

My first snorkeling experience

Last semester, I was sent to Manado North Sulawesi to represent my school at a national storytelling competition. At the end of our stay there, all student participants and teachers were offered a free snorkeling trip to Bunaken National Marine Park.

Early in the morning, we left Manado harbor for Bunaken island by motorboat. It took us about 40 minutes to get there. We got off the motorboat with excitement and headed towards a snorkeling rental not far from the beach. Our tour guide helped us rent sets of snorkeling gears for all of us. At that time, I was not sure about using all the snorkeling gears. I didn't dare to ask. Luckily, while I was struggling to put on the mask, the snorkel, and the fins, one of the participants approached me and offered help.

When we were all set, we began swimming from the beach to the snorkeling site. It took us only 5 minutes to see the amazing underwater world. The sky was blue and the water was clear so we had no trouble finding a beautiful house reef. I could observe a variety of corals and fishes. While I was swimming a little further down, I saw green sea turtles. I lost track of how many turtles I met along the way!

To finish off the day, we stopped by a local restaurant before returning to Manado. We enjoyed tuna, cakalang, and papaya leaves as our lunch. We were still eating when out of the blue a cat jumped on our table and stole my tuna. We were all shocked but then we laughed.

The snorkeling day trip was the most memorable experience I had with other students from across Indonesia. I was grateful.

A. True or False

Read the text "My First Snorkeling Experience". Write TRUE or FALSE for each statement.

1. The writer went to Manado to represent the school in a national storytelling competition.

Answer: _____

2. The participants traveled to Bunaken Island by bus.

Answer: _____

3. The writer received help from another participant to put on the snorkeling equipment.

Answer: _____

4. The writer saw green sea turtles while snorkeling.

Answer: _____

5. A dog jumped onto the table and stole the writer's tuna.

Answer: _____

B. Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences using the correct words from the text.

Word Bank: motorboat – clear – corals – tuna – grateful

6. The participants traveled to Bunaken Island by _____.
7. The water was _____, so they could see the underwater world easily.
8. The writer found beautiful _____ and fishes underwater.
9. The writer and the other participants enjoyed _____ for lunch.
10. At the end of the trip, the writer felt _____ for the memorable experience.

Questions

1. Who sent Monita to go snorkeling in Bunaken National Marine Park?
Her school
2. Why did Monita go to Manado?

3. When did Monita go for a snorkeling trip?

4. Who was with Monita during the snorkeling trip?

5. How did Monita and other students get to Bunaken island?

6. What were the snorkeling gears that Monita put on?

7. In paragraph 2, who helped Monita to put on the snorkeling gears?

8. What did Monita see underwater of Bunaken?

9. In paragraph 3, find a phrase which has similar meanings with a place where corals live.

10. Why is it easy to find a house reef when the sky is blue and the water is clear?

11. How did Monita think and feel about the snorkeling trip?

Sentence Bank:

1. House reef.
2. A mask, a snorkel, and fins.
3. A variety of corals and fishes.
4. One of the participants/students.
5. Other student participants and their teachers.
6. They traveled from Manado to Bunaken island by motorboat.
7. Accept any possible answer (Example: We cannot see anything in murky water).
8. She went to Manado to represent her school at a national storytelling competition.
9. Last semester/at the end of her stay in Manado during a national storytelling competition.
10. Monita thought the snorkeling trip with other students from across Indonesia was the most memorable experience she had and she was grateful for that.