1 Read and match the words to the definitions.

In January 2010, Dr Shanas was visiting the Sands of Samar, (Example) adjacent to the Jordan border. While he was exploring, he discovered a new giant (1) arachnid. It is the largest known spider in the Middle East with a (2) span of 14 cm. The spider is (3) nocturnal and is most active during the (4) blazing summer heat. The spider lives in an underground (5) den with tiny doors. The doors are difficult to see because the spider (6) camouflages them by gluing sand (7) particles onto them. The spider has a special (8) strategy for catching its prey. It waits until an insect steps into the den and then jumps out and attacks its (9) prey. The spider has been named Cerbalus aravensis. Unfortunately, this area of desert is (10) shrinking due to farming and quarrying and the spider’s habitat and future is uncertain.

Example: adjacent

1 arachnid
2 span
3 nocturnal
4 blazing
5 den
6 camouflage
7 particles
8 strategy
9 prey
10 shrinking

a the house of a wild animal
b to make the same appearance as the surroundings
c a detailed plan
d an animal that is hunted by another animal
e a wingless creature with eight legs
f to become smaller
g burning brightly with great heat
h a distance
i to be active at night
j tiny pieces
k next to, close by
2 Use the words to make sentences in reported speech. Remember to use the past tense.

Example:
(Adil/mutter/I am bored)

Adil muttered that he was bored.

1 (Najma/say/it is cold)

2 (Kate/explain/I like swimming)

3 (Tariq/say/it tastes delicious)

4 (Fred/whisper/I am scared)

5 (Sharifa/say/I need a pencil)