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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 3
Scientists unlock secrets to seahorses

17th December, 2016

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

For the first time, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and unique, but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have worked out the genetic code of the Southeast Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now have the genetic map of all of its DNA. This means scientists can find out a lot more about this sea creature than before. They can now start to figure out why seahorses are so different to other fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no teeth. Another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females. In addition, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others from China and Singapore helped to sequence the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a cell or organism. Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years ago. They began to take on their unusual shape, which resembles a horse. There is a total of 54 species of seahorse. Its scientific name is Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' comes from the Ancient Greek word *hippos* meaning 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be written as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a dash between the two words (sea-horse).

Sources: http://www.**csmonitor.com**/Science/2016/1215/What-makes-the-seahorse-so-unusual
http://www.**redorbit.com**/news/science/1113416837/sequence-seahorse-genome-121516/
https://en.**wikipedia.org**/wiki/Seahorse

WARM-UPS

1. SEAHORSES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about seahorses. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

> the first time / secrets / unique / seahorse / map / DNA / teeth / babies / swim / scientists / cell / organism / unusual shape / species / monster / separate / dash

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. HUMAN GENOME: Students A **strongly** believe that unlocking the human genome will answer all our health problems; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SEA CREATURES: What do you know and what do you want to know about these sea creatures? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	qqqqqqq	qqqqqqq
Seahorses		
Starfish		
Dolphins		
Jelly fish		
Tuna		
Clown fish		

5. CODE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "code". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SECRETS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important secrets to unlock at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- the human genome
- how to get rich
- UFOs
- how to stay young
- a happy life
- success
- the universe
- my best friend's secrets

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

a. The seahorse is a fish. **T / F**
b. Scientists unlocked the code to the lion tail seahorse. **T / F**
c. Male seahorses give birth to baby seahorses. **T / F**
d. Seahorses do not swim horizontally. **T / F**
e. Scientists from three countries unlocked the seahorse's genome. **T / F**
f. Seahorses started to get their shape a million years ago. **T / F**
g. There are over 154 different types of seahorse. **T / F**
h. The word seahorse comes from Latin. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

1. unlocked	a. odd
2. secrets	b. understand
3. figure out	c. also
4. creature	d. different
5. In addition	e. mysteries
6. sequence	f. animal
7. information	g. looks like
8. unusual	h. data
9. resembles	i. order
10. separate	j. opened

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

1. For the first	a. teeth
2. worked out the genetic	b. the Ancient Greek
3. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no	c. like other fish
4. male seahorses carry babies and give	d. resembles a horse
5. seahorses do not swim horizontally	e. two separate words
6. take on their unusual shape, which	f. time
7. There is a total of 54	g. between the two words
8. The word 'Hippocampus' comes from	h. code
9. can also be written as	i. birth
10. hyphenated with a dash	j. species of seahorse

GAP FILL

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

For the first (1) _____, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and (2) _____, but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have worked out the genetic (3) _____ of the Southeast Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now have the genetic map of all of its DNA. This means scientists can find out a lot more about this sea (4) _____ than before. They can now start to (5) _____ out why seahorses are so different to other fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no (6) _____. Another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and give (7) _____ to them instead of females. In addition, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim (8) _____ (up and down).

code

figure

birth

unique

vertically

time

teeth

creature

Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others from China and Singapore helped to (9) _____ the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a (10) _____ or organism. Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years (11) _____. They began to take on their unusual shape, which (12) _____ a horse. There is a total of 54 (13) _____ of seahorse. Its scientific name is Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' (14) _____ from the Ancient Greek word *hippos* meaning 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be (15) _____ as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a (16) _____ between the two words (sea-horse).

cell

comes

sequence

dash

resembles

written

ago

species

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1) the world's most recognizable and unique, but least _____
   a. understanding fish
   b. understandable fish
   c. understands fish
   d. understood fish
2) This means scientists can find out a lot more about _____
   a. this sea creative
   b. this sea creature
   c. this sea creeper
   d. this sea created
3) Another difference is the male brooding _____
   a. off their young
   b. of them young
   c. of their youngish
   d. of their young
4) male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them _____
   a. instead of females
   b. instead of he-males
   c. instead of the males
   d. instead of free males
5) seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they _____ (up and down)
   a. swim vertically
   b. swim vertical
   c. swim virtually
   d. swim burr tickling
6) others from China and Singapore helped to _____ genome
   a. sequence though
   b. sequence then
   c. sequence them
   d. sequence the
7) a map of all the genes and genetic information in a _____
   a. cell or organization
   b. cell or organ is an
   c. cell or organism
   d. cell or auger knees
8) Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 _____ ago
   a. billion years
   b. million years
   c. trillion years
   d. quadrillion years
9) There is a total of 54 _____ seahorse
   a. specials of
   b. spaces of
   c. species of
   d. specifics of
10) can also be written as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated _____
   a. with a bash
   b. with a dash
   c. with a cash
   d. with a lash

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

(1) _____, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and unique, but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have (2) _____ genetic code of the Southeast Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now have the genetic map of all of its DNA. This means scientists (3) _____ a lot more about this sea creature than before. They can now start to figure out why seahorses (4) _____ to other fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no teeth. Another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and (5) _____ them instead of females. In addition, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they (6) _____ (up and down).

Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others from China and Singapore helped (7) _____ the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome (8) _____ all the genes and genetic information in a cell or organism. Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years ago. They (9) _____ their unusual shape, which resembles a horse. There is a total of 54 species of seahorse. Its (10) _____ Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' comes (11) _____ Greek word *hippos* meaning 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be written as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a (12) _____ two words (sea-horse).

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1. What did the article say the seahorse was besides being recognizable?

2. What seahorse did scientists unlock the genetic code of?

3. What did the article say seahorses do not have?

4. What do male seahorses carry?

5. How do seahorses swim?

6. How many countries did the scientists come from?

7. When did seahorses begin to take their unusual shape?

8. How many different species of seahorse are there?

9. What does the Ancient Greet word *kampos* mean?

10. What can be put between the words sea and horse?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1) What did the article say the seahorse was besides being recognizable?
a) most
b) unique
c) naughty
d) least

2) What seahorse did scientists unlock the genetic code of?
a) the elephant toe
b) the horse neck
c) the lion nose
d) the tiger tail

3) What did the article say seahorses do not have?
a) teeth
b) eyes
c) a snout
d) scales

4) What do male seahorses carry?
a) fish
b) oxygen
c) babies
d) females

5) How do seahorses swim?
a) slowly
b) vertically
c) beautifully
d) horizontally

6) How many countries did the scientists come from?
a) 1
b) 2
c) 3
d) 4

7) When did seahorses begin to take their unusual shape?
a) 100 billion years ago
b) a billion years ago
c) 10 million years ago
d) 100 million years ago

8) How many different species of seahorse are there?
a) 54
b) 52
c) 45
d) 25

9) What does the Ancient Greet word *kampos* mean?
a) sea monster
b) cutie fish
c) horse
d) strange fish

10) What can be put between the words sea and horse?
a) a comma
b) a dash
c) an exclamation mark
d) a semi-colon

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Role A – A Happy Life

You think a happy life is the most important secret to unlock. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their secrets aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the universe, how to get rich or how to stay young looking.

Role B – The Universe

You think the universe is the most important secret to unlock. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their secrets aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a happy life, how to get rich or how to stay young looking.

Role C – How to Get Rich

You think how to get rich is the most important secret to unlock. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their secrets aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the universe, a happy life or how to stay young looking.

Role D – How to Stay Young Looking

You think how to stay young looking is the most important secret to unlock. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their secrets aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the universe, how to get rich or a happy life.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms … for the words 'sea' and 'horse'.

sea	**horse**

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning…?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

• first • least • lot • teeth • difference • swim	• others • cell • 100 • 54 • comes • dash

SEAHORSES SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Write five GOOD questions about seahorses in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

SEAHORSES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'seahorse'?
3. What do you know about seahorses?
4. What did you think about what you read?
5. How will knowing the seahorse genome help the world?
6. How are seahorses different from other fish?
7. How do seahorses eat if they have no teeth?
8. Why do you think male seahorses give birth?
9. Is it better to swim horizontally or vertically?
10. What would you like to know about seahorses?

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SEAHORSES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you know about genes and genetics?
13. What things interested you about the text?
14. What can we learn from seahorses?
15. What would a day in the life of a seahorse researcher be like?
16. How important are seahorses?
17. Where does the word seahorse come from?
18. What books and movies are seahorses in?
19. Why are there different spellings of the word seahorse?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

For the (1) _____ time, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and unique, but (2) _____ understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have worked (3) _____ the genetic code of the Southeast Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now have the genetic map of all of its DNA. This means scientists can (4) _____ out a lot more about this sea creature than before. They can now start to figure out why seahorses are (5) _____ different to other fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no teeth. Another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and (6) _____ birth to them instead of females. In addition, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others from China and Singapore helped to (7) _____ the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a cell (8) _____ organism. Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years (9) _____. They began to take on their unusual shape, which resembles a horse. There is a total of 54 (10) _____ of seahorse. Its scientific name is Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' comes from the Ancient Greek word *hippos* meaning 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be (11) _____ as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a (12) _____ between the two words (sea-horse).

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

1.	(a)	thirst	(b)	first	(c)	firstly	(d)	firsts
2.	(a)	lest	(b)	least	(c)	last	(d)	latte
3.	(a)	to	(b)	over	(c)	up	(d)	out
4.	(a)	fund	(b)	find	(c)	search	(d)	look
5.	(a)	sow	(b)	as	(c)	such	(d)	so
6.	(a)	take	(b)	have	(c)	give	(d)	do
7.	(a)	sequence	(b)	stance	(c)	secretes	(d)	sequins
8.	(a)	nor	(b)	of	(c)	or	(d)	at
9.	(a)	aging	(b)	again	(c)	age	(d)	ago
10.	(a)	species	(b)	specials	(c)	specifies	(d)	spaces
11.	(a)	written	(b)	wrote	(c)	writing	(d)	writes
12.	(a)	dash	(b)	clash	(c)	bash	(d)	lash

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Paragraph 1

1. eiqunu, but least understood fish
2. worked out the etingce code
3. sea autrerec
4. tendisa of females
5. seahorses do not swim rotoyahzliln
6. they swim iyletlravc

Paragraph 2

7. helped to eueeqscn the genome
8. in a cell or srigonma
9. ermelsbse a horse
10. the etncinA Greek word
11. written as two steapear words
12. phyndhtaee with a dash

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

( ) sequence the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information

( ) Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now have the genetic map of all of its DNA. This means scientists can find

( ) addition, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

( ) take on their unusual shape, which resembles a horse. There is a total of 54 species

( ) as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a dash between the two words (sea-horse).

(***1***) For the first time, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and unique, but least

( ) Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others from China and Singapore helped to

( ) of seahorse. Its scientific name is Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' comes from the Ancient

( ) out a lot more about this sea creature than before. They can now start to figure out why seahorses are so different to

( ) young - male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females. In

( ) understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have worked out the genetic code of the Southeast

( ) in a cell or organism. Seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years ago. They began to

( ) Greek word hippos meaning 'horse' and kampos meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be written

( ) other fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no teeth. Another difference is the male brooding of their

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

1. , unlocked For time have secrets first scientists the the .

2. have out genetic Researchers worked the code .

3. this sea creature Scientists can find out a lot more about .

4. and Male give seahorses birth carry to babies them .

5. not do Seahorses fish other like horizontally swim .

6. to genome tiger Helped the the seahorse sequence of tail .

7. genes map A of genome all is the a .

8. of total seahorse of There 54 is species a .

9. words written 'Seahorse' as can two also separate be .

10. with Hyphenated words two the between dash a .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

For the first *time / timely*, scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and *uniquely / unique*, but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers have worked *out / up* the genetic code of the Southeast Asian tiger tail seahorse. They now *had / have* the genetic map of all of its *DNA / NDA*. This means scientists can find out a lot more about this sea *creature / creative* than before. They can now start to *figure / number* out why seahorses are so different to *another / other* fish. Unlike other fish, seahorses have no teeth. Another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and give *birth / born* to them instead of females. In addition, seahorses do not *swim / swum* horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

Scientists from Germany's University of Konstanz and others *for / from* China and Singapore helped to sequence the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of *all / any* the genes and genetic information in a cell *nor / or* organism. Seahorses started to *change / charge* from other fish about 100 million years *age / ago*. They began to take on their unusual shape, which *resembles / assembles* a horse. There is a total of 54 species of seahorse. Its *scientific / scientifically* name is Hippocampus. The word 'Hippocampus' comes from the Ancient Greek word *hippos mean / meaning* 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster'. The word 'seahorse' can also be *written / wrote* as two separate words (sea horse), or hyphenated with a dash *between / among* the two words (sea-horse).

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

F_r th_ f_rst t_m_, sc__nt_sts h_v_ _nl_ck_d th_ s_cr_ts t_ _n_ _f th_ w_rld's m_st r_c_gn_z_bl_ _nd _n_q__, b_t l__st _nd_rst__d f_sh – th_ s__h_rs_. R_s__rch_rs h_v_ w_rk_d __t th_ g_n_t_c c_d_ _f th_ S__th__st _s__n t_g_r t__l s__h_rs_. Th_y n_w h_v_ th_ g_n_t_c m_p _f _ll _f _ts DN_. Th_s m__ns sc__nt_sts c_n f_nd __t _ l_t m_r_ _b__t th_s s__ cr__t_r_ th_n b_f_r_. Th_y c_n n_w st_rt t_ f_g_r_ __t why s__h_rs_s _r_ s_ d_ff_r_nt t_ _th_r f_sh. _nl_k_ _th_r f_sh, s__h_rs_s h_v_ n_ t__th. _n_th_r d_ff_r_nc_ _s th_ m_l_ br__d_ng _f th__r y__ng - m_l_ s__h_rs_s c_rry b_b__s _nd g_v_ b_rth t_ th_m _nst__d _f f_m_l_s. _n _dd_t__n, s__h_rs_s d_ n_t sw_m h_r_z_nt_lly l_k_ _th_r f_sh; th_y sw_m v_rt_c_lly (_p _nd d_wn).

Sc__nt_sts fr_m G_rm_ny's _n_v_rs_ty _f K_nst_nz _nd _th_rs fr_m Ch_n_ _nd S_ng_p_r_ h_lp_d t_ s_q__nc_ th_ g_n_m_ _f th_ t_g_r t__l s__h_rs_. _ g_n_m_ _s _ m_p _f _ll th_ g_n_s _nd g_n_t_c _nf_rm_t__n _n _ c_ll _r _rg_n_sm. S__h_rs_s st_rt_d t_ ch_ng_ fr_m _th_r f_sh _b__t 100 m_ll__n y__rs _g_. Th_y b_g_n t_ t_k_ _n th__r _n_s__l sh_p_, wh_ch r_s_mbl_s _ h_rs_. Th_r_ _s _ t_t_l _f 54 sp_c__s _f s__h_rs_. _ts sc__nt_f_c n_m_ _s H_pp_c_mp_s. Th_ w_rd 'H_pp_c_mp_s' c_m_s fr_m th_ _nc__nt Gr__k w_rd *h_pp_s* m__n_ng 'h_rs_' _nd *k_mp_s* m__n_ng 's__ m_nst_r'. Th_ w_rd 's__h_rs_' c_n _ls_ b_ wr_tt_n _s tw_ s_p_r_t_ w_rds (s__ h_rs_), _r hyph_n_t_d w_th _ d_sh b_tw__n th_ tw_ w_rds (s__-h_rs_).

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

for the first time scientists have unlocked the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable and unique but least understood fish – the seahorse researchers have worked out the genetic code of the southeast asian tiger tail seahorse they now have the genetic map of all of its dna this means scientists can find out a lot more about this sea creature than before they can now start to figure out why seahorses are so different to other fish unlike other fish seahorses have no teeth another difference is the male brooding of their young - male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females in addition seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish they swim vertically (up and down)

scientists from germany’s university of konstanz and others from china and singapore helped to sequence the genome of the tiger tail seahorse a genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a cell or organism seahorses started to change from other fish about 100 million years ago they began to take on their unusual shape which resembles a horse there is a total of 54 species of seahorse its scientific name is hippocampus the word 'hippocampus' comes from the ancient greek word *hippos* meaning 'horse' and *kampos* meaning 'sea monster' the word 'seahorse' can also be written as two separate words (sea horse) or hyphenated with a dash between the two words (sea-horse)

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Forthefirsttime,scientistshaveunlockedthesecretstooneoftheworld's mostrecognizableandunique,butleastunderstoodfish–theseahorse.Researchershaveworkedoutthegeneticcodeofthe SoutheastAsian tigertailseahorse.Theynowhavethegeneticmapofallofits DNA.Thismeansscientistscanfindoutalotmoreaboutthisseacreaturethanbefore.Theycannowstarttofigureoutwhyseahorsesaresodifferenttootherfish.Unlikeotherfish,seahorseshavenoteeth.Anotherdifferenceisthemalebroodingoftheiryoung-maleseahorsescarrybabiesandgivebirthtotheminsteadoffemales.Inaddition,seahorsesdonotswimhorizontallylikeotherfish;theyswimvertically(upanddown).ScientistsfromGermany'sUniversityofKonstanzandothersfromChinaandSingaporehelpedtosequencethegenomeofthetigertailseahorse.Agenomeisamapofallthegenesandgeneticinformationinacellororganism.Seahorsesstartedtochangefromotherfishabout100millionyearsago.Theybegantotakeontheirunusualshape,whichresemblesahorse.Thereisatotalof54speciesofseahorse.ItsscientificnameisHippocampus.Theword'Hippocampus'comesfromtheAncientGreekwordhipposmeaning'horse'andkamposmeaning'seamonster'.Theword'seahorse'canalsobewrittenastwoseparatewords(seahorse),orhyphenatedwithadashbetweenthetwowords(sea-horse).

FREE WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Write about **seahorses** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses.html

Seahorses are the cutest creatures in the world. Discuss.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about seahorses. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SEAHORSES: Make a poster about seahorses. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. GENOME: Write a magazine article about how unlocking the human genome will answer all our health problems. Include imaginary interviews with people who agree and disagree with this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on seahorses. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on what we can learn from seahorses. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

1.	**unlocked**	a.	opened
2.	**secrets**	b.	mysteries
3.	**figure out**	c.	understand
4.	**creature**	d.	animal
5.	**In addition**	e.	also
6.	**sequence**	f.	order
7.	**information**	g.	data
8.	**unusual**	h.	odd
9.	**resembles**	i.	looks like
10.	**separate**	j.	different

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Unique
2. The Southeast Asian tiger tail
3. Teeth
4. Babies
5. Vertically
6. Three
7. 100 million years ago
8. 54
9. Sea monster
10. A dash

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. d 8. a 9. a 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)