

Name: _____

COMPREHENSION

Remember to read the passage more than once. To help to improve your vocabulary awareness and improve your comprehension, underline unfamiliar words in the passage, make a list of them and note their meanings in your book.

Here are some words from the passage below.

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|----------|------------|
| exerted | ferocious | generous | carnivores |
| | belief | | prey |

Read the following passage carefully.

Have you ever been bitten by someone? I am sure that you will agree that a bite can be very painful. Scientists have made an instrument (a bite force transducer) to measure the power of a bite. The transducer measures the amount of pounds per square inch (psi) exerted when a bite is made. To help you understand, consider a human biting into a piece of steak. He will use between 150/200 psi.

The most ferocious dogs have a bite force of about 600 psi. Lions and tigers generate about 1000psi. Their bite force is expectedly high since these carnivores use their powerful bites to rip prey apart.

For many years the world thought that the most powerful bite force came from the Great White Shark. This belief was proven wrong, when bite tests were carried out using the force transducer. The shark exerted a bite force up to 1 000 psi. However, the crocodile's bite force was at a stunning 5 000 psi. Scientists explain that sharks have **razor** sharp teeth and hence their bite force will not be as powerful as crocodile since they will be able to rip through flesh easily.

Next time you visit the zoo, or see a crocodile, keep your distance. If your hand or foot gets in his mouth, it will be impossible to open his mouth to get it out. Remember his bite is almost ten times more powerful than the most ferocious pit bull.

The following questions are about the passage which you have just read Write the correct answer for each question in the space provided. Pay attention to your spelling and grammar.

1. According to the passage, what is a bite force transducer?

2. As used in the passage, what does the abbreviation psi mean?

3. Why do scientists expect the shark to rip through flesh easily?

3. In paragraph 4, what useful advice is given by the writer?

5. Why do you think the writer uses the example of a human biting into a steak in the first paragraph?

6. What part of speech is the word razor as used in line 9 of the passage?

7. Why is the bite force of lions and tigers expected to be higher than a dog's?

8. Which word in the passage means applying force or pressure?

9. Why do you think the writer described the bite of the crocodile as **stunning**?

10. What is the main idea of the final paragraph?
