



Swooping in with a flutter of wings, let's explore the world of pigeons, our friendly neighborhood birds! These fascinating creatures are known for their sleek bodies, covered in a coat of feathers that can be a variety of colors, from grey and white to green and purple. They have short necks, but a surprisingly large head for their size, and their eyes are an interesting mix of orange and red. Pigeons also have a unique feature called a 'crop', a special part of their throat used for storing food.



Speaking of food, have you ever wondered what pigeons like to eat? These city dwellers have quite a varied diet, mostly munching on seeds, fruits and plants. But don't be fooled, these birds also have a sweet tooth, they are known to occasionally snack on bread crumbs, popcorn and other treats they find in urban areas. This varied diet helps them stay strong and healthy, ready to face the challenges of their urban jungle.

Now that we know what they eat, let's take a look at where these creatures make their homes. Pigeons are highly adaptable and can live in varied environments, from countryside barns to bustling city streets. They're also sociable birds and often found in large flocks, they even build their nests close to each other in locations that are safe from predators. Not only do they get along with each other, but pigeons have a long history with humans, being used for communication, in sport and even in war!



Moving from homes to lifetimes, let's dive into the life cycle of these interesting birds. After hatching from their eggs, young pigeons, known as squabs, stay in the nest for about a month before they're ready to fly. As they grow, these birds can live for up to 6 years in the wild, but some pigeons have been known to live for over 15 years! So, from their colorful feathers to their urban lifestyle, pigeons certainly make for an interesting neighbor in our cities and towns.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color are a pigeon's eyes?
A. Blue and green
B. Solid black
C. Purple and yellow
D. Orange and red
- 2) What is the variety of colors pigeons' feathers can be?
A. Brown, orange, silver and gold
B. Black, blue, red and yellow
C. Grey, white, green and purple
D. Pink, lavender, teal and navy
- 3) What are two types of food that pigeons like to eat?
A. Seeds and fruits
B. Meat and fish
C. Cheese and yogurt
D. Candy and soda
- 4) How do pigeons usually live?
A. In pairs
B. In small groups
C. Alone
D. In large flocks
- 5) How long do pigeons usually live in the wild?
A. Up to 6 years
B. Up to 2 years
C. Up to 10 years
D. Up to 20 years
- 6) What is a 'crop' that pigeons have?
A. A color pattern on their body
B. A special part of their throat used for storing food
C. A type of feather on their wings
D. A specific type of sound they make
- 7) What were pigeons used for by humans?
A. Farming and gardening
B. Cooking and cleaning
C. Communication
D. Entertainment and decoration
- 8) What are young pigeons known as?
A. Squabs
B. Fledglings
C. Chicks
D. Hatchlings
- 9) Where can pigeons make their homes?
A. Only on rocky, inaccessible cliffs and mountains
B. In various places from barns to city streets
C. Only in dry desert regions and sand dunes
D. Only in dense jungles and thick forests
- 10) How long do young pigeons stay in the nest?
A. About a week
B. About a month
C. About a year
D. About a day

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

- 11) "By the time I'm 5 days old, I am ready to fly."



- 12) "I can only live for a maximum of 3 years."
- 13) "After I hatched from my egg, I stayed in my nest for about a month before I learned how to fly."
- 14) "My eyes are a distinct mix of orange and red."
- 15) "My feathers are only ever grey and white."
- 16) "We pigeons like to stick together. We usually live in large flocks and even build our nests close to each other."
- 17) "I love eating all sorts of food, but mostly seeds, fruits, and plants."
- 18) "I prefer to live alone, away from other pigeons."
- 19) "I don't like eating seeds, fruits, and plants."
- 20) "I can live for up to 50 years!"
- 21) "I can't fly, that's why you only see pictures of me walking."
- 22) "We pigeons have been friends with humans for ages! They used us for communication, in sports, and even in wars."
- 23) "I store my food in a special part of my throat called a 'crop'."
- 24) "I can make a home anywhere, from quiet countryside barns to busy city streets."
- 25) "Besides fruits, vegetables and seeds, I love the little pieces of bread everyone throws away."
- 26) "Pigeons have no history with humans."
- 27) "I have a lifespan of 6 years, but did you know? Some of us have lived for over 15 years!"
- 28) "My feathers come in different shades of grey, white, green, and purple."

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

- 29) Often, pigeons are found living in large groups and build their nests close to each other.
- 30) It's amazing that pigeons can fly so fast with their small wings.
- 31) Pigeons can adapt to live in a wide range of environments, including urban streets and countryside barns.
- 32) The sound of pigeons cooing is one of the most relaxing sounds in the world.
- 33) Pigeons have a part of their throat used for storing food known as a "crop".
- 34) Pigeons are super annoying when they suddenly fly up and startle you.
- 35) Pigeons can live for up to 6 years in the wild.
- 36) Pigeons usually eat seeds, fruits and plants.
- 37) It's cool that pigeons can store food in their throat.
- 38) Pigeons are the best because they can live in both the countryside and the city.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 39) Pigeons can live for up to 15 years.
- 40) Pigeons usually only live a year or 2 in the wild.
- 41) Pigeons eye color is a mix of red and orange.
- 42) Pigeons prefer to live alone, away from others.



- 43) Pigeons can have green and purple feathers.
- 44) Young pigeons can fly right after hatching from their eggs.
- 45) Pigeons love fruits, but don't eat any plants.
- 46) Pigeons are very delicate and can only live in forests or areas with lots of green.
- 47) Pigeons store their food in a part of their throat called a 'crop'.
- 48) Pigeons have been used by humans for communication.

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

- 49) Pigeons can communicate with each other by making cooing sounds.
- 50) It's astonishing that pigeons can recognize themselves in the mirror!
- 51) Pigeons can fly at a speed of up to 77.6 mph, isn't that crazy fast!
- 52) Pigeons can see in color, just like us, how fantastic is that!
- 53) Wow, pigeons are found all over the world except for the coldest regions!
- 54) Pigeons have different colors, such as gray, white, and black.
- 55) Do pigeons have good eyesight?
- 56) The fact that pigeons were used as mail carriers in the past is simply amazing!
- 57) Pigeons are often seen walking on the ground, bobbing their heads up and down.
- 58) How do pigeons communicate with each other?
- 59) Would you believe it, pigeons can breed all year round!
- 60) What do pigeons eat?
- 61) The sight of a pigeon feeding its babies with something called 'pigeon milk' is mind-blowing!
- 62) Believe it or not, a pigeon can live up to 15 years!
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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>D</u> | 26. <u>false</u> | 51. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 2. <u>C</u> | 27. <u>true</u> | 52. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 3. <u>A</u> | 28. <u>true</u> | 53. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 4. <u>D</u> | 29. <u>fact</u> | 54. <u>declarative</u> |
| 5. <u>A</u> | 30. <u>opinion</u> | 55. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 6. <u>B</u> | 31. <u>fact</u> | 56. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 7. <u>C</u> | 32. <u>opinion</u> | 57. <u>declarative</u> |
| 8. <u>A</u> | 33. <u>fact</u> | 58. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 9. <u>B</u> | 34. <u>opinion</u> | 59. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 10. <u>B</u> | 35. <u>fact</u> | 60. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 11. <u>false</u> | 36. <u>fact</u> | 61. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 12. <u>false</u> | 37. <u>opinion</u> | 62. <u>exclamatory</u> |
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| 22. <u>true</u> | 47. <u>true</u> | |
| 23. <u>true</u> | 48. <u>true</u> | |
| 24. <u>true</u> | 49. <u>declarative</u> | |
| 25. <u>true</u> | 50. <u>exclamatory</u> | |



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- 12) "I can only live for a maximum of 3 years." (paragraph 4)