ACTIVITY SHEET EPISODE 5: GLOBAL WARMING

Activity 1

Practise identifying **referents** and the **noun phrases** to which they refer in the following paragraph about sharks.

The shark is a carnivorous (meat-eating) sea mammal. It is one of the most feared fish in the ocean, having the reputation of attacking humans. There are many species that roam the great oceans of the world. They vary in size and habit. Though the whale shark is considered the largest, it is relatively harmless, and mainly eats small fish and plankton. Other sharks include the hammerhead, mako and bull. These are fast, powerful sea animals that feed on larger fish such as mackerel, tuna and herring. The white shark, on the other hand, is the most frightening and dangerous. It gets this reputation because of its size and keen sense, which enables it to prey successfully. Since the early 1960's, scientists have been studying sharks because of their potential to provide the medical world with defences against diseases such as cancer and arthritis. That would be welcomed by all.

Activity 1: Answers

The shark is a carnivorous (meat-eating) sea mammal. (1) **It [the shark]** is one of the most feared fish in the ocean, having the reputation of attacking humans. There are many species that roam the great oceans of the world. (2) **They [many species]** vary in size and habit. Though the whale shark is considered the largest, (3) **it [the whale shark]** is relatively harmless, and mainly eats small fish and plankton. Other sharks include the hammerhead, mako and bull. (4) **These [hammerhead, mako and bull (other sharks)]** are fast, powerful sea animals that feed on larger fish such as mackerel, tuna and herring. The white shark, on the other hand, is the most frightening and dangerous. (5) **It [the white shark]** gets (6) **this [the most frightening and dangerous]** reputation because of (7) **its [the white shark's]** size and keen sense, which enables (8) **it [the white shark]** to prey successfully. Since the early 1960's, scientists have been studying sharks because of (9) **their [sharks']** potential to provide the medical world with defences against diseases such as cancer and arthritis. (10) **That [defences against diseases]** would be welcomed by all.

Activity 2

Read the passage on planets. **Choose** the correct **referent** and **identify** to which **noun phrase** the pronoun refers. **Check** your **punctuation**.

A planet is a large, round object that travels around the sun. There are nine planets, which together comprise a part of the solar system. (1) **(this, these, that)** _____ include Mercury, Venus, Earth*, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Much like stars in appearance, planets differ from (2) **(they, them, their)** _____ in that (3) **(they, them, their)**_____ shine steadily, while stars twinkle. (4) **(this, these, those)** _____ may be the result of the light and heat that stars produce on (5) **(its, they, their)** _____own, whereas (6) **(this, these, that)**_____ which the planets emit is reflected light from the sun. Though the planets differ substantially in size and vary widely in terms of (7) **(their, its, they)**_____ surface conditions, (8) **(them, they, these)** _____are similar insofar as orbital movement is concerned. All of (9) **(them, they, these)** _____ move in a westward direction across the sky. Astronomers have been fascinated by planets for thousands of years, but more recently have become interested in the feasibility of sustainable life on planets. Answers to (10) **(these, that, they)** _____ may give scientists an insight into our long-term future.

Tip: *Earth should always be capitalised.

Activity 2: Answers

A planet is a large, round object that travels around the sun. There are nine planets, which together comprise a part of the solar system. (1) **These [planets]** include Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Much like stars in appearance, planets differ from (2) **them [stars]** in that (3) **they [planets]** shine steadily, while stars twinkle. (4) **This [planets shine steadily and stars twinkle]** may be the result of the light and heat that stars produce on (5) **their [stars']** own, whereas (6) **that [light and heat]** which the planets emit is reflected light from the sun. Though the planets differ substantially in size and vary widely in terms of (7) **their [planets']** surface conditions, (8) **they [planets]** are similar insofar as orbital movement is concerned. All of (9) **them [planets]** move in a westward direction across the sky. Astronomers have been fascinated by planets for thousands of years, but more recently have become interested in the feasibility of sustainable life on planets. Answers to (10) **that [feasibility of sustainable life]** may give scientists an insight into our long-term future.