

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Which bird's foot below is **best** for grasping prey?

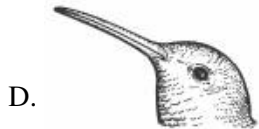
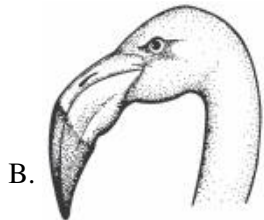


This online assessment item contains material that has been released to the public by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

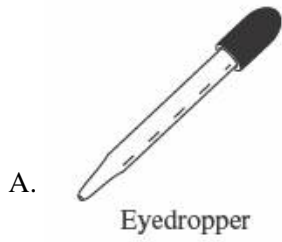
2. The picture below shows a flower with a long slender bloom.



The size and shape of a bird's beak are related to the type of food that the bird eats. Which of the following beaks is suitable for drinking nectar located deep within flowers such as the one shown above?



3. Moths have mouthparts that allow them to suck nectar from plants. Which of the following is **most** similar to the mouthparts of a moth?



This online assessment item contains material that has been released to the public by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

4. The picture below shows a bird.



From the shape of its beak and the length of its legs, this bird is best adapted for feeding on which of the following?

- A. insects that feed on plants
- B. small fish in shallow water
- C. nuts from riverside trees and plants
- D. birds in ground nests

This online assessment item contains material that has been released to the public by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

5. Why are grasshoppers green?

- A. because they feed on green caterpillars
 - B. to blend in with grass for protection
 - C. so males and females can see each other
 - D. to scare away animals that would eat them
-

6. A lizard's tail breaks very easily. How does this help to protect the lizard?

- A. The lizard can leave pieces of its tail to mark its territory.
 - B. During a food shortage, the lizard can break off its tail and eat it.
 - C. The lizard can leave broken pieces of tail to fool predators or to attract a mate.
 - D. If a predator catches the lizard by the tail, the tail breaks off and the lizard gets away.
-

7. Which characteristic helps slugs protect themselves?

- A. Slugs move slowly.
 - B. Slugs eat only plants.
 - C. Slugs enrich the soil.
 - D. Slugs have a foul-tasting coat.
-

8. All of the following adaptations are used by penguins to keep warm EXCEPT

- A. an insulating layer of blubber.
 - B. closely packed feathers.
 - C. a short, sharp beak.
 - D. a dense coat of two-layered feathers.
-

9. How are stinkbugs and skunks similar?

- A. They both use a horrible smell that repels predators.
 - B. They both have black and white colors that scare predators.
 - C. They both are fast and can run away from predators.
 - D. They both hide in holes when predators come near.
-

10. Ghost crabs live on sandy beaches. Their name infers a protective adaptation due to their

- A. light color.
 - B. large pincers.
 - C. digging behavior.
 - D. ability to outrun predators.
-

11. Which is the BEST example of an adaptation used to cause confusion when a group of animals tries to run away from a predator?

- A. stripes on a zebra
 - B. smell from a skunk
 - C. long neck of a giraffe
 - D. long ears of a rabbit
-

12. Which coloring in animals acts as a warning signal to predators?

- A. green colors that match leaves and grass
 - B. dark browns, blacks, and greys
 - C. bright colors such as reds, blues, and oranges
 - D. light colors such as white and tan
-

13.

Use the table below to answer this question.

Year	Number of Animals
1	600
2	400
3	?

In Year 1, there were 600 animals living in a rain forest. In Year 2, people started cutting down trees, and then there were 400 animals. In Year 3, people kept cutting down trees. Which is the BEST prediction for the number of animals left in the rain forest in Year 3?

- A. more than 600
 - B. 600
 - C. 400
 - D. less than 400
-

14. A camel can travel many days without water. Camels usually live in places with

- A. very little rainfall.
 - B. very little sunshine.
 - C. many lakes.
 - D. many plants.
-

15. A clam has a hard shell to protect it. Another animal using a similar form of protection is the

- A. butterfly.
 - B. zebra.
 - C. flounder.
 - D. turtle.
-

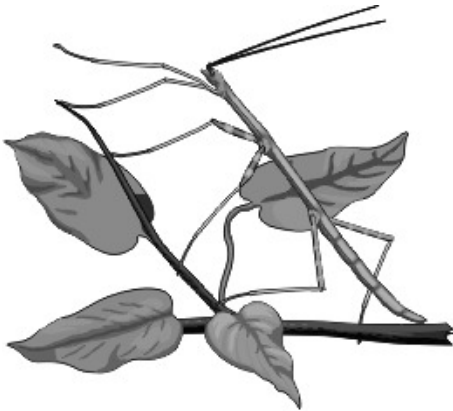
16. Which characteristic helps the animal get food?

- A. a crow's black color
 - B. a squirrel's bushy tail
 - C. a crayfish's strong claw
 - D. a turtle's hard shell
-

17. Rabbits have good hearing and can run very fast. These abilities help rabbits

- A. gather food more easily.
 - B. escape from predators.
 - C. move quietly through brush.
 - D. raise their babies.
-

18. Use the picture below to answer this question.



The picture above shows an insect called a "walkingstick" on a branch of a bush waiting to catch other insects for food. Which characteristic helps the walkingstick avoid becoming a meal for predators?

- A. quick movements
 - B. exceptional sense of sight
 - C. a long, slim body
 - D. great strength
-

19. A camel can travel many days without drinking. Camels usually live in places with

- A. very little rainfall.
 - B. very little sunshine.
 - C. many lakes.
 - D. many plants.
-

20. A long neck helps the giraffe

- A. eat grass in fields.
 - B. eat leaves on trees.
 - C. cross rivers and streams.
 - D. protect itself from tigers.
-

21. An alpine chipmunk senses that it is time to hibernate when

- A. it starts to get hungry.
 - B. there is enough fat on its body.
 - C. the weather turns cold.
 - D. its hair turns white.
-

22. The color of a polar bear's fur helps it to

- A. sneak up on seals.
 - B. run in the snow.
 - C. swim in cold water.
 - D. find its den in the snow.
-

23. The rattle helps the rattlesnake

- A. swallow food.
 - B. scare predators.
 - C. catch prey.
 - D. stay warm.
-

24. The big eyes of the owl help it

- A. hide in the trees.
 - B. find mice at night.
 - C. sleep during the day.
 - D. scare away insects.
-

25. Whitetail deer live on the Cumberland Island National Seashore. What would make the deer population on the island smaller?

- A. people moving away from the island
 - B. planting new trees in the forest area where old ones were cut
 - C. building ponds in some of the island clearings
 - D. introducing grey wolves to the island
-

26. The skunk's odor, the bee's sting, and the turtle's shell are all used for

- A. camouflage.
 - B. protection.
 - C. establishing territories.
 - D. communication.
-

27. A green frog's color MOSTLY helps it to

- A. reproduce.
 - B. hide.
 - C. avoid harmful rays from the Sun.
 - D. stay warm during the winter.
-

28. The type of animal with the BEST chance of surviving in a rain forest is one that

- A. only eats the leaves of a rare forest tree.
 - B. lives in trees and eats insects.
 - C. lives on the ground and eats a variety of leaves, fruits, and insects.
 - D. only eats fruit from vines growing high in the trees.
-

29. A grasshopper is an insect that is light green in color. Birds like to eat grasshoppers. Grasshoppers would be safest on

- A. blades of grass.
 - B. flower petals.
 - C. the bark of trees.
 - D. wooden fence posts.
-

30. Which statement about living things is MOST correct?

- A. Most living things can grow anywhere.
 - B. Each kind of living thing has special needs that must be met.
 - C. Living things do not need other kinds of living things.
 - D. Living things can change to suit their surroundings.
-

31. Many birds fly south before winter. This movement is known as

- A. hibernation.
 - B. migration.
 - C. reflex action.
 - D. adaptation.
-

32. An animal that has thick fur, webbed feet, and blubber would probably live in the

- A. Arctic Ocean.
 - B. Amazon rain forest.
 - C. Intracoastal Waterway in Georgia.
 - D. Mojave Desert in California.
-

33. If all birds disappeared, there would be no more

- A. animals.
 - B. flying things.
 - C. robins.
 - D. living things.
-

34. Which adaptation is most important for allowing land mammals to obtain oxygen?

- A. fins
 - B. gills
 - C. pores
 - D. lungs
-

35. The color (pigmentation) of a frog's skin helps it to

- A. hide.
 - B. breathe.
 - C. swim.
 - D. croak.
-

36. The camel is an animal that lives in the desert. It has widely spread hooves to help it walk in the loose sand. These hooves are an example of

- A. adaptation.
 - B. extinction.
 - C. persistence.
 - D. permutation.
-

37. Which characteristic is NOT an example of protective adaptations?

- A. presence of an exoskeleton in a lobster
 - B. camouflage of the walkingstick insect
 - C. presence of long running legs in the ostrich
 - D. well-developed circulatory system of a sparrow
-

38.

Use the list below to answer this question.

pointed beaks coloration winter coats webbed feet
--

The things listed above are

- A. only found in water animals.
 - B. only found in land animals.
 - C. ways animals have adapted to their environment.
 - D. things that some animals choose for themselves.
-

39. Beavers have webbed feet and paddle-like tails. These adaptations help beavers live in

- A. deserts.
 - B. forests.
 - C. prairies.
 - D. rivers.
-

40. Billy's class went on a nature walk. He and his classmates saw red, orange, yellow, and brown leaves falling from the trees. Which season of the year was it?

- A. fall
 - B. spring
 - C. summer
 - D. winter
-

41. The whippoorwill is a bird that is colored so that it is very difficult to see when it is perched on a tree limb. Which term describes this kind of adaptation?

- A. aggressive
 - B. selective
 - C. protective
 - D. inventive
-

42. Which animal would be protected in its environment because of its coloration?

- A. a cardinal perched in a tree
 - B. a red fox walking through an open field
 - C. a zebra standing at the edge of a lake
 - D. a deer's fawn lying on the forest floor
-

43. Owls hunt for food mostly at night. How do owls find food in the dark?

- A. Owls find food by feeling with antennas.
 - B. Owls use their feet to scratch and find seeds.
 - C. The eyes of owls open very wide to see in dim light.
 - D. Owls sit in trees and wait for food to move closer.
-

44. Many animals have colorings that help them blend into their environment. Which of these animals is MOST LIKELY to depend on this kind of coloring for its survival?

- A. elephant
 - B. flamingo
 - C. blue jay
 - D. deer
-

45.

Some animals would be unable to sustain themselves over long, cold winters. Which of these describes the way they are able to adapt?

- A. hibernation
- B. protective armor
- C. use of camouflage
- D. nocturnal (nighttime) activities

46.

Identify one way humans have caused the extinction of organisms.

- A. Humans have over hunted and killed many animals.
 - B. Humans have had little effect on organisms.
 - C. Humans didn't feed the animals.
 - D. Humans kept animals as pets.
-

47.

What role have humans played in the extinction of animals?

- A. Humans domesticate animals, which has caused extinction.
 - B. Humans destroyed habitats, which has caused extinction.
 - C. Humans avoid animals, leading to their extinction.
 - D. New forests have been built by humans.
-

48.

Identify the choice that is considered to cause the extinction of certain organisms today.

- A. too many animals
 - B. too much food
 - C. heavy rains
 - D. toxic waste
-

49.

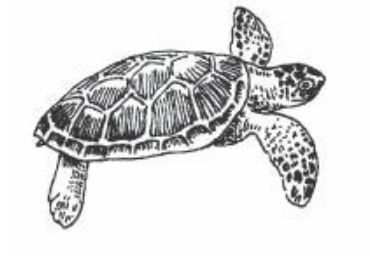


The eyespots on this butterfly's wings allow it to —

- A. stay warm.
- B. locate nectar-filled flowers.
- C. fly away quickly.
- D. frighten or confuse enemies.

*Permission has been granted for reproduction by the Virginia Department of Education
© Virginia Department of Education*

50.

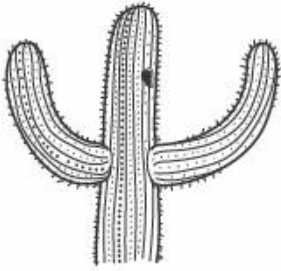


A turtle uses its shell for —

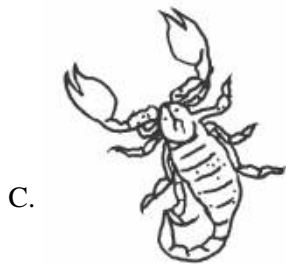
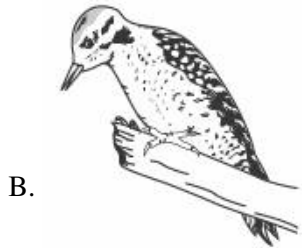
- A. defense.
- B. movement.
- C. rearing young.
- D. storing food.

*Permission has been granted for reproduction by the Virginia Department of Education
© Virginia Department of Education*

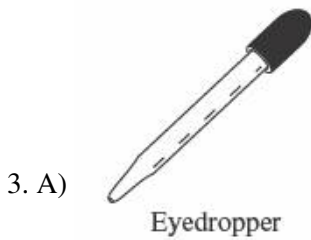
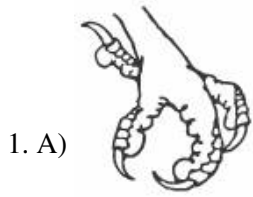
51.



Which of these animals **MOST** likely made the hole in the cactus to find water?



Answer Key



4. B) small fish in shallow water

5. B) to blend in with grass for protection

6. D) If a predator catches the lizard by the tail, the tail breaks off and the lizard gets away.

7. D) Slugs have a foul-tasting coat.

8. C) a short, sharp beak.

9. A) They both use a horrible smell that repels predators.

10. A) light color.

11. A) stripes on a zebra

12. C) bright colors such as reds, blues, and oranges

13. D) less than 400

14. A) very little rainfall.

15. D) turtle.

16. C) a crayfish's strong claw

17. B) escape from predators.
18. C) a long, slim body
19. A) very little rainfall.
20. B) eat leaves on trees.
21. C) the weather turns cold.
22. A) sneak up on seals.
23. B) scare predators.
24. B) find mice at night.
25. D) introducing grey wolves to the island
26. B) protection.
27. B) hide.
28. C) lives on the ground and eats a variety of leaves, fruits, and insects.
29. A) blades of grass.
30. B) Each kind of living thing has special needs that must be met.
31. B) migration.
32. A) Arctic Ocean.
33. C) robins.
34. D) lungs
35. A) hide.
36. A) adaptation.
37. D) well-developed circulatory system of a sparrow
38. C) ways animals have adapted to their environment.
39. D) rivers.
40. A) fall
41. C) protective
42. D) a deer's fawn lying on the forest floor
43. C) The eyes of owls open very wide to see in dim light.
44. D) deer

45. A) hibernation

46. A) Humans have over hunted and killed many animals.

47. B) Humans destroyed habitats, which has caused extinction.

48. D) toxic waste

49. D) frighten or confuse enemies.

50. A) defense.



51. B)