

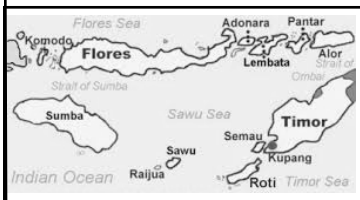


# READING in GEOGRAPHY

## KOMODO DRAGON



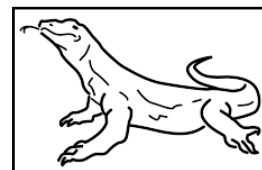
The Komodo dragon is the largest \_\_\_\_ all lizards alive today. The Komodo dragon can \_\_\_\_ over 3m in length and weigh \_\_\_\_ to 70kg. Komodo Dragons are also referred to as monitors \_\_\_\_ goannas and are recognized by their forked tongue.



The Komodo dragon \_\_\_\_ found only in the country of Indonesia. It is found on the Indonesian islands of Komodo, Rinca, Flores, Gili Motang, and Padar.

Those islands are located about 500km east of Java and Bali.

The Komodo is \_\_\_\_ excellent swimmer. It will swim for many kilometers in search of food. It swims to and from the different islands. The dragon's tail is as long as its body and propels it in the water much like a crocodile. Along with a very powerful tail, it has strong legs and can also run \_\_\_\_ very fast speeds.



The Komodo dragon is a feared predator (hunter). The Komodo dragon has 60 frequently replaced, serrated teeth that can measure up to 2.5 cm. Generally, \_\_\_\_ hunts smaller animals and also scavenges along the beach and in nests. It eats birds, other reptiles and small mammals e.g. deer. Mature adults will also kill juvenile dragons. Like many lizard species however, the young dragons are able \_\_\_\_ climb trees to escape. Juvenile dragons are understandably shy and will flee to hideouts when in perceived danger from mature dragons or humans.

Mature dragons have been known to attack humans. While attacks on humans are rare, they have occurred both in the wild and in captivity. Deaths and injuries have been documented. Most victims of dragon attacks are local villagers who live on the islands and adjacent to the national parks.

The Komodo is an endangered species living \_\_\_\_ a few Indonesian islands e.g. Komodo Island. It has been given sanctuary on some islands but co-exists with humans on other islands. People living with Komodo dragons will often build their homes on stilts; in that way they avoid danger from the lizard and from other animals such \_\_\_\_ snakes. (Reference: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komodo>)

### Missing Words

BE  
UP  
OR  
IT  
IS  
OF  
TO  
AS  
ON  
AT  
AN



### WORD HUNT

Locate the following words in the passage.

1. t \_\_\_\_ g \_\_\_\_ (Found in the mouth)
2. I \_\_\_\_ n \_\_\_\_ a (Country in Asia)
3. \_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_ (Hunter of other animals)
4. \_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_ (Between land and sea)
5. f \_\_\_\_ (Run from danger)
6. r \_\_\_\_ (Seldom)
7. \_\_\_\_ i \_\_\_\_ (Confinement)
8. \_\_\_\_ g \_\_\_\_ (People of a village)
9. \_\_\_\_ g \_\_\_\_ (Life at risk)
10. \_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_ (Type of plant/animal)

