

Investigating the Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog

Learning objective: To identify and analyze the structural and linguistic features of a non-chronological report.

Read the report about the rare Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog carefully. Use your detective skills to identify how the writer organizes information for the reader. Max the monkey needs your help to solve this linguistic puzzle!

The Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog (*Nebula saltator*) is a fascinating amphibian found exclusively in the mist-covered canopy of the Whispering Peaks. Unlike common garden frogs, this species has evolved unique, translucent skin that shimmers like moonlight.

Habitat and Distribution

These frogs reside high above the forest floor in bromeliad plants. By living in these 'water tanks' provided by the plants, they remain protected from predators. They prefer damp, high-altitude climates where the air is thick with condensation.

Dietary Habits

Despite their small size, they are opportunistic hunters. Their diet consists primarily of nectar-loving moths and tiny, airborne beetles. Using their sticky, specialised tongues, they can snatch prey mid-leap with remarkable precision.

Fascinating Facts

- The Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog can leap up to thirty times its own body length.
- Their croak sounds remarkably like the chiming of a tiny silver bell.
- They are nocturnal creatures, becoming most active when the moon is at its brightest.

Word bank: subheading · classification · habitat · dietary requirements · adverbial phrase · formal tone · fact file · caption

1. Identify two structural features used in the text to help the reader navigate the information. Explain why these are helpful. (2 marks)

2. The text uses a formal tone. Find and copy one sentence that demonstrates this. Justify why this tone is appropriate for a non-chronological report. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the 'Habitat' section with the 'Dietary Habits' section. What specific type of information does each provide? (2 marks)

4. Explain why the author chose to use bullet points for the 'Fascinating Facts' section instead of a paragraph. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if the Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog lost its ability to live in high-altitude bromeliads? Use evidence from the text to support your prediction. (2 marks)

Draw: Sketch your own version of the Cloud-Hopping Tree Frog based on the description in the text. Ensure you include a caption that uses a formal, scientific tone.



Extension challenge: Imagine you have discovered a new species of creature. Write a short paragraph using a formal tone and at least one subheading. How would you justify the importance of protecting this creature's environment?