



Ever seen a bird that's taller than your dad? Cue the ostrich, the tallest bird on the planet! These feathery giants can reach up to 9 feet tall, that's taller than any other bird in the world. They have long, skinny legs, a big body covered in fluffy feathers, and a small head with big, round eyes. And don't forget their wings, which are huge but not big enough to make these big birds fly.

You may wonder where such a magnificent creature lives. Mostly found in the warm savannas and grasslands of Africa, they enjoy a sunny and open environment. They can withstand high temperatures and don't need a lot of water, which makes them perfect for the African climate. With their keen eyesight and amazing speed, they can escape most dangers in these wide open spaces.

Now, let's talk about their diet and their relationship with others in the animal kingdom. Ostriches are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and small animals. Their meals consist mainly of seeds, shrubs, grass, fruit, and occasionally insects, lizards or other small creatures that they can catch. They live in small herds, and while they can be a meal for lions or cheetahs, their powerful kicks can be a serious defense.



Humans and ostriches have had a long history together. We've been fascinated by these unique birds for centuries, using their feathers for decoration, their eggs for food, and their leather for clothes. Some people even race ostriches for sport! So, from their towering height to their surprising speed, ostriches are truly one-of-a-kind birds that show us how diverse and fascinating the animal kingdom can be.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is the tallest bird on the planet?
A. Penguin
B. Ostrich
C. Peacock
D. Eagle
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A. No
B. Yes
C. Only adult ostriches
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A. Only when they are adults
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A. Jousting on ostriches
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D. Nuts, berries, and honey
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A. They live in pairs
B. They live alone
C. They live in small herds
D. They live in large flocks

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

- 11) "My wings are super tiny."
- 12) "I can't see very well."
- 13) "I have long skinny legs that hold up my fluffy body."
- 14) "I am shorter than most birds."
- 15) "I prefer eating only plants."
- 16) "Flying is my most favorite thing to do."

- 17) "I don't really need a lot of water."
- 18) "If a lion tries to make a meal of me, my powerful kicks can protect me!"
- 19) "Even though I have wings, I can't fly." But I am sure great at running!
- 20) "Lions and Cheetahs are my best buddies."
- 21) "I like to live in forests."
- 22) "Humans and I do not interact much."
- 23) "The warm land of Africa is my home. I just love the sun and open spaces!"
- 24) "I can't run very fast."
- 25) "I am great at running!"
- 26) "I love munching on seeds, shrubs, and fruit."
- 27) "My sharp eyes and speedy legs help me escape from dangers!"
- 28) "I like to live alone."
- 29) "Standing 9 feet tall, I am the tallest bird on Earth!"
- 30) "If I can catch them, I'll eat insects, lizards or other small creatures."

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

- 31) Ostriches can survive high temperatures and don't require lots of water.
- 32) Ostrich racing must be the most exciting sport to watch.
- 33) The natural habitat of ostriches is the warm savannas and grasslands of Africa.
- 34) It's odd that ostriches live in places with high temperatures but don't need a lot of water.
- 35) An ostrich is the tallest bird on earth.
- 36) The noise an ostrich makes is really funny.
- 37) An ostrich's diet consists of both plants and small animals.
- 38) An ostrich can't fly even though it has large wings.
- 39) With their long legs and fluffy feathers, ostriches are the most interesting looking birds.
- 40) Being able to withstand attacks from lions or cheetahs, ostriches are surely the toughest birds.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Ostrich eggs are used for food by humans.
- 42) The Ostrich lives in a large herd with hundreds of other ostriches.
- 43) Ostriches are able to withstand high temperatures.
- 44) Ostriches are carnivores who only eat other small creatures.
- 45) Ostriches don't need a lot of water.
- 46) Ostriches are typically around 2 or 3 feet tall.
- 47) Ostriches can only fly in short bursts of 10 minutes or less.
- 48) Ostriches are mainly found in the cold forests of Africa.
- 49) Ostriches may occasionally eat small creatures.
- 50) The ostrich is the tallest bird on the planet.

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

- 51) It's a myth that ostriches bury their heads in the sand when they are scared.
A. It was B. It is
C. It has D. It can

- 52) They've got strong legs that can kick very hard.
A. They have
B. They are
C. They had
D. They can
- 53) Ostrich's can't fly like most birds.
A. can and
B. can so
C. can but
D. cannot
- 54) Ostriches don't have teeth, they swallow pebbles to grind their food.
A. do not
B. does not
C. have not
D. did not
- 55) They're the largest birds in the world.
A. They can
B. They were
C. They are
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 56) Ostriches cannot fly but can run very fast.
- 57) Ostriches run faster than horses, that's terrifically fast!
- 58) Despite their huge size, ostriches lay the biggest eggs in the world, that's unbelievable!
- 59) Ostrich feathers are used for making dusters, that's a strange use!
- 60) It's amazing but ostriches cannot walk backward!
- 61) Ostriches are the largest birds in the world.
- 62) Do ostriches have long necks?
- 63) It's astonishing but ostriches can survive without water for days!
- 64) Ostriches eat plants, insects, and small animals.
- 65) Where do ostriches live?
- 66) These birds use their wings as rudders to change direction while running, that's so clever!
- 67) Can ostriches fly?
- 68) In the wild, ostriches spend the winter months in pairs or alone, that's a lonely time!
- 69) Their powerful long legs can kill a human or a potential predator like a lion, that's scary!
- 70) An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain, that's incredibly weird!
- 71) Ostriches can live up to 40 to 45 years, what a long life!



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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
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| 2. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> Would </u> | 52. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> C </u> | 28. <u> Not </u> | 53. <u> D </u> |
| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> Would </u> | 54. <u> A </u> |
| 5. <u> C </u> | 30. <u> Would </u> | 55. <u> C </u> |
| 6. <u> C </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> | 56. <u> declarative </u> |
| 7. <u> D </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> | 57. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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| 16. <u> Not </u> | 41. <u> true </u> | 66. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 17. <u> Would </u> | 42. <u> false </u> | 67. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 19. <u> Would </u> | 44. <u> false </u> | 69. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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| 22. <u> Not </u> | 47. <u> false </u> | |
| 23. <u> Would </u> | 48. <u> false </u> | |
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