



Let's go on a journey back in time to meet a curious bird named Dodo. This fascinating creature was quite large, about 3 feet tall, and had a big, hooked beak. Covered in grey or brownish feathers, this chubby bird had tiny wings that were too small for it to fly. Its blue-grey legs were strong and sturdy, perfect for its life on the ground.

Stomping around with those strong legs, the Dodo called the beautiful island of Mauritius, located in the Indian Ocean, home. It lived in the forested areas of the island, where it could find plenty of food. Speaking of food, this bird was not a picky eater at all, munching on fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots that it found on the ground. The Dodo didn't have to worry about finding food because it didn't have any natural predators on the island, that is, until humans arrived.

When humans discovered Mauritius in the late 1500s, life changed dramatically for our feathered friends. The Dodo was hunted for food by sailors, and the animals they brought with them, like dogs and pigs, destroyed their nests and ate their eggs. Sadly, within about 100 years of humans arriving on Mauritius, the Dodo was extinct. This means there are no Dodos left in the world today, only drawings and descriptions from those times give us an idea of what they looked like.



Despite its sad story, the Dodo still has lessons to teach us. It shows us how different each species on our planet is, and how important it is to protect them. The Dodo, with its unique inability to fly and lack of fear of humans, was very different from other bird species. Remembering the Dodo helps us understand that every creature, no matter how different, has its own place in the world's story.

**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) How big was the Dodo bird?
 - A. About 5 feet tall
 - B. About 1 foot tall
 - C. About 6 feet tall
 - D. About 3 feet tall
- 2) What color were the Dodo bird's legs?
 - A. Black-white
 - B. Pink-purple
 - C. Yellow-orange
 - D. Blue-grey
- 3) Where did the Dodo bird live?
 - A. The mountains of Himalaya
 - B. The deserts of Africa
 - C. The island of Mauritius
 - D. The island of Madagascar
- 4) Are there any Dodo birds left today?
 - A. Yes, they are still around
 - B. No, they are extinct
 - C. Yes, but only in zoos
 - D. They are very rare, but a few still exist
- 5) What happened to the Dodo bird after humans arrived?
 - A. They started living in nests in trees
 - B. They learned to fly
 - C. They started to eat meat
 - D. They were hunted for food
- 6) Could the Dodo bird fly?
 - A. It could fly sometimes
 - B. Yes, it could fly
 - C. Only for about 10 minute at a time
 - D. No, it could not fly
- 7) What choice did the Dodo bird NOT eat?
 - A. Fruits
 - B. Seeds
 - C. Other birds
 - D. Roots
- 8) Did Dodo birds have any natural predators before humans arrived?
 - A. No, they did not have any natural predators
 - B. Yes, they were preyed upon by snakes
 - C. Yes, they were hunted by large cats
 - D. Yes, they were attacked by hawks
- 9) What type of beak did the Dodo bird have?
 - A. Sharp, curved beak
 - B. Flat, wide beak
 - C. Small, pointed beak
 - D. Big, hooked beak
- 10) When did humans discover Mauritius?
 - A. In the early 1200s
 - B. In the late 1500s
 - C. In the early 1900s
 - D. In the mid 1600s

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "I love to travel, my species can be found all over the world."



- 12) "I'm always on guard because of the many natural predators in my habitat."
- 13) "Walking is more my style, thanks to my sturdy blue-grey legs."
- 14) "I love soaring high above the trees with my large wings."
- 15) "I'm not that different from other bird species."
- 16) "I prefer eating meat and insects over fruits and seeds."
- 17) "Fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots, that's what fills my tummy."
- 18) "Today, I exist only in drawings and descriptions in human history books."
- 19) "Even with wings, I prefer to stay grounded, they are just too tiny for flying."
- 20) "I struggle to walk because of my weak legs."
- 21) "I'm too scared to approach humans."
- 22) "I lived in the desert, always in search of water."
- 23) "I love the forests! There are plenty of delicacies for me to munch on."
- 24) "Humans did a great job protecting my species."
- 25) "Sadly, we couldn't survive the human intrusion and in about 100 years, there were no Dodos left, including me."
- 26) "The animals that humans brought with them caused so much destruction, they even ate our eggs!"
- 27) "Life on the island was peaceful until humans arrived. I had no predators."
- 28) "My colorful feathers are quite attractive."
- 29) "I'm quite tall for a bird, almost the same height as a three-year-old child."
- 30) "I might be different from other birds – I can't fly and I was not afraid of humans!"

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 31) The Dodo was hunted by sailors and the animals they brought like dogs and pigs.
- 32) The Dodo bird's inability to fly was its most interesting feature.
- 33) Dodo birds called the island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, home.
- 34) Dodo bird is the best bird because it ate fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots.
- 35) Dodo birds were quite large and around 3 feet tall.
- 36) The tiny wings of the Dodo bird were cute.
- 37) There are no Dodos left in the world today.
- 38) The wings of Dodo birds were too small for them to fly.
- 39) Dodo Birds were the cutest birds to ever exist.
- 40) The extinction of the Dodo Bird was one of the saddest events in history.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) There are no Dodos left in the world today.
- 42) Dodo birds were black and white.
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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
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| 1. <u> D </u> | 26. <u> true </u> | 51. <u> B </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> C </u> | 28. <u> false </u> | 53. <u> D </u> |
| 4. <u> B </u> | 29. <u> true </u> | 54. <u> A </u> |
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| 6. <u> D </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> | 56. <u> declarative </u> |
| 7. <u> C </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> | 57. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 8. <u> A </u> | 33. <u> fact </u> | 58. <u> declarative </u> |
| 9. <u> D </u> | 34. <u> opinion </u> | 59. <u> declarative </u> |
| 10. <u> B </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 12. <u> false </u> | 37. <u> fact </u> | 62. <u> interrogative </u> |
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