Can a cuttlefish disappear in a living room?

A cuttlefish is a common sea animal with an amazing ability to change appearance. Are there any limits to this ability? Watch this video to find out.

Tasks
Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task
Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary
1. ...... a cuttlefish
2. ...... camouflage
3. ...... a predator
4. ...... to blend in
5. ...... chequerboard
6. ...... a chaise longue
7. ...... to do something 'a treat'
8. ...... underneath

Definition
a. an animal that kills and eats other animals
b. to change colour or appearance to look similar to the surroundings
c. a sea animal with eight arms and two tentacles (similar to an octopus)
d. to do something very well (colloquial British English)
e. a long, low seat which is similar to a sofa
f. the colour or shape of an animal that makes it difficult for others to see it
g. under or below
h. a design of black and white squares
Task 1
Are the sentences true or false?

1. The cuttlefish can change its colour but not its shape.  Answers: True
2. The cuttlefish uses camouflage so that big fish don’t eat it. Answers: True
3. The presenter wants to investigate if a cuttlefish can blend into a simpler environment. Answers: True
4. The presenter says that the cuttlefish blends into the chequerboard floor very badly. Answers: False
5. The presenter says that the cuttlefish blends into the chaise longue very well. Answers: False
6. The conclusion of the video is that cuttlefish always blend into the items in front of them. Answers: False

Task 2
Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

beginnings  challenging  predators  texture  treat  underneath

1. They can change their colour, shape and _________________ to blend in with the background.
2. It’s perfect for hiding from both _________________ and prey.
3. I want to see how the cuttlefish tackle something a bit more _________________.
4. There’s definitely the _________________ of a chequerboard there.
5. He’s blending into the chaise longue a _________________.
6. He’s not camouflaged with what he can see in front of him, he’s camouflaged with what’s _________________ him.

Discussion
What other amazing abilities do animals have?
Answers

Preparation task
1. c
2. f
3. a
4. b
5. h
6. e
7. d
8. g

Task 1
1. False
2. True
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. False

Task 2
1. texture
2. predators
3. challenging
4. beginnings
5. treat
6. underneath