

Read the passage, answer the questions, and highlight information found in the text you used to answer the questions. Circle the main idea and put a "?" next to words you don't know.

Crocodile or Alligator

Crocodiles and alligators are different. They both live in water. One has a wider, U-shaped mouth. It is a reptile. It has lived on Earth for millions of years. It is sometimes described as a "living fossil." Do you know what animal it is yet? Let me give you some more clues.

Its bottom cone shaped teeth do **not** stick out when its mouth is closed. They don't have glands in their mouth to help them get rid of extra salt. They live in fresh water and are cold-blooded. This animal eats different animals such as fish, birds, turtles, and even deer. Their eggs become male or female depending on the temperature. In warmer temperatures the eggs become male. In cooler temperatures, the eggs become female. This animal is only found in the United States and China. If you thought of the animal being an alligator, you would be correct.



1. How are alligators different from crocodiles?

2. What do they both have in common?

3. Which text structure did the author use to write the story? (circle one)
a. cause and effect **b. compare and contrast**
4. What do alligators eat?

5. Explain how a crocodile can live easier in salt water.
