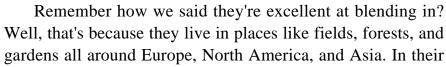


Just like magic, the pygmy shrew zips through the underbrush, barely visible to the naked eye. These tiny creatures are the smallest mammals known to us, weighing less than a dime and being only about the size of your thumb. Their fur is a soft, velvety brown color, which helps them blend in with their surroundings. They have a pointy snout, tiny eyes, and ears that are almost hidden by their fur.





little homes, they feast on a buffet of insects, spiders, and other small invertebrates. In fact, they eat so much that they need to consume 2 to 3 times their body weight in food each day!

Now, imagine eating that much, you'd probably be very sleepy, right? Well, pygmy shrews don't have much time for sleep, they're too busy living their life cycle. They're born in the spring, grow quickly, and by summer, they're ready to have little shrews of their own. Despite their small size, they're fearless, using their sharp teeth to defend themselves from threats.



Speaking of threats, did you know that pygmy shrews have a special trick? Their saliva is venomous, which helps them to paralyze their prey and defend against predators. This makes them different from other shrew species, which can't do this. So, next time you're exploring the great outdoors, remember to respect these small but mighty creatures.

Name:



Solve each problem.

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A. Leaves and berries B. Fish and birds

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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).

"My fur changes color based on the seasons, just like a chameleon."



- 12) "I survive on an all-insect diet, including spiders and other tiny creepy crawlies."
- 13) "Now, let me tell you, we pygmy shrews eat 2 to 3 times our body weight in food every day, that's a lot!"
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- 17) "I don't really like to eat much, just a little bite now and then."
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- 22) "Guess what? I'm one of the smallest animals on the planet, tinier than a dime!"

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

- 23) Pygmy shrews eat about 2 to 3 times their own body weight in food every day.
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- **25**) Pygmy shrews eat insects, spiders, and small invertebrates.
- **26)** Pygmy shrews, with their pointy snout and tiny eyes, are the more adorable than any other mammals.
- **27**) Pygmy shrews are the smallest mammals known to humans.
- **28)** The sharp teeth of the pygmy shrew make it look a bit scary despite its tiny size.
- **29**) Pygmy shrews usually give birth during the spring season.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 33) Pygmy shrews are usually born in the spring.
- **34)** Pygmy shrews only eat plants.
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C. They had

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

43) Pygmy shrews <u>can't</u> fly, but they can climb trees!

A. can able

B. cannot

C. will not D. are not

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A. They have

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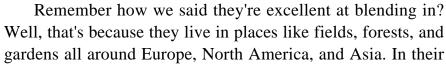
Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- **48)** Pygmy shrews are known for their high metabolism, requiring them to eat almost their own body weight in food every day.
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| | Pygmy Shrew | Name: |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | 26. | 51. |
| 2. | 27. | 52. |
| 3. | 28. | 53. |
| 4. | 29. | <u></u> |
| 5. | 30. | |
| 6. | | |
| 7. | | |
| | | |
| 8. | 33. | |
| 9. | 34. | |
| 10. | 35. | |
| 11. | 36. | |
| 12. | 37. | |
| 13. | 38. | |
| 14. | 39. | |
| 15. | 40. | |
| 16. | 41. | |
| 17. | 42. | |
| 18. | 43. | |
| 19. | 44. | |
| 20. | 45. | |
| 21. | 46. | |
| 22. | 47. | |
| 23. | 48. | |
| 24. | 49. | |
| 25. | 50. | |
| Reading www | v.CommonCoreSheets.com | Page 5 of 5 |



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Pygmy Shrew

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Name:

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5.

7.

10.

12.

14.

Pygmy Shrew

Answer Key Name:

| 1. | D | 26. | opinion | 51. <u> </u> | declarative |
|----|----------|-----|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2. | A | 27. | fact | 52. | interrogative |
| 3. | <u>A</u> | 28. | <u>opinion</u> | 53. | interrogative |
| 4. | В | 29. | fact | | |

fact

true

8. C 9.

false 11.

A

C

C

D

D

true

true

true 13.

false 15.

false 16.

false 17.

false 18.

false 19.

true 20.

false 21.

true 22.

fact 23.

opinion 24.

fact

30. opinion 31.

opinion 32.

false 34.

33.

true 35.

false 36.

true 37.

false 38.

false 39.

false 40.

true 41.

true 42.

B 43.

A 44.

D 45.

A 46.

 \mathbf{C} 47.

declarative 48.

interrogative 49.

declarative 50.

25.

Pygmy Shrew

Name:

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Pygmy Shrew

Name:

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