

READING COMPREHENSION. TEXT 2

Read this text carefully and tick the correct answer.

THE HUNTING OF WHALES

Whales produce sounds to communicate with other whales. When they make these calls, they are indicating where they are and what they are doing. Water is an excellent means* for conducting sound. The sounds are so extremely loud that whales can communicate over hundreds or thousands of miles. Biologists and experts are worried about whales because boats and other human activities produce noise pollution** in the ocean and that is not good for the communication system of whales.



Image from Pixabay

Biologists think that whales have a sophisticated language but they do not really know what they say between them. Whales have large brains and can be quite intelligent. For example, whales can remember specific places along the coast and the ocean. They can travel far but they can return to the same places year after year.

In the past, whales were frequently hunted by people who used their parts to make various products. They are very attractive to everyone and they are in danger of extinction. The hunting of whales has unfortunately existed for thousands of years.

Many books and paintings are about whales. For example, in 1851, there was a book about a white whale called "***Moby-Dick or The Whale***". The writer was Herman Melville; he is a very popular North American writer.

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Moby-Dick is the story about Ishmael, a seaman. He sails on a ship called the Pequod. He wants to kill Moby-Dick. The whale bites his leg off*** and Ishmael gets angry. He wants revenge. Moby-Dick is one of the best novels ever written.

GLOSSARY:

- *means: mitjà.
- **noise pollution: contaminació acústica.
- ***bites his leg off: li mossegà la cama.

27. Whales make sounds to...

- a. sleep.
- b. breath.
- c. communicate.

28. According to the text, whales make the sounds to indicate _____ and what they are doing.

- a. their location
- b. their feelings
- c. where to sleep

29. Whales can communicate between them...

- a. only if they are near.
- b. hundreds or thousands of miles away.
- c. if they are a hundred miles away maximum.

30. The sounds that whales produce are...

- a. loud.
- b. quiet.
- c. dangerous.

31. Whales language is...

- a. easy.
- b. simple.
- c. complex.

32. Biologists and experts _____ whales.

- a. love hunting
- b. are worried about
- c. do not care about

33. Whales can be quite intelligent thanks to their _____ brains.

- a. large
- b. small
- c. simple

34. The hunting of whales started...

- a. thousands of years ago.
- b. ten years ago.
- c. in 1851.

35. Herman Melville is the name of a...

- a. boat.
- b. book.
- c. writer.

36. According to the text, Moby-Dick is a _____ novel.

- a. very good
- b. horrible
- c. funny

37. Put in order the information as it appears in the text.

A.

The hunting of
whales.

B.

The way whales
communicate.

C.

About the book
Moby-Dick.

- a. B → A → C
- b. B → C → A
- c. A → C → B

38. Choose an alternative title for the text.

- a. About whales.
- b. American writers.
- c. Ships in America.