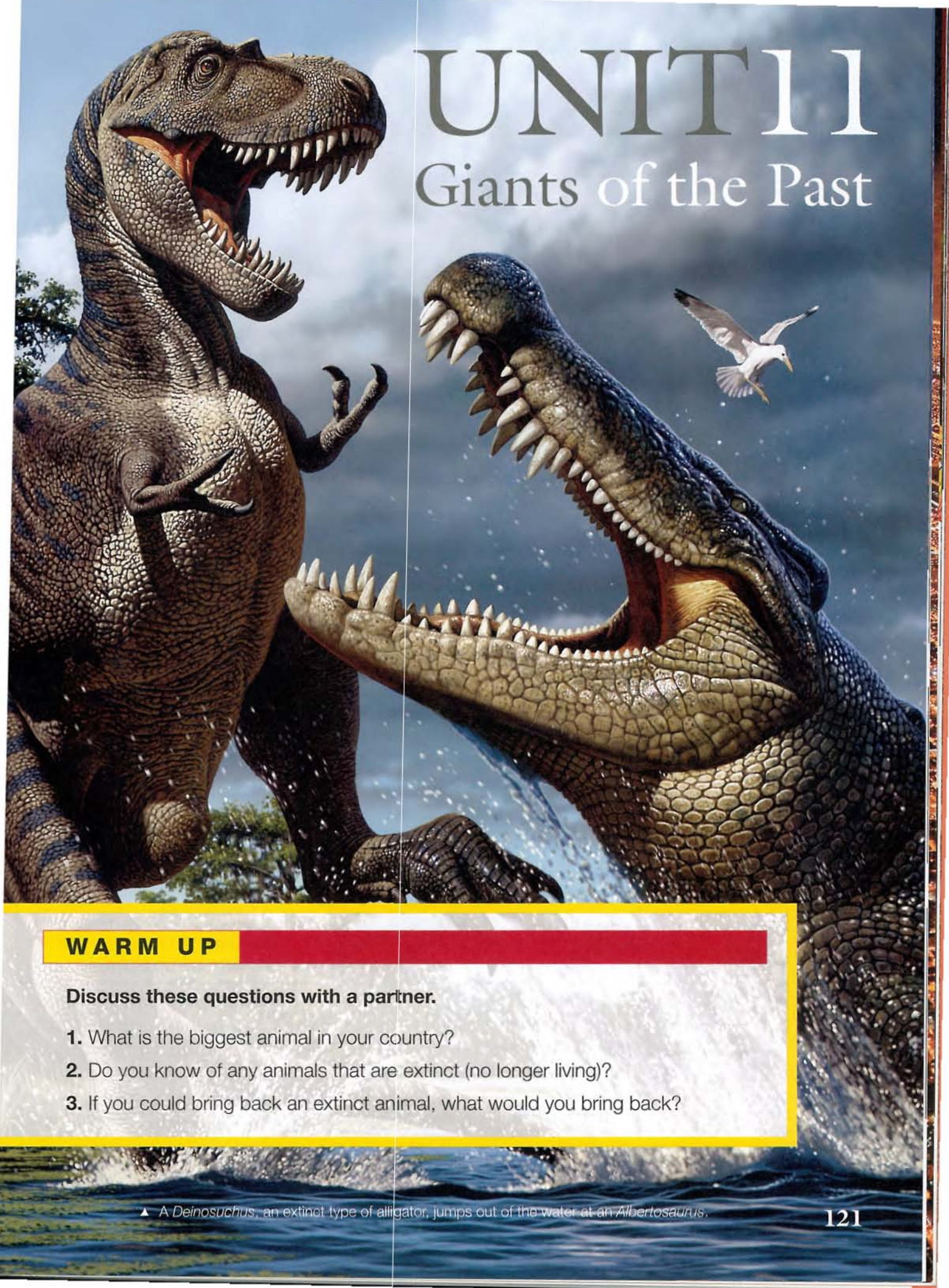


UNIT 11

Giants of the Past



WARM UP

Discuss these questions with a partner.

1. What is the biggest animal in your country?
2. Do you know of any animals that are extinct (no longer living)?
3. If you could bring back an extinct animal, what would you bring back?

▲ A *Deinosuchus*, an extinct type of alligator, jumps out of the water at an *Albertosaurus*.

Mammoth!



IIA

▲ The body of a baby mammoth is carried outside to be refrozen after being examined by scientists in Salekhard, Russia.



Before You Read

A. Matching. Read the information below. Match each word in **blue** with its definition.

Tens of thousands of years ago, elephant-like creatures called *woolly mammoths* walked the Earth. They were related to modern elephants, but were different in some ways:

	Woolly mammoth		Modern elephant
Appearance	Long thick hair Long curved tusk		Thick skin but very little hair Short and straight tusk
Environment	Lived during the Ice Age in North America and Siberia		Lives in hot environments like India and Africa
Status	Became extinct 8,000–12,000 years ago		Total population today: 470,000–690,000 African elephants, and about 60,000 Asian elephants (pictured left)

- _____ a long, pointed tooth used to fight or to find food
- _____ a period when much of the earth was covered in ice
- _____ no longer existing or living; completely died out

B. Predict. Look at the photo, illustrations, and captions on the next page. What do you think happened after this mammoth died? Read the passage to check your ideas.



The Mammoth's Tale

Imagine finding a body that had been lost for 40,000 years...

The strange animal in the ice looked like it was sleeping. Ten-year-old Kostia Khudi and his brother had never seen anything like it before. But they had heard stories of the *mamont*, an imaginary animal that lived in the frozen blackness of the Siberian underworld.¹ Their father, a reindeer herder² named Yuri Khudi, went to ask a friend for advice.³ But when he returned, the body had disappeared . . .

Yuri soon found the animal's body leaning⁴ against a store in a nearby town. (While he was away, his cousin had sold it to the store owner for two snowmobiles.⁵) Dogs had eaten part of the tail and ear, but overall, it was still in "as close to perfect condition as you can imagine," says scientist Daniel Fisher. With help from the police, the body was taken by helicopter to a museum. The animal was a baby mammoth, and scientists called it Lyuba, after Yuri's wife.

From Siberia, the mammoth was sent to the Netherlands and Japan for analysis. Detailed studies of her teeth showed she was just one month old when she died. Ongoing research has also showed us the sequence of events that led to her death. Lyuba fell to her death near a muddy river. The mud helped keep her body frozen until she was found 40,000 years later. Scientists hope that further analysis will help explain how mammoths such as Lyuba lived—and why they finally all died out.



▲ Lyuba died when she fell into wet mud near a river.



▲ As the ground froze, her body shrank (became smaller).



▲ In 2006, melting caused Lyuba's body to wash free.

¹ The **underworld** is an imaginary underground world.
² A **herder** looks after a large group of animals of one kind.
³ If you give someone **advice**, you tell them what you think they should do in a particular situation.
⁴ If you **lean** on or against something, you rest against it.
⁵ A **snowmobile** is a small vehicle for driving in snow.

□ Reading Comprehension

A. Multiple Choice. Choose the best answer for each question.

- Gist 1. The article is mainly about _____.
- Yuri Khudi's life in Siberia
 - animals that are now extinct
 - an important discovery
 - what life was like for Lyuba
- Detail 2. What happened first?
- Yuri's cousin sold the mammoth to a store owner.
 - Yuri went to ask a friend for advice.
 - Lyuba's body was taken to a museum.
 - The police arrived to take Lyuba's body away.
- Purpose 3. What is the purpose of the second paragraph?
- to describe the condition of Lyuba when she was found
 - to describe the difficulties of analyzing a mammoth body
 - to explain how Lyuba was found again and taken to a safe place
 - to explain how scientist Daniel Fisher came to Siberia to study Lyuba
- Reference 4. The word *it* (line 11) refers to a(n) _____.
- body
 - store
 - tail
 - ear
- Paraphrase 5. Which of the following is closest in meaning to *all died out* (line 23)?
- became extinct
 - killed each other
 - moved to another place
 - died at a young age

B. True or False. According to the passage, are the sentences below true or false? Circle **T** (true), **F** (false), or **NG** (not given in the passage).

- Yuri Khudi's job is to take care of a group of animals. **T** **F** **NG**
- Yuri Khudi has more than two sons. **T** **F** **NG**
- Yuri Khudi's wife is also named Lyuba. **T** **F** **NG**
- Lyuba's body has been in at least three countries. **T** **F** **NG**
- Lyuba's teeth showed that she was a year old when she died. **T** **F** **NG**



Vocabulary Practice

A. Completion. Complete the information using words from the box. Two words are extra.

analysis	imagine	ongoing	perfect
details	nearby	overall	sent

1. _____ a crocodile with more than 100 teeth and so big that it eats dinosaurs! Scientists say such a crocodile really did live 110 million years ago in Africa. It was so huge that they called it “SuperCroc.”

For a long time not much was known about SuperCroc, as scientists only had a few bones and teeth. But, in 2000, Paul Sereno and his team found an area in the Sahara Desert that was full of SuperCroc bones. 2. _____, they had enough bones to put together about 50 percent of SuperCroc’s body.

From their work, the team learned many 3. _____ about SuperCroc’s life. For example, they now know that it grew to the size of a bus and weighed about 8,000 kilograms (17,500 pounds). Its strong jaws and big teeth were 4. _____ for catching and holding prey. After his examination, Sereno 5. _____ SuperCroc’s bones to the U.S. for further 6. _____. The bones are now on display in museums to teach people about this amazing animal.



▲ Members of Paul Sereno’s team uncover the remains of an ancient crocodile in the Sahara desert.

B. Words in Context. Complete each sentence with the best answer.

- If something is **ongoing**, it is _____.
a. finished b. not finished
- If something **leads** to another, it goes _____ it.
a. toward b. away from
- If something is **nearby**, it is _____.
a. close b. far
- If something is in **sequence**, it happens _____.
a. one after another b. at the same time
- If you **send** something, you _____ it.
a. get b. give

Usage

Analyses is the plural form of **analysis**:
Scientists did an analysis of the animal’s bones. They also did analyses of the animal’s skin and hair.