

We are learning how to use commas to clarify meaning and avoid ambiguity when writing sentences about humpback whales.

Look at sentences A and B and think about how the comma changes the meaning.

1A) The female humpback, said the diver, was at least fifteen metres long.

1B) The female humpback said the diver was at least fifteen metres long.

2A) Humpback whales are affected by noise pollution, ship strikes and entanglement in fishing nets.

2B) Humpback whales are affected by noise, pollution, ship strikes and entanglement in fishing nets.

3A) When they saw the humpback's enormous fluked tail on the horizon, the divers got their underwater cameras ready.

3B) When they saw the humpback's enormous fluked tail, on the horizon, the divers got their underwater cameras ready.

### Challenge 1

Draw a picture to show the meaning of the sentences below:

1A) I love my parents, the humpback whale and David Attenborough.	1B) I love my parents the humpback whale and David Attenborough.
2A) "Let's eat grandpa," said the ravenous humpback calf.	2B) "Let's eat, grandpa," said the ravenous humpback calf.

## Challenge 2

Read the sentences below and decide where the commas should go.

- 1) The pectoral fins of a humpback can grow to nearly five metres long making them the longest flippers of any baleen whale.
- 2) A humpback's diet mainly consists of krill but it will also eat small schooling fish such as anchovies sardines and mackerel.
- 3) Humpbacks are baleen whales which means that they have a specialised filter feeding system inside their mouth.
- 4) During the whaling era when whale blubber was turned into oil humpbacks nearly became extinct.
- 5) Since the ban on commercial whaling in 1985 humpback whale numbers have increased.
- 6) Humpback whales are known for their haunting songs which consist of a sequence of grunts moans howls and cries.
- 7) When a tiger shark swam close by marine biologist Nan Hauser was protected by a humpback whale which nudged her body out of danger.