











Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Preparing for a Seminar "Coral Reef Adventure"

**Step 1:** As you read the article, use a highlighter and highlight any parts of the text that "jump out at you". These would be sentences or passages that meant something to you, made you think, or surprised you. Highlight these parts of the text so that you can easily share them with classmates during the seminar.

**Step 2:** Think about the following questions. Write your ideas down next to each question so you can easily discuss your thoughts during the seminar.

-  Coral reefs have been referred to as the "rainforests of the sea". Do you think this is an appropriate analogy? Why or why not?
-  What are some characteristics of corals? How do they build a reef?
-  In what ways do different species in a coral reef ecosystem depend on one another?
-  Most scientists now believe that major coral reef decline is due to global warming. What evidence from the article supports this claim?
-  Many coastal ecosystems such as seagrass beds and mangrove forests are changing due to pollution. How can changes in these ecosystems impact coral reefs?
-  Explain why the symbiotic relationship between coral and zooxanthellae is critical to coral reef formation?
-  In what ways are coral reefs important to us?
-  Do you think it is a good thing that people hope to use organisms in coral reefs for medical research and discovery of new drugs?
-  If you were the president, would you take measures to protect coral reefs? If so, what would you do?
-  Do you believe that each person can do his/her part to protect against coral reef decline? If so, what can you do personally?

**Step 3:** Write two questions about coral reefs you would like to ask during the seminar. These should be "fat" questions. They should encourage discussion of many different viewpoints rather than one simple answer.