

# Albatross

This task is about adding words to a text so that it makes sense.



*Image source: T.Mattern, Department of Zoology, University of Otago*

The following piece of writing has some spaces where words are missing.

First, read the whole piece of writing through to get an idea of what it is about. Then fill each space with **ONE** word so that the whole piece of writing makes sense. You are able to change answers as you go.

When you have filled in all the spaces, re-read the text to check that the whole piece of writing makes sense.

## Albatross

The largest of all flying creatures is the albatross, which can have a wing span of 3.5 metres. The bill of this huge seagull is long and powerful.

The albatross's <sup>1</sup> is the southern oceans of the <sup>2</sup> where it may sometimes travel great <sup>3</sup>. One albatross, found near the Chilean <sup>4</sup>, had a special identification tag fastened <sup>5</sup> its neck which had been put <sup>6</sup> in New Zealand only 12 days earlier. <sup>7</sup> that brief time the bird had <sup>8</sup> 4800 kilometres, an average of 400 <sup>9</sup> daily - an amazing feat of endurance.

<sup>10</sup> are capable of flying at speeds <sup>11</sup> than 90 km/h. Their outstanding ability to <sup>12</sup> and glide far better than any <sup>13</sup> bird has led to them being <sup>14</sup> 'the prince of soaring birds'.

They <sup>15</sup> mainly on squid, fish, shrimp, and <sup>16</sup> creatures that are found near the <sup>17</sup> of the sea. They also swoop <sup>18</sup> on scraps thrown overboard from ships. <sup>19</sup> they will follow a ship for <sup>20</sup> days.

Albatrosses will alight on the <sup>21</sup> surface, but only when it is <sup>22</sup>. They visit land in the breeding <sup>23</sup> for a brief time. Adult birds <sup>24</sup> out at sea for two or <sup>25</sup> three years.