MAN SURVIVES WHALE ORDEAL



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Expemo code:
1FMN-21LD-954

1 Warm up

Look at the definition below.

> ***ordeal (n)*** *- very difficult or unpleasant experience*

Now watch the short video. Decide which sentence best describes what happened in the video clip.

1. ☐ A whale is seen attacking a man, who fights the whale off using weapons before escaping.
2. ☐ A man is on a small boat in the sea when a whale appears, takes the man into its mouth, and then releases the man.
3. ☐ A man wearing a bright yellow jacket is trying to swim with a whale when the whale attacks him, before releasing him.

What do you think the news report will be about?

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2 Pre-listening task: general vocabulary

Part A: Match words with the correct definitions.

Group 1:

1.	creature (n)	a.	make food, drink, etc. go down your throat into your stomach
2.	kayak (n)	b.	a living thing, real or imaginary, that can move around, such as an animal
3.	swallow (v)	c.	when two or more people or things communicate with or react to each other
4.	occur (v)	d.	a type of light narrow boat that you move along in the water with a stick that has a flat part on the end
5.	interaction (n)	e.	happen

Group 2:

1.	shore (n)	a.	a feeling of extreme fear
2.	terror (n)	b.	an accident in which two vehicles, things or people crash into each other
3.	organism (n)	c.	the land along the edge of the sea, the ocean or a lake
4.	viral (adj.)	d.	a large whale with a raised area on its back
5.	collision (n)	e.	used to describe a piece of information, a video, an image, etc. that is sent rapidly over the Internet and seen by large numbers of people within a short time
6.	humpback whale (n)	f.	a living thing, especially one that is extremely small

Part B: Discuss these questions in pairs.

1. How could we avoid collisions between whales and boats?
2. As well as whales, what kinds of sea creatures can you name?
3. When you swim in the sea, do you try to stay close to the shore? If not, why not?



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3 Listening for specific information

Listen to the report. Tick the items you hear mentioned.

- ☐ experience
- ☐ phone
- ☐ scientists
- ☐ event
- ☐ sharks
- ☐ ship
- ☐ film
- ☐ teeth
- ☐ sports
- ☐ nature

4 Listening comprehension

For each question, select the answer that most accurately reflects the information given in the audio. Listen to the report again to check your answers.

1. Where is Adrián Simancas from?
   a. Brazil b. Colombia c. Chile
2. Who was Simancas with when he had the accident?
   a. his friends b. his brother c. his father
3. Who was injured in the ordeal?
   a. Simancas b. nobody c. the whale
4. What do humans have that whales don't have?
   a. teeth b. eyes c. a tail



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5 Focus on vocabulary

You are going to read an article in which three individuals give their opinion on natural encounters. Scan the text and find words that match the synonyms and definitions below in each paragraph.

1. _____ (n, para. 1): a loud, high shout
2. _____ (n, para. 1): a friendly sea animal that looks like a large fish, with a pointed mouth
3. _____ (adj., para. 2): helping you to rest and become less anxious
4. _____ (v, para. 2): hurt
5. _____ (adj., para. 2): not nice
6. _____ (v, para. 3): have a bad or harmful effect on something/somebody
7. _____ (adj., para. 3): clear

Our World or Theirs?

Three Individuals Discuss Natural Encounters

1. **Juliene, 24**

I was a long way from the coast when I first saw the shark. Just a dorsal fin above the water. It seemed to be moving around me in circles. I'm not a very good swimmer, but I knew that if I seemed scared, I could make the situation worse. So, I started swimming slowly back towards the beach. I was trying to get somebody's attention at the same time – my boyfriend or his friends – but they didn't see me. Then, the shark came towards me and I let out a scream. It was at this point that I realized it wasn't a shark at all – it was a dolphin! The dolphin seemed to be interested in me. Perhaps it could smell my fear, or maybe it just wanted to play. Everyone laughed when I told them the story later, but I still wondered what would have happened if it had been a shark.

2. **Martha, 42**

I have been studying whales for almost ten years. They really are beautiful animals, and it some ways they are quite similar to us. Did you know that they can sing? We're still trying to understand the strange noises whales make. Some people even listen to whale songs at home. It's quite a relaxing sound! Although whales can be interesting creatures, it's important not to get too close to them if you see them in the wild. Humans used to kill whales for food, and sometimes we can harm them without meaning to do so. Whales often get caught in nets, and find the noises we make with ships, for example, very unpleasant. They are best watched from a distance!

3. **Chris, 37**

Animal attacks on humans are likely to increase as our climate warms up. Tiger attacks, for example, can occur when the creature has its home damaged or destroyed by farming or other human activities. With no animals left to hunt, the tiger may approach human towns or villages. In the ocean, the cause and effect may be less obvious. Some were surprised when orcas – better known as killer whales – began attacking private boats. I think it's a case of animals all over the world being forced out of their environment by human activity. This is likely to cause new diseases to appear, too, with some viruses moving from animals to humans. Perhaps it's time to start thinking about the natural world as something we exist within, rather than a threat that we need to fight against.

Sources: BBC, New York Times, The Guardian

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6 Reading comprehension

Part A: Read the article again. Match statements with the correct speakers. Some statements can be matched to more than one speaker. One of the statements cannot be matched to any of the speakers and should be marked 'Not given'.

Chris Juliene Martha Not given

1. They think that humans are more likely to be attacked by animals in the future. → _____
2. They were attacked by a shark. → _____
3. They had an encounter with an animal in the ocean. → _____
4. They think that we shouldn't get too close to whales. → _____

Part B: For each question, choose the answer you believe best suits the speaker.

1. How did Juliene react when she saw the animal coming towards her?
   a. She tried to attack it.
   b. She screamed.
   c. She tried to scare it away.
2. What interesting fact does Martha mention about whales?
   a. She talks about the way they look after their children.
   b. She discusses their intelligence.
   c. She talks about the way they appear to sing.
3. How does Chris think we should think of the natural world?
   a. He thinks we should try to keep away from the natural world because it can be dangerous to us.
   b. He thinks we should try to fight against the natural world.
   c. He believes that we should think of the natural world as something we are a part of.



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7 Talking point

In pairs or small groups, discuss the following questions.

1. Why do you think the whale took Simancas into its mouth?
2. Have you ever had an encounter with an animal that scared you? If so, what happened?
3. Do you think that, in general, people are failing to protect the natural world?
4. Why do you think some people find listening to whale songs relaxing? Would you enjoy listening to whale noises?
5. Why do you think that there are stories about whales swallowing humans if it isn't possible for them to do so?
6. Which animal do you think is the most dangerous to humans?
7. Do you think that future humans will learn to live as part of the natural world, rather than fighting against it?



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8 Extended activity: close listening

Look at the transcript for the report. In pairs, fill in the missing words from the list below, then listen to the report again to check your answers.

event	experience	experts	feed	giant
kayaking	mouth	Pinnochio	swim	video

Newsreader: A man from Chile has spoken of his _____ [1] after a humpback whale caught him in its _____ [2].

Newsreader: The man, who was _____ [3] with his father at the time, was taken into the mouth of the _____ [4] sea creature – along with his kayak – before being released after a few seconds.

Newsreader: Adrián Simancas described the "terror" he felt during the _____ [5], which was caught on film by his father, Dell. After the whale let him go, Simancas was able to _____ [6] to his father's kayak. Both men were unharmed in the ordeal.

Newsreader: The _____ [7] has since gone viral, with watchers comparing Simancas to _____ [8] and Jonah, who were both swallowed by whales. However, scientists have since pointed out that humpback whales have throats that are too small to actually swallow a human being and don't have teeth.

Newsreader: Humpback whales are found in oceans around the world and _____ [9] on small fish and tiny organisms such as plankton.

Newsreader: Swimmers and those enjoying water sports could still be injured by the creatures, which can reach around sixty feel in length, and _____ [10] warn that human-whale interactions should be avoided if possible. Collisions with boats have been known to occur, often resulting in the death of the whale.

Newsreader: Simancas has said that he will stay closer to shore in the future and that the experience has left him with a deeper respect for nature.

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