

Patagonian Toothfish



As fisheries throughout the world are depleted by destructive fishing practices, fishing companies are turning to the diverse life of the Southern Ocean. One of the major victims of the “gold rush” mentality that has developed among fishing companies is the Patagonian Toothfish.

The Patagonian Toothfish is a truly remarkable fish that plays an important role in the Southern Ocean ecosystem. It grows slowly, and up to more than two meters long. It can live for 50 years and does not breed until it is at least 10 years old. It lives in deep waters (from 300 to 3,500 meters) and is found on sea mounts and continental shelves around most sub-Antarctic islands. Like many deep-sea species, little is known about the Patagonian Toothfish. We do know, however, that it is part of the sperm whale's diet, and scientists estimate that it comprises up to 98 per cent of the elephant seal's fish diet.

In the mid-1980s, overfishing forced dozens of Spanish, South Korean and Japanese industrial fishing vessels out of their national waters. The vessels moved to Chilean waters where they caught fish such as Austral Hake and Golden Kingclip. By the early 1990s, however, overfishing caused the collapse of these fisheries. The industrial fishing fleets then targeted the Patagonian Toothfish. By 1994, fishing for Patagonian Toothfish spread to the coast of Argentina. Illegal, or ‘pirate’, fishing for Toothfish was rampant. When the population of Patagonian Toothfish in South American waters became depleted, the illegal fishers moved eastwards.

- 1** Why are fishing companies turning to the Southern Ocean?
- A** for its diverse life
 - B** it contains many deep sea species
 - C** fisheries elsewhere are depleted
 - D** it has sea mounts and continental shelves
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- 2** When did the industrial fishing fleets first target the Patagonian Toothfish?
- A** mid-1980s
 - B** early 1990s
 - C** after 1994
 - D** early 2000s
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- 3** The purpose of this text is to
- A** discuss the habitat of toothfish.
 - B** explain how fishing has affected the toothfish.
 - C** inform people about the life cycle of toothfish.
 - D** argue for tighter fishing regulations for toothfish.
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- 4** What is common between the Patagonian Toothfish and other deep sea creatures?
- A** They are all part of the Sperm Whale's diet.
 - B** Human beings do not know much about them.
 - C** They live for much longer than creatures living on land.
 - D** Human beings have caused the depletion of their populations.
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- 5** The term "gold rush" is used in this text to emphasise
- A** the colour of the toothfish.
 - B** the attitude of the fishermen.
 - C** the price of fish internationally.
 - D** the depths at which vessels trawl for fish.

Grammar

Choose the best word for each blank space.

My coach, along with his family, usually ___(6)___ us every weekend.
But I have just found out that ___(7)___ he has planned a surprise vacation for his family, they will not visit this weekend. I feel that he ___(8)___ us earlier.

6	A. visit B. visits C. is visiting D. are visiting
7	A. when B. since C. whether D. therefore
8	A. can inform B. could inform C. could be informing D. could have informed

Spelling

Choose the correctly spelt word for each blank space.

We were provided fantastic ___(9)___ on our visit to the island kingdom.
The views were ___(10)___ and the rooms were truly ___(11)___.

9	A. acomodation B. accomodation C. accommodation D. accommadation
10	A. magnficent B. magnifisent C. magnificent D. magnificient
11	A. luxurius B. luxorious C. luxureous D. luxurious

Punctuation

Choose the best option for each blank space.

The Principal has created a new rule regarding the use of __ (12) __ they are to be switched off at all times except during breaks. Failure to follow the rule will result in punishment __ (13) __ a fine. Other __ (14) __ attempts to regulate the use of phones have been equally drastic.

12	A. phones: B. phones, C. phones; D. phones.
13	A. and;or B. and-or C. and:or D. and/or
14	A. schools B. school's C. schools' D. schools's

Vocabulary

Choose the best word to replace each **bold** word. The meaning of the sentence should stay the same.

He was an outstanding **orator**. The auditorium was **brimming** with anticipation. He didn't disappoint, and the audience were left to **contemplate** life.

15	The best word to replace <i>orator</i> is A. actor B. singer C. dancer D. speaker
16	The best word to replace <i>brimming</i> is A. overflowing B. fighting C. exciting D. arriving
17	The best words to replace <i>contemplate</i> are A. reflect on B. laugh about C. yearn for D. indulge in