Imagine a creature with a shiny metallic body and huge stunning eyes; that's a horse fly for you! These unique critters, which can be found all over the world, are about an inch long and have a pair of clear, large wings that help them zoom around. Their bodies are colored in different shades of brown and black, and if you look closely, you'll see that they have large, brightly colored eyes that can see in almost all directions. But don't let their good looks fool you, these fellows can be quite a nuisance.



Speaking of being a nuisance, have you ever wondered what horse flies eat? These creatures are not vegetarians, oh no! They feed on blood, particularly from large mammals like cows, horses, and even humans. They use their sharp mouthparts to bite and create a small wound, from which they then suck up the blood. It's not the most pleasant dinner routine, but it's how they survive.

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# Solve each problem.

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1) What do horse flies wings look like?

A. They are white with gray stripes

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D. They are solid gray.

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4) What is the role of horse flies in the ecosystem?

A. They help spread seeds.

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C. They help fertilize plants.

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B. The can look in two different directions at once.

C. They are blind and use sound to navigate.

D. They can see in almost all directions.

Reading	,



- **10)** When are horse flies active?
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- 17) "I lay my eggs on plants near water bodies like rivers and lakes."
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- 28) "We horse flies are vegetarians and love to munch on leaves and grass."
- 29) "My body is covered in different shades of brown and black."
- **30**) "Unlike some other flies, you'll find me buzzing about during the day."

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

- 31) After feeding, female horse flies lay eggs on plants near water bodies.
- 32) Horse flies have a beautiful metallic shine on their body.
- 33) Horse flies bite in order to feed on blood.
- **34)** Horse flies, with their large eyes, are scarier than any other insect.
- 35) Horse flies exist all around the world.
- **36)** Horse flies, with their painful bites, are the worst kind of flies.
- **37**) Horse flies are mostly active during the day.
- **38)** The diet of horse flies mainly consists of blood from large mammals.



- **39**) The way horse flies survive by feeding on blood is a bit gross.
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### Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **41**) Horse fly larvae feed on other small insects and organic matter.
- **42**) Horse flies are only found in North America.
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- **46)** Horse flies are nocturnal creatures, being most active during the night.
- **47**) Horse flies are smaller than other flies.
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- **50**) Horse flies can be about an inch long.

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

- 51) It's important to wear insect repellent when you're around horse flies.
  - A. It was

B. It is

C. It has

- D. It were
- 52) Horse flies <u>can't</u> fly very far, so they usually stay close to their breeding sites.

A. cannot

B. can able

C. will not

D. do not

- 53) Horse flies <u>don't</u> like the cold and are most active during warm months.
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Horse Flies

Name:

- **62)** Female horse flies need blood to lay their eggs.
- **63**) Where do horse flies lay their eggs?
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1.	

# Horse Flies

Name:

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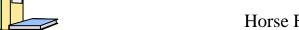
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25.

**Answer Key** 

Name:

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