



## Quick Check

## Blue Whales: Giant Mammals

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of the section "Blowholes and Blubber"?
  - Ⓐ Baleen works as a filter.
  - Ⓑ Blue whales are mammals that have adapted to living in the sea.
  - Ⓒ Blue whales can be found gliding through every ocean on the planet.
  - Ⓓ Krill are tiny shrimplike creatures.
2. Read this sentence: *The blue whale has a large mouth but a very small **esophagus**.* What is the meaning of the word **esophagus**?
  - Ⓐ a system that sends high-frequency sound waves through water
  - Ⓑ a strong material that makes up hair, hooves, and fingernails
  - Ⓒ the fat under the skin that keeps marine mammals warm
  - Ⓓ the muscle-lined tube that carries food from the throat to the stomach
3. Under which section title would you expect to learn about baby blue whales?
  - Ⓐ "Those Big Baby Blues"
  - Ⓑ "From Sea to Shining Sea"
  - Ⓒ "Song of the Sea"
  - Ⓓ "Blowholes and Blubber"
4. What is the author's purpose for writing this book?
  - Ⓐ to inform readers about blue whales
  - Ⓑ to entertain readers with whale jokes
  - Ⓒ to inform readers about types of sonar
  - Ⓓ to persuade readers to buy a whale

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Quick Check *(continued)*

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5. Which of the following facts from the book supports the opinion that a blue whale's size is impressive?
  - Ⓐ It can weigh as much as 200 tons and be as long as 100 feet.
  - Ⓑ It is can stay underwater for about thirty minutes.
  - Ⓒ It leaves circles called "flukeprints" when it dives.
  - Ⓓ It is considered a shallow diver as it rarely goes deeper than 700 feet.
  
6. **Extended Response:** How does the blue whale, a mammal, compare to and contrast with fish that swim in the sea? Would you rather be a blue whale or a fish? Justify your answer.



1. **(B)** *Main Idea and Details*
2. **(D)** *Vocabulary*
3. **(A)** *Main Idea and Details*
4. **(A)** *Author's Purpose*
5. **(A)** *Fact or Opinion*
6. Answers will compare the blue whale to a fish. Possible comparisons could include the following: they both have tails; they both live in the ocean; blue whales breathe air and fish do not; blue whales give birth to live babies and fish lay eggs. Answers will then explain which sea creature the student would rather be, with an explanation for the student's choice.