



Paraphrasing: In my own words

Grade 4 Writing Worksheet

1. Read the paragraph. Then, in your own words, write a four or five sentence summary about the cheetah.

The cheetah is the world's fastest land animal. For short distances, it can run at speeds as high as 70 miles (113 kilometers) per hour. It usually doesn't need to run quite this fast to catch prey, though! They have a lightweight and narrow body, a flexible spine, long thin legs and hard foot pads to help them run more easily than other animals. Before cheetahs can eat after a chase, they usually need about half an hour to catch their breath! Cheetahs may run to get away from danger or to catch their dinner. They normally eat small or mid-sized animals such as hares, wildebeest calves and gazelles.

Unfortunately, cheetahs are getting closer and closer to extinction. Loss of habitat and fewer prey are making it hard for them to survive. Once found across Asia and Africa, they now live mostly in eastern and southern Africa.



2. Read the paragraph. Then, in your own words, inform readers about tsunamis.

When there is an earthquake or volcanic eruption under the sea, the water above it is displaced--or moved. This can launch giant waves. These giant waves are called tsunamis. Tsunamis don't look like much when they are out at sea, but they get bigger and bigger as they get closer to land. They can travel quickly (as fast as jet planes!) over the deep waters of the ocean and then slow down as they come closer to shore. As they get close to shore, they resemble walls of water and can reach over 100 feet (30.5 meters) in height. Five minutes before a tsunami hits land, it acts like a vacuum and sucks water out to sea. This leaves beaches and harbors dry. Recognizing this can save lives! Most tsunamis occur in the Pacific Ocean.
