

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the text and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Circle the correct definition of each word in CAPITALS. Look at the word in context to help you.

1. No one believed me about what happened. I don't **BLAME** them.
 - a. to stop feeling anger towards
 - b. to say or think someone is responsible (for a mistake, an error, a problem, etc.)
 - c. to do something that makes things easier for people

2. I wouldn't believe it either. Maybe I'd **PRETEND** to believe it.
 - a. to try to make something appear true even though you know it is not
 - b. to create a mental image of something
 - c. to say yes to something

3. Jackie and Anya are saying I had my **PERIOD**, but that's really stupid. There was too much blood for that.
 - a. the blood loss from a woman's uterus that happens every month
 - b. a moment when things are particularly difficult
 - c. a time when you can try something to see if you like it

4. How else did I get these **BITE MARKS** on my right leg?
 - a. dark and painful areas on your skin
 - b. injuries caused by a person or animal hurting you with its teeth
 - c. circles of colour

5. It was a good thing it happened in a pool and not the sea with no other people to hear me **SCREAM**.
 - a. to make a high and musical sound by blowing air through your lips
 - b. to speak very softly or quietly
 - c. to make a loud and high noise because of fear or pain

6. Sharks can swim in seawater and **FRESH WATER**.
 - a. water that is not salty, like in a river, for example
 - b. water from the sea
 - c. water that is really clean with no pollution

7. I've seen **GREAT WHITES** attack seals on YouTube.
 - a. big waves in the sea
 - b. a type of shark
 - c. a type of tiger

8. They were **IMPRESSED** by all my knowledge about sharks.
- feeling tired or frustrated
 - not able to think clearly
 - surprised how good, interesting, intelligent, etc. someone is

1. Check your understanding: ordering

Write a number (1–6) to put these sentences in order.

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|-------|--|
| | She explains that she made it happen. |
| | Something happened to her in the swimming pool. |
| | She watched a lot of shark films and documentaries. |
| | She went to hospital. |
| | Her parents and the doctors asked her a lot of questions. |
| | She had bad dreams about sharks and stopped swimming in the sea. |

2. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | The writer of the story is sure what happened to her. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | This isn't the first time she has been attacked by a shark. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Her parents think what happened is their fault. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | The writer blames her parents for what happened. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | The doctors think she imagined the shark attack. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | We, the readers, cannot be sure what really happened. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

Discussion

What do you think really happened in the swimming pool?