#### **Practice Test 3**

The diagram below shows the life cycle of the salmon.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

#### Sample Answer

The diagram shows the various stages of development in the life cycle of the salmon.

At the very beginning of the cycle, in freshwater or rivers, eggs take approximately three months to hatch. After hatching, the baby salmon called alevin not yet looking like a fish – feeds off the yolk sac. Several weeks later, it takes the form of a young fish, identified as fry, which can swim. The fry is about five to ten weeks old. By the time it is several months old, the salmon, now known as parr, has developed typical finger-shaped markings. At some point between the age of one and three years old, the salmon or smolt forms groups and swims out to sea. The fully grown adult spends up to eight years swimming in the ocean until it is time to spawn. The spawning adult then returns to freshwater or upriver and after spawning dies within a couple of weeks.

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Overall, the life cycle of the salmon covers seven distinct stages over approximately eight years from the hatching of the eggs till death.

1/3

#### Vocabulary

- At the very beginning
- Approximately
- Hatch
- Feeds off
- Identified as
- By the time
- At some point
- Spawning

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### **Janice Thompson**

Soon after graduating with a Master's in Literature from Southern Arkansas University, she joined an institute as an English language trainer. She has had innumerous student interactions and has produced a couple of research papers on English language teaching. She soon found that non-native speakers struggled to meet the English language requirements set by foreign universities. It was when she decided to jump ship into IELTS training. From then on, she has been mentoring IELTS aspirants. She joined IELTSMaterial about a year ago, and her contributions have been exceptional. Her essay ideas and vocabulary have taken many students to a band 9.

2/3

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3/3