










Name _____

Date _____

Preparing for a Seminar
“Coral Bleaching, Coral Mortality, and Global Change”

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?
-  In what ways are different species in a coral reef ecosystem interdependent?
-  Most scientists now believe that major coral reef decline is due to global warming. What evidence from the article supports this claim?
-  What does this report suggest be done to protect coral reefs? Do you agree with these suggestions? Which suggest do you feel is most critical? Why?
-  Explain why the symbiotic relationship between coral and zooxanthellae is critical to coral reef formation?
-  Upon examining “Coral Reef Bleaching and Mortality Trends” on pgs. 5-6, what would you propose be done to rectify international trends in coral reef decline?
-  Do you agree with this report's recommendations for action? Do you think these actions are enough to change the current trend of coral reef decline? Which of these recommendations do you see as most critical?
-  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 of 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.