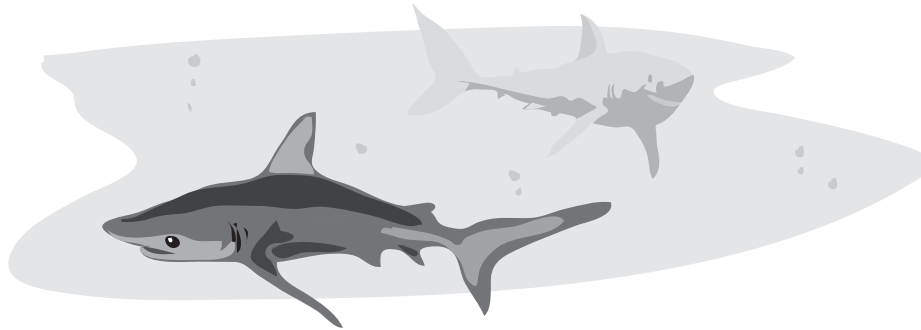


Text Structure and Language Features: Example 2



Text Structure - Information report

General statement - Identifies and classifies

Description - includes habitat, appearance, feeding habits etc.

SHARKS

Sharks are fish. They belong to the group called Elasmobranchii.

Sharks live in waters all around the world. They live in every ocean and in some rivers and lakes.

Other fish have bones but sharks don't. Their skeletons are made from cartilage which is not as hard as bone.

Sharks can range in size from 18cm to 15m but most sharks are in the middle, around 1.5m - 2.1m in length. Most sharks have bodies shaped like cigars so they can move easily in the water.

Sharks have about 5 rows of teeth. The front teeth are the biggest. Sharks don't chew most food. They eat it in big pieces. Many people are afraid of sharks because of their big teeth but they don't usually attack people.

All sharks are carnivores (meat eaters) and they may eat fish, squid, other sharks, marine mammals and other small animals.

Language Features

Use of sentences and statements throughout

Use of general nouns, e.g. sharks

Use of timeless present tense – typical of much scientific writing, e.g. are, belong, live

Use of relating verbs, e.g. are, have

Use of adverbial phrases to locate, e.g. in the middle, in some rivers and lakes

Use of technical language, e.g. elasmobranchii, carnivores

Use of nouns to build topic information, e.g. skeleton, bones

Use of adverbial phrases to build description, e.g. from cartilage

Use of adjectives to describe, e.g. hard, biggest, big

Use of action verbs to build information, e.g. move, eat