer questions number 9 and 10!

Bamboo

One of the most valuable and widespread plant is the bamboo. It is a tall treelike grass. There are more than 350 species. Most grow in Asia and on islands of the Indian and Pacific oceans. Although bamboo is a tropical plant, it can grow in a cooler temperate zones.

A single root may produce as many as 100 stems. They are hollow, woody, and jointed. The stems are sometimes 3 feet (0,9 meter) around. Sprouts grow fast, at times 1 foot (0,3 meter) or more a day. They may grow to 30, 50, or even 130 feet (9 to 40 meters) in height. Near the top are many branches. Some species do not bloom for 60 years or more.

Bamboo products range from food to houses. Asian people usually use the sprouts as vegetables. In East and Southeast Asia people use the hollow stems for water pipes and for building bridges and houses. Short sections serve as pails and cooking utensils. The stems make for walls, floors, and roofs. Thinner strips are woven into mats, chairs, cages, and curtains. Bamboo fishing rods are made of matched strips glued together. Split bamboo is also used for chopsticks and fan ribs. The inner parts of the stems of several species are made into quality papers.

9. Bamboo can grow outside tropical countries.

   A. True

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B. False

10. Quality papers are made from the inner parts of the stems of every bamboo species.

A. True

B. False

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