

After you listen

Work in groups. Talk about whales, using the following cues.

- their length and weight
- their feeding grounds and food
- the reasons for protecting whales

D. WRITING

Describing information from a table

 **Task 1.** *Work in pairs.* Read the description of the sperm whale and then complete the table that follows.

Sperm whales are the biggest animals on Earth that have teeth. They are carnivores, which means they eat meat. Although sperm whales can be found in all oceans, they prefer the waters with high squid populations, which are their main diet. A sperm whale can eat up to 1,500 kg of food each day. Sperm whales are big animals. The males can grow up to 18 metres long and weigh up to 54,000 kg while the females are a bit smaller with a length of 12 metres and a weight of 17,000 kg. A female sperm whale gives birth to one calf every five to seven years after a gestation period of fourteen to nineteen months. The life span of sperm whales can be up to sixty or seventy years. It is interesting to know that they also have the largest brain of any mammals. Sperm whale populations are at risk due to hunting and their accidental entrapment in fishing nets.



SPERM WHALE

RANGE & HABITAT	
SIZE	
FEEDING HABITS	
OFFSPRING	
LIFE SPAN	
SPECIAL FEATURES	
CONSERVATION CONCERN	

 **Task 2.** The table on the next page gives some information about the dolphin. Write a paragraph that describes the facts and figures provided in the table.



DOLPHIN

RANGE & HABITAT	Oceans worldwide Prefer coastal waters and bays
SIZE	Smallest: about 50 kg and 1.2 m Largest: up to 8,200 kg and 10 m
FEEDING HABITS	Carnivores. Eat mostly fish
OFFSPRING	Give birth to one calf every 2 years Gestation period: 11-12 months
LIFE SPAN	From 25 to 65 years Sometimes longer, depending on the species
SPECIAL FEATURES	Mammals, not fish Among the most intelligent animals
CONSERVATION CONCERN	At risk due to habitat pollution and accidental fishing net entrapment

E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- **Pronunciation:** / iə / - / eə / - / uə /
- **Grammar and vocabulary**
 1. *Should*
 2. *Conditional sentence type 2*

Pronunciation

- Listen and repeat.

/ iə /	/ eə /	/ uə /
here	pair	poor
dear	chair	sure
clear	square	tour
idea	where	usual
cheers	upstairs	casual
atmosphere	carefully	actually