

Read the article, then answer the questions on the following page.

Up close with a giant whale shark



IMAGINE swimming next to an animal that could fit you in his mouth and still have room to spare...

That didn't worry five-year-old snorkeller Kieran Liu, who was happy to swim next to this great whale shark.

It was the first time young American Kieran had been swimming in the open ocean.

"On the day, we were the first ones in the water," said photographer Eric Cheng.

"Kieran was suited up first and just jumped in some 20 miles from land. He was amazing, not

once did he display any fear."

Luckily this 10m (40ft) long whale prefers plankton and fish eggs.

Every year in late summer, huge numbers of little tunny fish gather in the waters off Isla Mujeres in Mexico to spawn.

This attracts up to 100 whale sharks at a time, and a few brave humans, like Kieran, go into the water with them.

Enlarged article:

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Carefully read the article 'Up close with a giant whale shark' and then answer the following questions:



1) Are these sentences true or false? Write **T** or **F** by each one.

☐

Whale sharks eat humans.

☐

Kieran encountered the whale shark the first time he swam out in the ocean.



2) Why are whale sharks attracted to the sea off Mexico?

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3) Find and copy two words that mean '**worry**'?

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4) Why has the journalist included a quotation in this article?

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5) Give three ways that '**Up close with a giant whale shark**' is written in the style of a newspaper article?

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6) What details in the article show that the journalist is presenting Kieran Liu as courageous to have got into the water with a whale shark?

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7) Sharks are often portrayed in newspapers, films and other media as frightening creatures. What impression of the whale shark do you think the journalist wants to give?

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