

UNIT #5 – WRITING SECTION PRACTICE

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1 Read *An Interesting Sea Creature* in your Student's Book.

How did the writer plan her writing? Read the steps.



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1. First, the writer chose a creature to review: _____
2. Next, the writer wrote down a list of details she could write about. She used an idea map.
3. Next, she researched the creature and completed the chart with statistics and details.

Scientific information	Habitat	Food	Physical characteristics	Interesting facts

4. Then she organized the paragraphs by topic.
Read her paragraphs, and write which details she included in each paragraph.



Paragraph 1: common name; type of species; habitat; _____

The delicate Denise pygmy seahorse is a species of fish that is found in Asia. Its natural habitat is in coral reefs deep under the sea. The reefs are anywhere from 13 to 90 meters under the surface. The seahorse uses camouflage to hide in the reefs. It also eats the soft coral in the reefs.

Paragraph 2: _____; some information from a scientist

The Denise pygmy seahorse is light orange in color, with a long, thin, pointed tail and a strange head that looks like a horse. It grows to a total length of 16 millimeters (about 0.6 inches). According to the Australian biologist Rudie Kuiter, its small size helps it to escape from predators.



Paragraph 3: _____; conclusion

An interesting thing about the Denise pygmy seahorse is that males have the babies, not females. Males can carry from 10 to 1,000 babies during their lives. Scientists think that, even though the Denise pygmy seahorse is such a small and delicate creature, it has been able to survive because it uses camouflage to hide and lives so deep in the corals.

5. Finally, she wrote the first version, called a draft, of her paragraphs. She used facts, statistics, and lots of descriptions to explain the size, shape, color, pattern, and origin of the creature. For example: *long, thin, pointed tail*.

Now it's time to plan your own writing.