

Name _____

Read the following passages. Write a summary (3-5 sentences) that best reflects the main idea and most important supporting details.

Giant Squid

In the deepest, darkest parts of the North Atlantic Ocean lives a giant squid. They are usually found near continental and island slopes, from Newfoundland, Norway, the northern British Isles, Spain and the oceanic islands of the Azores and Madeira, to the South Atlantic around southern Africa, the North Pacific around Japan, and the southwestern Pacific around New Zealand and Australia. The giant squid's only known predators are sperm whales.

This huge animal can reach a length of 55 feet. Its eight thick arms have two lines of sucking disks that can capture and hold its prey. The squid's two slender tentacles can grow to a length of 35 feet and have sucking disks at the enlarged ends. The tentacles can shoot out and grab the squid's victim, pulling it back within range of its arms. The giant squid has eyes that may measure up to nine inches across. The squid swims slowly with rippling movements of the fins on the back end of its body. But beware! It can suddenly jet forward by spitting water through a funnel behind its head. The funnel can also eject an inky fluid that acts as a smokescreen to hide the squid from its enemies.
