



Have you ever spotted a magpie before? Magpies are birds known for their shiny, black and white plumage and long tails. They are part of the crow family, but they're not just ordinary black birds, they have a streak of white on their wings that flashes when they fly. Magpies are quite smart and are known to recognize themselves in a mirror, which is very rare among animals.



Now, let's talk about the magpie's diet and habitat. Magpies are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and animals - including insects, rodents, seeds, and berries. They can be found all over the world, but they mostly live in places with lots of trees, like forests and woodlands. You might even spot them in your backyard, especially if you live near a park or a green space.

Magpies have a unique life cycle and some fascinating behaviors. They pair for life, building large nests in trees where they lay their eggs, and both parents take turns incubating them. Magpies are also known to mourn their dead by gathering around the deceased bird, a behavior not commonly seen in the animal kingdom. When it comes to defending themselves, they are known to dive-bomb intruders who come too close to their nests.



Lastly, let's explore the magpie's relationship with us humans and other animals. In some cultures, magpies are seen as symbols of good luck, while in others, they're considered pests because they can sometimes steal shiny objects. With other animals, magpies have been observed to form alliances, especially with larger animals like cows or horses to feed on the insects that bother these big buddies. But whether they're stealing our trinkets or helping out on the farm, magpies are indeed interesting birds to learn about.



**Solve each problem.**

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

- 1) What color is the streak on the wings of magpies?  
A. Black  
B. White  
C. Blue  
D. Green
- 2) What do magpies do when they see their reflection?  
A. They attack the reflection  
B. They ignore it  
C. They recognize themselves  
D. They try to fly into it
- 3) Can magpies recognize themselves in a mirror?  
A. Yes they can  
B. No they can not  
C. Only adult magpies can  
D. Only young magpies can
- 4) Where would you mostly likely find magpies?  
A. Near mountains  
B. At beaches  
C. In the desert  
D. In places with lots of trees
- 5) How do magpies incubate their eggs?  
A. Both parents take turns incubating  
B. Only the mother incubates  
C. Only the father incubates  
D. They don't incubate, they lay eggs and then leave them
- 6) What color are magpies?  
A. Blue and green  
B. Black and white  
C. Purple and orange  
D. Red and yellow
- 7) What do magpies eat?  
A. Both plants and animals  
B. Only insects  
C. Only animals  
D. Only plants
- 8) How do magpies react when they see a deceased bird of their kind?  
A. They ignore it  
B. They leave the area  
C. They sing  
D. They mourn
- 9) Do magpies steal shiny objects?  
A. Yes, in some cases, magpies steal shiny objects.  
B. No, magpies only steal food.  
C. No, magpies hate shiny things.  
D. No, magpies only steal dull objects.
- 10) What does a magpie look like?  
A. A magpie is a bird with shiny, black and white plumage and long tails.  
B. A magpie is a bird with blue and green plumage and medium-sized tails.  
C. A magpie is a bird with brown and red plumage and short tails.  
D. A magpie is a bird with yellow and orange plumage and no tail.



- 11) What family do magpies belong to?
- A. Sparrow family                      B. Crow family  
C. Pigeon family                      D. Eagle family

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

- 12) "We hate shiny objects, if we something shiny we'll avoid it at all costs."  
13) "My black body has little streaks of white feathers."  
14) "I will defend my nest by dive-bombing anyone who gets to close."  
15) "I don't just eat plants, I also catch insects and eat them."  
16) "I'm smarter than you think! I can recognize myself in the mirror."  
17) "Small animals and insects are not part of my diet."  
18) "I prefer solitude, I don't need a life partner."  
19) "I make friends with bigger animals, like cows and horses - they don't mind, and I get easy meals."  
20) "I only eat plants."  
21) "I only like to eat seeds and berries."  
22) "I'm actually part of the crow family."  
23) "I lay my eggs on the ground in a small hole I dig."  
24) "You can find me in places with lots of trees, like forests or your park nearby."  
25) "We magpies share the job of keeping the eggs warm with our partner."  
26) "I love when people come near my nest."  
27) "Some humans believe that seeing me brings good luck."  
28) "I build my large nests in trees."  
29) "I am considered bad luck in all cultures."  
30) "I like to live in open fields without trees."

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

- 31) In magpie families, both parents help incubate the eggs.  
32) It is amazing that magpies can recognize themselves in a mirror.  
33) Forests and woodlands are usual habitats of magpies.  
34) The fact that magpies mourn their dead is very touching.  
35) Magpies belong to the family of crows.  
36) Magpies are annoying because they steal shiny objects.  
37) In some cultures, seeing a magpie is considered a sign of good luck.  
38) Magpies are omnivores, eating both plants and animals.  
39) Magpies have the most beautiful black and white feathers.  
40) Magpies' dive-bombing behavior when defending their nests is quite fun to watch.

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



- 41) Magpies are known to mourn their dead.
- 42) Some cultures see magpies as symbols of bad luck.
- 43) Magpies can recognize themselves in the mirror.
- 44) Magpies live exclusively in woodlands.
- 45) Magpie parents take turns incubating their eggs.
- 46) The female magpie will incubate eggs for months without moving.
- 47) Magpies do not build their own nests.
- 48) Magpies eat only insects and rodents.
- 49) Magpies have been observed to form alliances with larger animals.
- 50) Magpies are part of the crow family.

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

- 51) Magpies build large nests made of twigs.
- 52) Magpies are renowned for their intelligence, it's truly remarkable!
- 53) Magpies are known for their black and white plumage, it's so striking!
- 54) The fact that Magpies can mimic human speech is simply astounding!
- 55) There are many species of magpies around the world, such diversity is fascinating!
- 56) Magpies are birds that belong to the crow family.
- 57) Do magpies eat insects?
- 58) Some people consider magpies to be a symbol of good luck, how intriguing!
- 59) Magpies are omnivorous, meaning they eat both plants and animals.
- 60) Do magpies like shiny things?
- 61) The unique flying style of magpies, characterized by flapping and short periods of gliding, is exquisite!
- 62) Can magpies imitate human voices?
- 63) The longevity of magpies is amazing, they can live up to 20 years!
- 64) Did you know that the diet of a magpie includes insects, rodents, seeds, fruits and even other birds' eggs, the diversity is astonishing!
- 65) The territorial behavior of magpies during the breeding season is truly noteworthy!
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- |                         |                           |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. <u><b>B</b></u>      | 26. <u><b>false</b></u>   | 51. <u><b>declarative</b></u>   |
| 2. <u><b>C</b></u>      | 27. <u><b>true</b></u>    | 52. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 3. <u><b>A</b></u>      | 28. <u><b>true</b></u>    | 53. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 4. <u><b>D</b></u>      | 29. <u><b>false</b></u>   | 54. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 5. <u><b>A</b></u>      | 30. <u><b>false</b></u>   | 55. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 6. <u><b>B</b></u>      | 31. <u><b>fact</b></u>    | 56. <u><b>declarative</b></u>   |
| 7. <u><b>A</b></u>      | 32. <u><b>opinion</b></u> | 57. <u><b>interrogative</b></u> |
| 8. <u><b>D</b></u>      | 33. <u><b>fact</b></u>    | 58. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 9. <u><b>A</b></u>      | 34. <u><b>opinion</b></u> | 59. <u><b>declarative</b></u>   |
| 10. <u><b>A</b></u>     | 35. <u><b>fact</b></u>    | 60. <u><b>interrogative</b></u> |
| 11. <u><b>B</b></u>     | 36. <u><b>opinion</b></u> | 61. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 12. <u><b>false</b></u> | 37. <u><b>fact</b></u>    | 62. <u><b>interrogative</b></u> |
| 13. <u><b>true</b></u>  | 38. <u><b>fact</b></u>    | 63. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
| 14. <u><b>true</b></u>  | 39. <u><b>opinion</b></u> | 64. <u><b>exclamatory</b></u>   |
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| 17. <u><b>false</b></u> | 42. <u><b>false</b></u>   |                                 |
| 18. <u><b>false</b></u> | 43. <u><b>true</b></u>    |                                 |
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| 20. <u><b>false</b></u> | 45. <u><b>true</b></u>    |                                 |
| 21. <u><b>false</b></u> | 46. <u><b>false</b></u>   |                                 |
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**Solve each problem.**

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

- 1) What color is the streak on the wings of magpies? (paragraph 1)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. White  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) What do magpies do when they see their reflection? (paragraph 1)  
A. They attack the reflection B. They ignore it  
C. They recognize themselves D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Can magpies recognize themselves in a mirror? (paragraph 1)  
A. Yes they can B. No they can not  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Where would you mostly likely find magpies? (paragraph 2)  
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A. Both parents take turns incubating B. Only the mother incubates  
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A. They ignore it B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. They mourn
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A. Yes, in some cases, magpies steal shiny objects. B. \_\_\_\_\_  
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A. A magpie is a bird with shiny, black and white plumage and long tails. B. A magpie is a bird with blue and green plumage and medium-sized tails.  
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A. Sparrow family B. Crow family  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_



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

12) "We hate shiny objects, if we something shiny we'll avoid it at all costs." (paragraph 4)