

Descriptive Essay Outline Worksheet

# Topic: Dangerous Sea Creatures

**Reminders:**

**Paragraph 1: Introduction (including a thesis statement)**

**Paragraphs 2-4: Body**

**Paragraph 5: Conclusion**

Audience: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction

**Paragraph 1**

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe creature #1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe creature #2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe creature #3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thesis Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Body

**Paragraph 2 (second most dangerous sea creature in your opinion)**

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Description of animal: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this creature dangerous?: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Examples and supporting details: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Paragraph 3 (third most dangerous sea creature in your opinion)**

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Description of animal: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this creature dangerous?: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Examples and supporting details: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Paragraph Four (the most dangerous sea creature in your opinion)**

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this creature dangerous?: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Examples and supporting details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Conclusion

**Paragraph 5**

Summarize your points about the most dangerous sea creatures (re-state your thesis in here)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why are these creatures dangerous? Any other important comments go here.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Creative closing thought:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Tracking your Sources

Use this page to list the sources you used for your information, whether it is a book, website, television show, etc.

### **Source 1**

Date Published/Date you retrieved info: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Province (or State) it was published in: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Source 6**

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City/Province (or State) it was published in: \_\_\_\_\_

Web address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Marking Criteria

Please attach this to the final copy of your essay

	4	3	2	1
<b>Conventions</b> Grammar, Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation.	There are no or very few significant errors.	There are a few significant errors or.	There are several significant errors.	There are many significant errors.
<b>Ideas</b> Main ideas and details.	Ideas presented are logical and supported by insightful details.	Ideas presented are logical and supported by appropriate details.	Ideas presented are mostly logical and supported by details.	Ideas presented are somewhat illogical and/or are not supported with enough detail.
<b>Organization</b> Thesis statement, topic sentence/paragraph, concluding sentence/paragraph.	The overall structure of the essay and each paragraph if organized effectively.	The overall structure of the essay and each paragraph if organized appropriately.	The overall structure of the essay and each paragraph is somewhat disorganized.	The overall structure of the essay and each paragraph is often disorganized.
<b>Sentence Fluency</b> Use of different sentence starters, use of transition words,	Sentences flow together seamlessly. Transitions are used appropriately.	Sentences flow well. Transitions are mostly used appropriately.	Sentences are sometimes disjointed or lack flow. Transitions are attempted.	Sentences are often disjointed and/or lack flow. Transitions are not attempted.
<b>Voice</b> Audience and purpose of the essay.	Essay maintains formal language and structure.	Essay mostly maintains formal language and structure.	Essay sometimes maintains formal language and structure.	Essay lacks formal language and structure, at times.
<b>Word Choice</b> Descriptive and unique word choices.	Word choices are descriptive and enhance ideas without overshadowing them.	Word choices are mostly descriptive and enhance ideas.	Word choices are sometimes descriptive and enhance ideas.	Word choices are simplistic at times.

## Helpful Hints:

1. You may end up repeating yourself quite a bit in an essay. However, it is important that you change the wording or add little facts and details to make each time slightly different.
2. **Transitions** are words and phrases that can be used to help link your ideas and make them flow together.
  - a. Examples of transition words to be used within your paragraphs: however, therefore, in addition, also, firstly (secondly, thirdly, etc), nonetheless.
  - b. Examples of transitions between paragraphs:
    - i. Beginning of a paragraph: Even more dangerous than the \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_; The most dangerous creature in the sea is the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii. End of a paragraph: Although the stinging tentacles of the \_\_\_\_\_ are dangerous, then the razor sharp teeth of the next creature are deadly; Even though \_\_\_\_\_ is a frightening creature, there is one that is even more so.
3. Conclusions are one of the hardest parts of the essay to write. You must sum up all of your ideas in a clear manner but be careful that you **do not state anything new**, just paraphrase your previous ideas. You should try to find something that your ideas have in common and point out a connection.
4. Make sure every paragraph has a topic sentence, minimum of three body sentences and a closing sentence.