



4th Online Learning #2 ELA

Subject: English Language Arts

State: Ohio

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

School Name: _____

Read the passage from *Face to Face with Sharks* and the passage from *Shark Life*. Then, answer the questions.

Paired Texts - Face to Face with Sharks; Shark Life

by

from *Face to Face with Sharks*

by David Doubilet and Jennifer Hayes

¹ We have photographed hundreds of sharks around the world. Different shark species have different personalities. Sand tiger sharks are calm, and we can swim with them. Great white sharks are very fast, aggressive predators, so we photograph them from a special shark cage. We are always excited to see a shark while we are diving, but we are always careful and cautious because we are visitors in their world.

² We have never been bitten by a shark. However, some sharks try to bite our camera strobe lights. The sharks sense the batteries' electric charge, and they think the strobes are alive and might taste good.

³ You never know when you will discover a shark surprise. One day we were swimming in eight-foot-deep water off the coast of Tasmania, a large island south of Australia. We looked down and saw more than 15 sawsharks with long snouts, called rostrums, hiding in green algae. We were shocked to see them there because sawsharks usually live in over 100 feet of water. These female sharks may have come into shallow water to birth their pups.



Shark expert Mark Addison named this shark Barbara Ann. She and many other tiger sharks migrate to Aliwal Shoal off South Africa every year. Tiger sharks have beautiful stripes, but like tigers, they can be aggressive and unpredictable.

⁴ We had our favorite shark dive on a very calm day off Gansbaai, South Africa. We got in our round metal cage and went in. Right away, a 15-foot great white swam out of the gloom and smashed our cage hard enough to knock us down. She came back to the cage again and again, showing us her razor-sharp teeth and a mouth that could swallow us whole. More and more great whites appeared out of nowhere. Four sharks

circled our cage at the same time. We stayed in the cage until the sun went down, even though we were cold. That day, 17 different great white sharks came to check us out. It was the best day ever!

from *Shark Life*

by Peter Benchley

¹ Something was moving against the blue. Something dark. It was there and gone and there again. It wasn't coming from the side or circling me. It was coming straight at me, slowly, deliberately, unhurried, emerging from the mist.

² I stopped breathing-not intentionally but reflexively, as if by stopping my breath I could stop all movement. I heard my pulse hammering in my ears. I wasn't afraid, exactly. I had been afraid, before, on the boat, but by now I had passed through fear. I was in a state of excitement and something like shocked disbelief.

³ There it is! Feel the pressure in the water as the body moves through it. The size of it! My God, the size!

⁴ The animal kept coming, and now I could see all of it: the pointed snout, the steel gray upper body in stark contrast with the ghostly white belly, the symmetry of the pectoral fins, the awful knife blade of the dorsal fin. The tail fin swung powerfully back and forth, propelling the enormous body toward me. It came slowly, steadily, as if it had no need for speed, for it knew it could not be stopped.

⁵ It did not slow, did not hesitate. Its black eyes showed no interest or excitement. As it drew within a few feet of me, it opened its mouth. I saw first the lower jaw, crowded with jagged, needle-pointed teeth; then, as the upper jaw detached from the skull and dropped, the huge, triangular cutting teeth, each side serrated like a saw blade.

⁶ The great white's mouth opened wider and wider, until it seemed it would swallow the entire cage, and me within it. I stared into the huge pink and white cavern that narrowed into a black hole, the gullet. I could see rows and rows of spare teeth buried in the gum tissue. Each tooth was a holstered weapon waiting to replace a tooth lost in battle. Far back on each side of the massive head, gill flaps fluttered open and shut, letting in flickering rays of light.

⁷ A millisecond before the mouth would have banged into the cage, the great white bit down and was rammed forward by a sudden thrust of its powerful tail. The upper teeth struck four inches from my face. They scraped noisily-horribly-against the aluminum bars. Then the lower teeth gnashed quickly, looking for something solid to sink into.

⁸ I shrank back, stumbling, until I could cringe in relative safety in a far corner of the cage.

⁹ My brain shouted, You you of all people ought to know: HUMAN BEINGS DO NOT BELONG IN THE WATER WITH GREAT WHITE SHARKS!

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1 Part A

Which statement explains the **main** difference between the passage from *Face to Face with Sharks* and the passage from *Shark Life*?

- (A) The authors have different reasons for being in the water with a shark.
- (B) The authors have different reactions to being in the water with a shark.
- (C) The authors share experiences with different species of sharks.
- (D) The authors' experiences with sharks have different outcomes.

2 Part B

Which sentences from the passages support the answer to Part A? Select **one** sentence from each passage.

- (A) "The great white's mouth opened wider and wider, until it seemed it would swallow the entire cage...." (*Shark Life*, paragraph 6)
- (B) "A millisecond before the mouth would have banged into the cage, the great white bit down and was rammed forward by a sudden thrust of its powerful tail." (*Shark Life*, paragraph 7)
- (C) "...HUMAN BEINGS DO NOT BELONG IN THE WATER WITH GREAT WHITE SHARKS!" (*Shark Life*, paragraph 9)
- (D) "We looked down and saw more than 15 sawsharks with long snouts, called rostrums... (*Face to Face with Sharks*, paragraph 3)
- (E) "She came back to the cage again and again, showing us her razor-sharp teeth and a mouth that could swallow us whole." (*Face to Face with Sharks*, paragraph 4)
- (F) "It was the best day ever!" (*Face to Face with Sharks*, paragraph 4)