

# Swallowed by a whale

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



Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-57450685>

## **A US lobsterman has been describing how he escaped being swallowed by a humpback whale.**

Michael Packard says he was diving when he ended up in the marine giant's mouth for about 30-40 seconds off Provincetown, Massachusetts.

The leviathan spat him out and Mr Packard was left with nothing more than a suspected dislocated knee.

Mr Packard, 56, and his crewmate took their boat, the Ja'n J, off Herring Cove on Friday morning where conditions were excellent, with water visibility at about 20ft.

After jumping off the vessel in scuba gear into the water, he "felt this huge bump and everything went dark". He thought he had been attacked by one of the great white sharks that swim in the area, "and then I felt around and I realised there was no teeth".

"And then I realised: 'Oh my God, I'm in a whale's mouth and he's trying to swallow me. This is it. I'm going die'. Then all of a sudden he went up to the surface and just erupted and started shaking his head."

"I just got thrown in the air and landed in the water. I was free and I just floated there. I couldn't believe... I'm here to tell it."

His topside crewmate, who had been desperately scanning the water for telltale bubbles from Mr Packard's oxygen respirator, hauled him back into the boat.

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## Main points and detail

1) What was the name of Mr Packard's boat?

\_\_\_\_\_ E3.9R. 1 mark

2) How did Mr Packard know it was not a great white shark?

\_\_\_\_\_ L1.9R. 1 mark

3) Who hauled Mr Packard back onto the boat?

\_\_\_\_\_ L1.9. 1 mark

4) What was "about 20ft"?

\_\_\_\_\_ E3.9R. 1 mark

## Words and language

5) Use a dictionary to look up the word 'leviathan'. Write your definition below.  
(If there is more than one definition, try to work out which is most accurate.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E3.11R, L1.17R. 1 mark

6) Which quotation from the text is an example of informal language?

<b>a</b>	the leviathan spat him out	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b>	Oh my God, I'm in a whale's mouth	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>c</b>	I was free and I just floated there.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>d</b>	conditions were excellent, with water visibility at about 20ft.	<input type="checkbox"/>

L1.16R. 1 mark

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## Grammar and punctuation

- 7) There is a grammar error in paragraph 4. Find the error and write the corrected sentence here.

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E3.15W, L1.20W. 1 mark

- 8) There are three apostrophes in this sentence:  
**Oh my God, I'm in a whale's mouth and he's trying to swallow me.**

Which apostrophe is used to show ownership?

the first apostrophe	<input type="checkbox"/>	the second	<input type="checkbox"/>	the third	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tick one answer. L1.18R. 1 mark

- 9) Explain the purpose of the two commas in this sentence:  
**His topside crewmate, who had been desperately scanning the water for telltale bubbles from Mr Packard's oxygen respirator, hauled him back into the boat.**

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L1.18R. 1 mark

## Purpose

- 10) The main purpose of the text is to tell you:

<b>a</b>	which boat Mr Packard was on.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b>	what happened to Michael Packard when he went diving.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>c</b>	where to see whales in Massachusetts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>d</b>	how to avoid being swallowed by a whale.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tick one answer. E3.10R. 1 mark

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## Writing Task

Imagine you have visited an aquarium. Write about your experience. You may wish to consider:

- The sea creatures that you saw.
- Facts you learnt about sea life.
- Whether you enjoyed your experience.

*(Most types of whales are not able to be kept in captivity due to their enormous size.)*

Write **8-10 sentences**. At least **3 must be compound or complex sentences** that use conjunctions. Use at least **2 paragraphs**. Check your **spelling, punctuation and grammar**.

(16 marks – 6 for SPaG, 10 for composition)

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