Dear Grandma and Grandpa,

We arrived on the Gold Coast yesterday and today we went whale watching. We had travelled approximately two kilometres offshore before the captain of our whale watching boat spotted a water spout and headed towards it. When we got to a couple of hundred metres from the whales, she stopped the engine and we drifted as we observed two humpback whales that were breaching. When they breached, they leapt out of the water head first and then flopped back onto the surface with a big splash. Not long after that, the whales noticed our boat and meandered over. They poked their heads out of the water and spied on us. Their bodies hung vertically in the water. They were magnificent. I loved today. I love you.

Kenan

1. A verb group does the job of a verb. It shows doing, being or having, thinking or feeling, or saying.
   - have made will be will think did speak

2. Read Dear Grandma and Grandpa. Underline the verbs and verb groups.
   Write the three most interesting action verbs that tell what the humans did.
   Write the three most interesting action verbs that tell what the whales did.

3. Verbs and verb groups can show whether an action happened in the past, is happening now, or has not yet happened. This is called the tense.
   - Auxiliary verbs (did, have, was) and suffixes (-ed, -t, -ing) help to show the tense.
   - past tense I kissed I did kiss I have kissed I was kissing
   - present tense I kiss I am kissing
   - future tense I will kiss

4. Write verbs with two different suffixes from Dear Grandma and Grandpa that show past tense.

5. Write verb groups with two different auxiliary verbs from Dear Grandma and Grandpa that show past tense.

6. Write the thinking and feeling verb that tells how Kenan felt about whale watching.
5. Change the form of each verb to show that the action happened in the past.

- The tour guide (advise) ____________ us about whale behaviours.
- We (wave) ____________ our arms and (shout) ____________.
- We (attract) ____________ the whales' attention.
- The whales (swim) ____________ here from Antarctica.
- I (want) ____________ to jump in with the whales.

6. Complete each sentence with an auxiliary verb to show that the actions happened in the past.

- I ____________ been whale watching.
- I ____________ hope to visit my aunt.
- The whales ____________ come a long way.
- I have ____________ dog paddling at the lake.
- I ____________ told to eat my vegetables.

7. Write the words in Dear Grandma and Grandpa that show time sequence.

- ____________

8. Use a time conjunction from the box to complete each sentence.

- after
- when
- since
- now

- I love whales more than ever ____________ I went to the Gold Coast.
- I want to find out more about humpbacks ____________ that I have seen them up close.
- ____________ we were on holiday we stayed at a caravan park at the beach.
- ____________ dinner we went for a walk.

9. Use a time adverb in the box to complete each sentence.

- yesterday
- then
- now
- first
- finally

- I hurt my foot ____________ but it is a lot better ____________.
- ____________ I have to do my piano homework and ____________ I can concentrate on gardening.
- ____________ dinner was ready.

Try it yourself!

Write a recount that tells about somewhere you have been. Use action verbs. Link the actions in a time sequence using adverbs and conjunctions.