

Reading: a factual description

1 Read the text. Circle the correct answers.



The MEGALODON

There were once many different animals in the water from the ones we see today. There were sea birds called great auks and there were baiji: Chinese river dolphins. Another animal, now extinct, was the megalodon. Megalodons were huge sharks between 14 and 18 metres long. Their teeth were 21 centimetres long! These enormous creatures were very fast swimmers and were in the waters around Europe, Africa and North and South America between 16.1 and 1.6 million years ago. They were meat eaters and their favourite food was whales and seals.

- 1 Extinct animals are ones that *live* / *do not live* now.
- 2 Megalodons were *dolphins* / *sharks*.
- 3 Megalodons were very *big* / *small*.
- 4 Megalodons were *slow* / *fast*.
- 5 Megalodons were in *many different places* / *only one place*.

1 Complete the fact file with the words from the box.

75–65 million years ago archelon 4.6 metres fish and plants the open sea



FACT FILE

Name: archelon

Size: _____

Place: _____

Time: _____

Food: _____

Help with Writing

We read factual descriptions when we want to find out something really interesting about a subject. For example, in the description of the megalodon we learn that its teeth were 21 centimetres long. When you write a factual description, include information to make your readers say, ‘Wow!’

2 Write a factual description of the archelon. Use the information in the fact file and the description of the megalodon to help you.

Archelon

The archelon was a giant turtle.
