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From their homes and diets, let's move on to the life of a mallard. These birds have a fascinating life cycle that starts when a female lays her eggs in a nest she's built near water. After about a month, the baby ducklings hatch, and they can leave the nest just a few hours after hatching! In just two months, those little ducklings grow up and learn to fly, starting their own journey as mallards.



Mallards have interesting relationships with humans and other animals. People often enjoy feeding them in parks, but it's important to remember that bread isn't good for them! With other animals, they often share their habitats peacefully, but they're also known to play tricks on predators like foxes and hawks by pretending to be injured to lead them away from their nests. So next time you see a mallard, remember it's not just a pretty bird, but also a clever and adaptable part of our natural world.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What color is the bill of a mallard bird?

A. Blue with white rings B. Green with yellow stripes

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2) What colors can you find on a mallard?

A. Purple, orange, and white B. Red, black, and yellow

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3) What is the color of a female mallard?

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4) When can the ducklings leave their nest?

A. A few hours after hatching B. After one month C. Two months after hatching D. After 6 months

5) What type of food is not good for mallards?

A. Insects B. Bread C. Grass D. Fish

6) What color are the males' heads in mallard birds?

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7) Where do mallard birds build their nests?

A. Near water B. Underground

D. In trees C. They do not build nests

8) How long do the eggs take to hatch once a female mallard lays them?

A. About a year B. About a day C. About a month D. About a week

9) If you were looking for mallards in the wild, where would be the best place to look?

A. Lakes B. Mountains C. Caves D. Deserts

10) How long does it take for the ducklings to learn to fly?

A. One month B. Three months

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

11) "When it's time for us to become parents, the female lays her eggs in a nest near the water."

12) "I lure predators away from my nest by pretending I'm hurt."



- 13) "Unlike humans, I have different dresses and colors. You can tell if I'm a boy or a girl by my colour!"
- 14) "I don't eat small fish."
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- **16**) "I really like bread, it's good for me."
- 17) "I don't like to eat insects and worms, just grass and seeds."
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- 19) "Humans often feed us bread, but it isn't good for us."
- 20) "I have a colorful look, with my green head, white collar and chestnut-brown chest."
- 21) "I absolutely love to live in dry places."
- 22) "My kids can leave the nest just a few hours after hatching."
- 23) "I only have one color, I'm completely green."
- 24) "I enjoy a gourmet meal of insects, worms, grass, and even small fish. Yummy!"
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- **28)** After about two months, the mallard ducklings learn to fly.
- **29**) The best thing about mallards is the sound they make.
- **30)** Mallard ducklings can leave the nest just a few hours after they hatch.
- 31) It's amazing how mallards have a special gland that helps them repel water and keep their feathers dry.
- **32)** Male Mallards have an iridescent green head, whereas the females are overall brown speckled.
- 33) Mallards are the best kind of ducks because they can live in a wide variety of habitats.
- 34) Mallards can fake injuries to trick predators and protect their nests.
- 35) The diet of a Mallard duck includes insects, grass, worms, and even small fish.
- **36)** Mallards are more interesting than other ducks.
- 37) It's really cool that mallard ducklings learn to fly just two months after hatching.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **38)** A baby mallard can leave the nest a few hours after hatching.
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- **41**) Mallard ducklings take a year to learn how to fly.
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- 44) Mallards lay their eggs in nests built far away from water.
- **45**) Mallards usually fight with other animals over habitats.
- **46)** Mallards sometimes pretend to be injured to trick predators.
- 47) Mallards may be a blue color.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **48)** You'll often see mallards in parks and near water.
 - A. you can

B. you will

C. you are

D. you do

- **49**) It's easy to spot a male mallard because of his bright green head.
 - A. it is

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- **50**) Mallards <u>can't</u> fly immediately after they're hatched.
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- 51) Mallards <u>aren't</u> found only in North America, you'll see them all around the world.
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- **52)** Mallards don't sleep with both eyes closed, they keep one eye open when they sleep.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 53) Mallards are known for their bright green heads.
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- 63) Isn't it astonishing that during migration, mallards can travel thousands of miles!
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- **66)** It's amazing that female mallards have a more subdued color to blend with their surroundings!
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Mallard

Name:

1.	 26.	 51.		
2.	 27	 52.		
3.	 28	 53.		
4.	 29	 54.		
5.	 30.	 55.		
6.	 31.	 56.		
7.	 32	57.		
8.	 33	 58.		
9.	 34	 59.		
10.	 35	 60.		
11.	 36	 61.		
12.	 37	 62.		
13.	 38	 63.		
14.	 39	 64.		
15.	40.	 65.		
16.	41	66.		
17.	 42	 67.		
18.	 43	68.		
19.	 _ 44			
20.	 45			
21.	 46			
22.	 47			
23.	 48			
24.	 49			
25.	 50.			

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Name: Answer Key

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Mallard

Name: Ar

Answer Key

1.	D	26.	false	51.	A
	C	•		·	C
2.		27.	true	52.	C
3.	D	28.	fact	53.	declarative
4.	A	29.	opinion	54.	exclamatory
5.	В	30.	fact	. 55.	exclamatory
6.	<u> </u>	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory
7.	<u>A</u>	32.	fact	57.	exclamatory
8.	C	33.	opinion	58.	declarative
9.	A	34.	fact	. 59.	interrogative
10.	C	35.	fact	60.	exclamatory
11.	true	36.	opinion	61.	declarative
12.	true	37.	opinion	62.	interrogative
13.	true	38.	true	63.	exclamatory
14.	false	39.	false	64.	interrogative
15.	true	40.	true	. 65.	exclamatory
16.	false	41.	false	. 66.	exclamatory
17.	false	42.	true	67.	exclamatory
18.	true	43.	false	68.	exclamatory
19.	true	44.	false		
20.	true	45.	false		
21.	false	46.	true		
22.	true	47.	true		
23.	false	48.	В		
24.	true	49.	A		
25.	false	50.	D		



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US	se i	the	ar	ticl	e t	0	answer	the	question.	
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C.

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C. Green, brown, and blue

D.

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1-10 92 83 75 67 58 50 42 33 25 17

11-12 8 0