



Let's go on a journey back in time to meet a curious bird named Dodo. This fascinating creature was quite large, about 3 feet tall, and had a big, hooked beak. Covered in grey or brownish feathers, this chubby bird had tiny wings that were too small for it to fly. Its blue-grey legs were strong and sturdy, perfect for its life on the ground.

Stomping around with those strong legs, the Dodo called the beautiful island of Mauritius, located in the Indian Ocean, home. It lived in the forested areas of the island, where it could find plenty of food. Speaking of food, this bird was not a picky eater at all, munching on fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots that it found on the ground. The Dodo didn't have to worry about finding food because it didn't have any natural predators on the island, that is, until humans arrived.

When humans discovered Mauritius in the late 1500s, life changed dramatically for our feathered friends. The Dodo was hunted for food by sailors, and the animals they brought with them, like dogs and pigs, destroyed their nests and ate their eggs. Sadly, within about 100 years of humans arriving on Mauritius, the Dodo was extinct. This means there are no Dodos left in the world today, only drawings and descriptions from those times give us an idea of what they looked like.



Despite its sad story, the Dodo still has lessons to teach us. It shows us how different each species on our planet is, and how important it is to protect them. The Dodo, with its unique inability to fly and lack of fear of humans, was very different from other bird species. Remembering the Dodo helps us understand that every creature, no matter how different, has its own place in the world's story.





**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) How big was the Dodo bird?
  - A. About 6 feet tall
  - B. About 5 feet tall
  - C. About 3 feet tall
  - D. About 1 foot tall
- 2) What color were the Dodo bird's legs?
  - A. Yellow-orange
  - B. Pink-purple
  - C. Black-white
  - D. Blue-grey
- 3) Where did the Dodo bird live?
  - A. The deserts of Africa
  - B. The mountains of Himalaya
  - C. The island of Mauritius
  - D. The island of Madagascar
- 4) Are there any Dodo birds left today?
  - A. They are very rare, but a few still exist
  - B. Yes, they are still around
  - C. Yes, but only in zoos
  - D. No, they are extinct
- 5) What happened to the Dodo bird after humans arrived?
  - A. They started living in nests in trees
  - B. They started to eat meat
  - C. They were hunted for food
  - D. They learned to fly
- 6) Could the Dodo bird fly?
  - A. Only for about 10 minute at a time
  - B. No, it could not fly
  - C. It could fly sometimes
  - D. Yes, it could fly
- 7) What choice did the Dodo bird NOT eat?
  - A. Other birds
  - B. Seeds
  - C. Roots
  - D. Fruits
- 8) Did Dodo birds have any natural predators before humans arrived?
  - A. No, they did not have any natural predators
  - B. Yes, they were attacked by hawks
  - C. Yes, they were preyed upon by snakes
  - D. Yes, they were hunted by large cats
- 9) What type of beak did the Dodo bird have?
  - A. Big, hooked beak
  - B. Small, pointed beak
  - C. Sharp, curved beak
  - D. Flat, wide beak
- 10) When did humans discover Mauritius?
  - A. In the late 1500s
  - B. In the early 1900s
  - C. In the early 1200s
  - D. In the mid 1600s

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

- 11) "I love to travel, my species can be found all over the world."



- 12) "I'm always on guard because of the many natural predators in my habitat."
- 13) "Walking is more my style, thanks to my sturdy blue-grey legs."
- 14) "I love soaring high above the trees with my large wings."
- 15) "I'm not that different from other bird species."
- 16) "I prefer eating meat and insects over fruits and seeds."
- 17) "Fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots, that's what fills my tummy."
- 18) "Today, I exist only in drawings and descriptions in human history books."
- 19) "Even with wings, I prefer to stay grounded, they are just too tiny for flying."
- 20) "I struggle to walk because of my weak legs."
- 21) "I'm too scared to approach humans."
- 22) "I lived in the desert, always in search of water."
- 23) "I love the forests! There are plenty of delicacies for me to munch on."
- 24) "Humans did a great job protecting my species."
- 25) "Sadly, we couldn't survive the human intrusion and in about 100 years, there were no Dodos left, including me."
- 26) "The animals that humans brought with them caused so much destruction, they even ate our eggs!"
- 27) "Life on the island was peaceful until humans arrived. I had no predators."
- 28) "My colorful feathers are quite attractive."
- 29) "I'm quite tall for a bird, almost the same height as a three-year-old child."
- 30) "I might be different from other birds – I can't fly and I was not afraid of humans!"

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

- 31) The Dodo was hunted by sailors and the animals they brought like dogs and pigs.
- 32) The Dodo bird's inability to fly was its most interesting feature.
- 33) Dodo birds called the island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, home.
- 34) Dodo bird is the best bird because it ate fruits, seeds, nuts, and roots.
- 35) Dodo birds were quite large and around 3 feet tall.
- 36) The tiny wings of the Dodo bird were cute.
- 37) There are no Dodos left in the world today.
- 38) The wings of Dodo birds were too small for them to fly.
- 39) Dodo Birds were the cutest birds to ever exist.
- 40) The extinction of the Dodo Bird was one of the saddest events in history.

**Determine if the statement is true or false.**

- 41) There are no Dodos left in the world today.
- 42) Dodo birds were black and white.
- 43) The Dodo had no natural predators on their island.
- 44) The Dodo bird was small and could fly with its big wings.

- 45) The Dodo bird would eat seeds and nuts.
- 46) The Dodo bird was afraid of humans.
- 47) Dodo birds lived in Africa.
- 48) The Dodo bird liked to live in trees.
- 49) The Dodo bird was unable to fly.
- 50) The Dodo bird was about 3 feet tall.

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

- 51) They're known for their inability to fly and unique appearance.  
A. They were  
B. They are  
C. They have  
D. They will
- 52) We'll never see a live dodo bird because they've all died out.  
A. We will  
B. We were  
C. We are  
D. We have
- 53) Dodo birds aren't around anymore because they're extinct.  
A. is not  
B. am not  
C. were not  
D. are not
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A. did not  
B. does not  
C. have not  
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- 55) It's been hundreds of years since the last dodo bird was seen.  
A. It will  
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**Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).**

- 56)** The Dodo bird had small, useless wings.
- 57)** Why did Dodo Birds become extinct?
- 58)** The Dodo bird is an extinct bird.
- 59)** The Dodo bird was about 3 feet tall.
- 60)** Do any Dodo Birds still exist today?
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|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 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. _____ |
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- |                  |                    |                          |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>C</u>      | 26. <u>true</u>    | 51. <u>B</u>             |
| 2. <u>D</u>      | 27. <u>true</u>    | 52. <u>A</u>             |
| 3. <u>C</u>      | 28. <u>false</u>   | 53. <u>D</u>             |
| 4. <u>D</u>      | 29. <u>true</u>    | 54. <u>A</u>             |
| 5. <u>C</u>      | 30. <u>true</u>    | 55. <u>C</u>             |
| 6. <u>B</u>      | 31. <u>fact</u>    | 56. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 7. <u>A</u>      | 32. <u>opinion</u> | 57. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 8. <u>A</u>      | 33. <u>fact</u>    | 58. <u>declarative</u>   |
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| 16. <u>false</u> | 41. <u>true</u>    |                          |
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| 21. <u>false</u> | 46. <u>false</u>   |                          |
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