

ACTIVITY 14 Editing an Essay: Review of Grammar

Twelve of the sixteen words in parentheses contain an error involving one of the grammar topics featured in this unit. If the word or phrase is correct, write C. If it is incorrect, fill in the blank with a correction.

Essay 12

Two Extremely Dangerous Reptiles

- 1 Crocodiles and alligators are large **reptiles** that most people cannot easily **differentiate**. In fact, these two animals are so similar in appearance, **attributes**, and other characteristics that most people **randomly** use one name for the other. Despite these similarities, there are several very
- 1 (importanter) _____ differences between crocodiles and alligators that allow people to **distinguish** one from the other.
- 2 Because most humans never get 2 (more close) _____ enough to these animals to examine them carefully, people assume these creatures are physically **analogous**. To start with, alligators and crocodiles differ in color. Alligators are blackish gray, while crocodiles **tend to be** greenish brown. In addition, the heads of alligators and crocodiles are
- 3 (different) _____. Alligators have a much 4 (more wide) _____ **snout** that is shaped like a U; crocodiles, in contrast, have a 5 (more long) _____ and 6 (more narrow) _____ snout that **resembles** the letter V. Finally, crocodiles and alligators differ in how their teeth are arranged.

a reptile: a cold-blooded animal that lays eggs

to differentiate: to recognize the difference between two or more things

an attribute: a good quality or feature

randomly: without any special reason or guidance

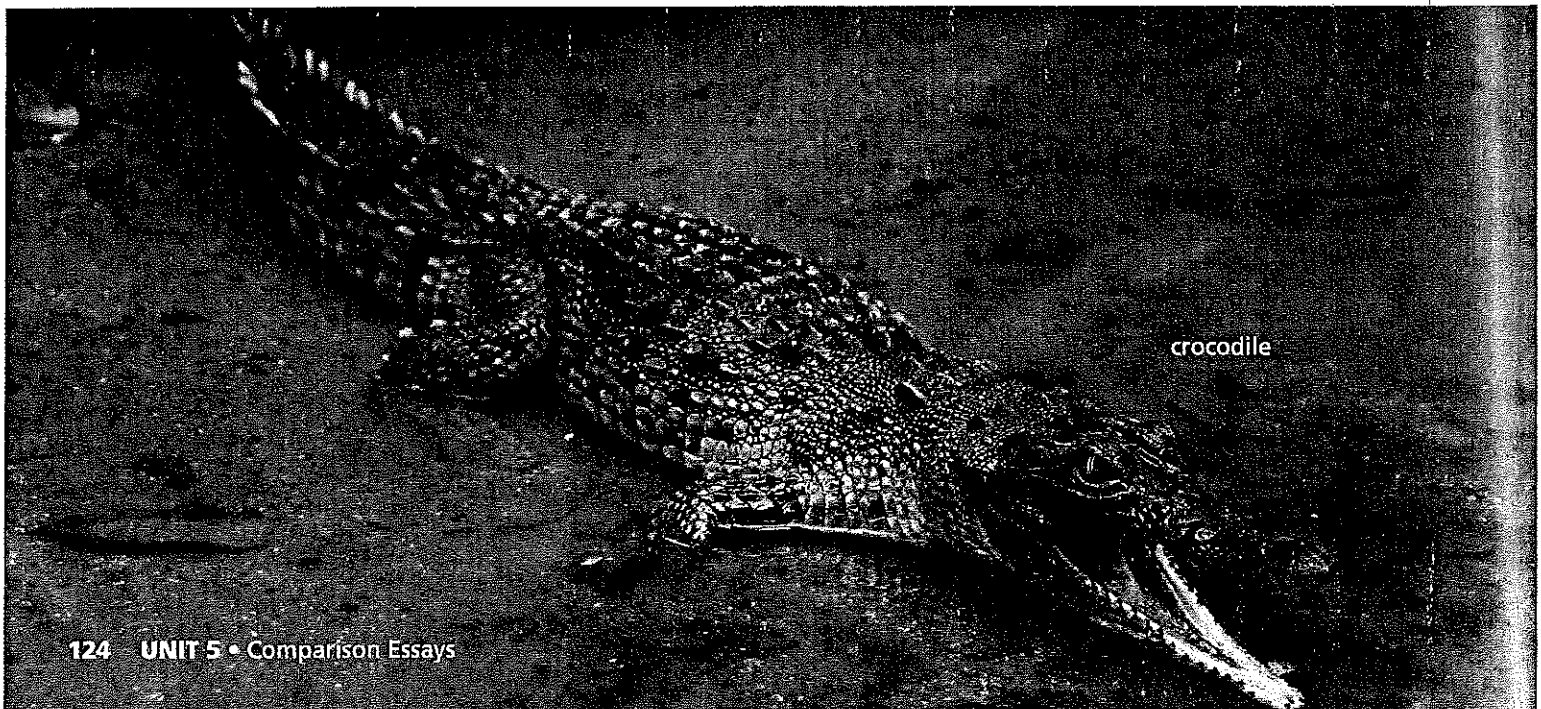
to distinguish: to recognize the difference between two similar things

analogous: alike; comparable

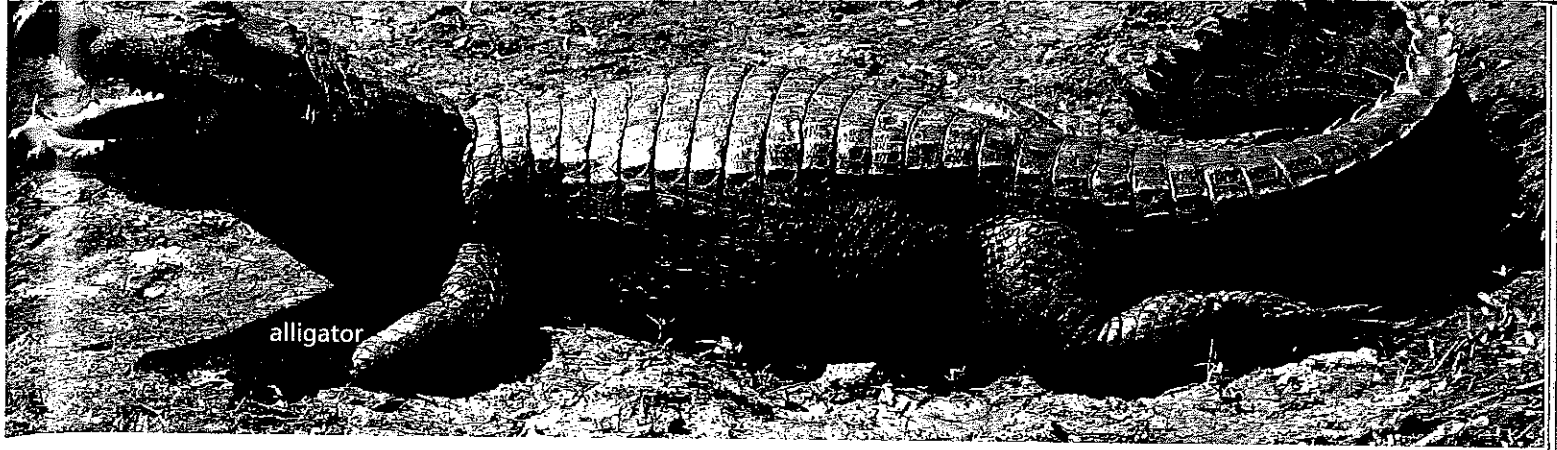
to tend to be: are usually

a snout: the nose of an animal

to resemble: to look like another person



crocodile



When alligators close their mouths, their teeth are not **visible**. In sharp contrast, when crocodiles close their mouths, their lower teeth are clearly visible. These three external differences are 7 (**substantial**) _____, yet few people are aware of them.

visible: able to be seen

substantial: quite a lot;
a good amount of

3 Another difference between these two reptiles is that they live in very different areas of the globe. Crocodiles are generally found in tropical areas of Australia, Asia, Africa, and South America. Alligators, on the other hand, have a much 8 (**limited**) _____ habitat, as they are primarily found in the southeastern United States and in China. In particular, the Everglades National Park in southern Florida in the United States is especially interesting to **zoologists** because it is one of the only places where both alligators and crocodiles **coexist**.

a zoologist: a scientist
who studies animals

to coexist: to live
together

demeanor: behavior

4 Finally, these reptiles differ in their general **demeanor** toward other animals in their territory, especially in regard to their reactions to nearby wildlife—and humans. While both of them can kill a much 9 (**more large**) _____ animal, crocodiles seem to be much 10 (**more aggressive**) _____ 11 (**that**) _____ alligators. For example, if another animal **splashes** in the water near a crocodile, the crocodile will almost immediately attack the animal. Because alligators **inhabit** a 12 (**smaller**) _____ area of the planet 13 (**from**) _____ crocodiles, there are far fewer human deaths due to alligators. In contrast, crocodiles, particularly the Nile crocodile, may be responsible for hundreds of human deaths each year. However, it is difficult to **verify** an exact count because many of these deaths happen in very **remote** areas (Woods, 1983).

5 At first glance, alligators and crocodiles certainly look similar in shape, but a 14 (**carefuller**) _____ examination of their characteristics proves that these animals are not as similar 15 (**than**)

to splash: to cause
water to spread or
move

to inhabit: to live in
an area

to verify: to check for
accuracy

remote: an area with
very few people and
very little activity

_____ most people believe. Key differences between these two creatures include physical characteristics, habitat, and 16 (their demeanor is different) _____. Because very few humans ever get to know these differences, it is likely that people will continue to confuse alligators and crocodiles, unless they consult their encyclopedias.

key: important

Reference

Wood, G. (1983). *The guinness book of animal facts and feats*. London: Sterling.

Building Better Vocabulary

ACTIVITY 15 Practicing Three Kinds of Vocabulary from Context

Read each important vocabulary word or phrase. Locate it in the essay if you need help remembering the word or phrase. Then circle the best synonym, antonym, or collocation from column A, B, or C.

Type of Vocabulary	Important Vocabulary	A	B	C
Synonyms	1. remote	distant	physical	resemble
	2. distinguish	differentiate	inhabit	splash
	3. coexist	live together	run away	work alone
	4. resemble	be together	look like	talk about
Antonyms	5. randomly	convincingly	intentionally	successfully
	6. substantial	very bad	very little	very possible
	7. key	unhappy	unnecessary	unverified
	8. wide	glance	narrow	visible
Collocations	9. responsible ____	by	for	with
	10. in ____ contrast	good	large	sharp
	11. in ____	glance	particular	reptile
	12. ____ in appearance	dangerous	habitat	similar

Original Student Writing: Comparison Essay

In this section, you will follow the seven steps in the writing process to write a comparison essay. If you need help, refer to Unit 2, pages 34–46.

ACTIVITY 16 Step 1: Choose a Topic

Your first step is to choose a topic for your essay. For a comparison essay, you need a topic for which you can develop three solid points comparing or contrasting the two subjects. Your teacher may assign