

## ● California Sea Otters

*Cross out the statements that **DO NOT** agree with the textbook.*

1. Sea otters are placental mammals that belong to the order Carnivora.
2. Sea otters have a well-developed brain.
3. They rely mostly on their vision to find their prey.
4. Sea otters live in kelp beds along the coastal areas of North America, Russia, and Japan.
5. The animals that sea otters feed on are important cash crops for many fishermen.
6. Unlike primates, sea otters cannot use a tool to obtain food.
7. Every day, a sea otter eats food equal to about 50 percent of its body weight.
8. Sea otters maintain a very active, lively existence.
9. Sea otters use oils from the water to groom their fur.
10. Air bubbles caught in a sea otter's thick fur protects the animal from the cold waters of the Pacific Ocean.
11. Sea otters are hunted for their thick fur.
12. Today, more than 3000 sea otters reside in a stretch of shore south of San Francisco.
13. Biologists think that pesticides and loss of habitat have slowed the population growth of sea otters.
14. Sea urchins are California's most valuable commercial fishery product.
15. Sea urchin fishermen believe that sea otters are helpful to their industry.
16. Many commercial fishermen want to limit the range of sea otters to their current 250-mile range.
17. Biologists feel that allowing sea otters to occupy more of their original range will increase sea otter populations.
18. By eating sea urchins, sea otters help preserve kelp forest habitats.
19. A decrease in the population of sea otters causes a similar decrease in the population of sea urchins.
20. An increase in the sea urchin population will help the kelp harvesting industry.