

Name _____

Word Count: 230

Speedy Cheetahs

Slowly count to four—one . . . two . . . three . . . four.	8
That's not a very long time. But four seconds is the time	20
it takes a cheetah to move from a standstill to a run at	33
more than sixty miles an hour.	39
Cheetahs are the fastest of all land animals. They have	49
bodies built like running machines. Their large hearts pump	58
extra blood, and their extra-wide nostrils take in a lot of air.	70
Their long legs help them cover more than twenty feet with	81
each stride, while their long tails balance and guide them.	91
They even have grooved footpads and strong claws that help	101
them grip the ground as they run.	108
Running sixty miles an hour takes a lot of energy. Cheetahs	119
tire easily and cannot run long distances. Instead, they use	129
quick bursts of speed to catch prey such as zebras, antelopes,	140
and rabbits. Cheetahs run best when they move in a straight	151
line, so an animal that makes twists and turns still might get	163
away.	164

Name _____

Word Count: 230

Like most big cats, cheetahs are an endangered species. 173
 Many live in the southern part of Africa near private ranching 184
 land. Some ranchers view them as pests, and thousands of 194
 cheetahs have been killed during the last decade. Efforts now 204
 are being made to protect and save these beautiful creatures. 214
 Perhaps one day you will have an opportunity to see these 225
 speedy animals in the wild. 230

Page 2 of 2

Goal Rate		Read 1	Read 2	Read 3	Read 4	Read 5	Read 6
	WPM						
	Errors						
	WCPM						
	Accuracy / Reading Rate %						

Words Per Minute (WPM); $WPM - \text{Errors} = \text{Words Correct Per Minute (WCPM)}$; $(WCPM \div WPM) \times 100 = \text{Accuracy/Reading Rate \%}$