



Imagine a creature that's as light as a feather, with vibrant orange wings and spots that look like tiny suns - let's talk about the magical Monarch butterfly! These magnificent insects are quite a sight with their large wings that are a brilliant shade of orange, laced with black lines and bordered with white dots. They're not just pretty faces though, they are also one of the largest butterflies, and can have a wingspan of nearly 5 inches. Next time you see one, try to spot the difference between a Monarch and other butterflies!

Did you know that Monarchs have a royal taste for a particular plant? These butterflies mainly eat milkweed, a plant which is poisonous to most animals, but not our Monarch friends. The milkweed does more than just fill their bellies, it also helps them stay safe from predators who don't like the taste of the poisonous plant. Let's find out where our butterfly buddies hang out and live.

Just like how we love to travel for summer vacations, Monarchs have their own version of a road trip. They migrate thousands of miles every year from North America to Mexico for the winter, and then return home in the spring. While on this epic journey, they lay eggs on milkweed plants that hatch into caterpillars, transform into a chrysalis, and finally emerge as a new butterfly to continue the cycle. Now, you might be wondering how we humans interact with these flying beauties.

We humans have a special relationship with Monarchs, as we love to watch them and they help us too. They help pollinate plants by carrying pollen from one plant to another while they are searching for nectar. However, Monarchs need our help to survive as their habitats are often threatened by human activities. So remember, these magical creatures are more than just beautiful, they play a crucial role in our ecosystem.





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

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

- 11) "During my migration I lay eggs on milkweed plants. These hatch into caterpillars, transform into a chrysalis, and then become new butterflies."
- 12) "I don't mind which plant I eat, they're all tasty!"



Monarch Butterflies

Name: _____

- 13) "My wings are a brilliant shade of orange, decorated with black lines and white dots."
- 14) "Berries are my favorite food."
- 15) "Do you know I help pollinate plants while looking for nectar? Not just a pretty creature, but a helpful one too."
- 16) "My wings are completely white."
- 17) "I travel to Canada during the winter."
- 18) "I don't like the sunshine, I prefer dark and gloomy places!"
- 19) "I'm one of the smallest butterflies."
- 20) "Can you believe it? The very plant that I eat protects me from predators! They don't like the taste of poisonous milkweed."
- 21) "Other insects love eating milkweed just like me!"
- 22) "Just like humans, we Monarchs love to travel too. Every winter, we fly thousands of miles from North America to Mexico."
- 23) "I enjoy staying local, there's no need for long trips!"
- 24) "Milkweed is my favorite food. It might be poisonous to most animals, but it doesn't harm me at all."
- 25) "Living in Mexico year round is the best, I never leave!"
- 26) "I love to make my home in the Arctic."
- 27) "I'm not a tiny insect, you know! My wingspan can stretch out up to nearly 5 inches."

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

- 28) Monarch butterflies travel from North America to Mexico every year.
- 29) The pattern on a monarch's wings is more beautiful than any other butterfly.
- 30) Eating milkweed helps Monarch butterflies to protect themselves from predators.
- 31) Monarchs are the most interesting butterfly because they eat plants that are poisonous to other animals.
- 32) Monarch butterflies have a wingspan of almost 5 inches.
- 33) The journey of thousands of miles that Monarchs undertake during migration is the most impressive feat by any butterfly.
- 34) Monarch butterflies pollinate plants while finding nectar.
- 35) The main food of Monarch butterflies is milkweed.
- 36) Monarch butterflies, with their vivid orange wings and tiny sun-like spots, are the most beautiful insects.
- 37) Monarch butterflies are better than every other butterfly.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Monarch butterflies help pollinate plants.
- 39) Monarch butterflies are the smallest butterflies.
- 40) Milkweed helps Monarchs stay safe from predators.
- 41) Monarch butterflies can have blue wings.
- 42) Monarch butterflies migrate to Mexico every winter.
- 43) During their migration, Monarch butterflies lay eggs on rose bushes.
- 44) Monarch butterflies eat only fruits.
- 45) Monarch butterflies spend their entire lives living in the same place they were born.
- 46) Milkweed is the main food of Monarch butterflies.
- 47) The wingspan of a Monarch butterfly can be nearly 5 inches.



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



Monarch Butterflies

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. _____

16. _____ 41. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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

48) They'll fly thousands of miles during migration.

- A. They have
- B. They will
- C. They can
- D. They had

49) Monarchs' wings aren't blue or green.

- A. are not
- B. were not
- C. is not
- D. will not

50) Monarch butterflies can't harm humans.

- A. can
- B. do not
- C. will not
- D. cannot

51) Monarchs don't change colors when they're adults.

- A. do not
- B. does not
- C. will not
- D. did not

52) It's important to plant milkweed for monarchs.

- A. It has
- B. They are
- C. It is
- D. It was

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 53) A single monarch butterfly can lay hundreds of eggs!
- 54) Release monarch butterflies back into the wild after observing them.
- 55) Why do monarch butterflies migrate?
- 56) It's astounding how a monarch butterfly can travel up to 3000 miles during its migration!
- 57) Monarch butterflies have bright orange and black wings.
- 58) Are Monarch butterflies poisonous to predators?
- 59) Monarchs migrate to escape cold weather and find warm places to live.
- 60) How can I attract monarch butterflies to my garden?
- 61) Caterpillars eat milkweed plants, which makes them poisonous.
- 62) Look for monarch butterflies in meadows, fields, and gardens.
- 63) It's amazing that monarchs use the sun and Earth's magnetic field to navigate!
- 64) Plant milkweed in your qarden to help monarch butterflies.



Monarch Butterflies

Name: **Answer Key**

1.	D	26.	Not	51.	A
2.	D	27.	Would	52.	C
3.	A	28.	fact	53.	exclamatory
4.	A	29.	opinion	54.	imperative
5.	A	30.	fact	55.	interrogative
6.	B	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory
7.	C	32.	fact	57.	declarative
8.	B	33.	opinion	58.	interrogative
9.	B	34.	fact	59.	declarative
10.	C	35.	fact	60.	interrogative
11.	Would	36.	opinion	61.	declarative
12.	Not	37.	opinion	62.	imperative
13.	Would	38.	true	63.	exclamatory
14.	Not	39.	false	64.	imperative
15.	Would	40.	true		
16.	Not	41.	false		
17.	Not	42.	true		
18.	Not	43.	false		
19.	Not	44.	false		
20.	Would	45.	false		
21.	Not	46.	true		
22.	Would	47.	true		
23.	Not	48.	B		
24.	Would	49.	A		
25.	Not	50.	D		



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11) "During my migration I lay eggs on milkweed plants. These hatch into caterpillars, transform into a chrysalis, and then become new butterflies." (paragraph 3)



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12) "I don't mind which plant I eat, they're all tasty!" (paragraph 2)