Mayflies are truly magical creatures you might have seen hovering around water bodies. These delicate insects are quite small, usually measuring just an inch or so in length. They have long, slender bodies and two pairs of wings that sparkle when they catch the sunlight. Their unique feature is a pair of long, thread-like tails that they carry behind them everywhere they go.



Now, where do you think these beautiful little creatures live? Mayflies typically make their homes near clean freshwater environments like rivers, streams, and lakes. They can be found all over the world, from the Americas to Africa, Europe, and Asia. So, next time you're near a clean water body, keep your eyes peeled for these tiny dancers of the air!

You must be wondering what these tiny creatures eat. Interestingly, adult mayflies do not eat anything at all as their adult life is ridiculously short, sometimes just a few hours! But, that's not the case with mayfly nymphs, the young ones, they feast on algae, dead plants, and tiny water creatures. Their diet helps to keep water bodies clean and balanced, making mayflies super helpful to their environment.



Speaking of being helpful, did you know that mayflies are also important for other animals and even us humans? Birds, bats, spiders, and other insects count on mayflies as a tasty meal. Fishermen use artificial flies that look like mayflies to attract fish, making these insects quite useful for human beings too. So, even though they may seem small and unimportant, mayflies play a pretty big role in our world!



#### Mayflies

Name:

### Solve each problem.

#### Use the article to answer the question.

1) What is the average length of a mayfly?

A. around a meterB. around an inchC. around a footD. around a yard

- 2) What kinds of animals see mayflies as a tasty meal?
  - A. Elephants, giraffes, and hippos count on mayflies as a tasty meal
- B. Birds, bats, spiders, and other insects count on mayflies as a tasty meal
- C. Lions, tigers, and bears count on mayflies as a tasty meal
- D. Dogs, cats, and horses count on mayflies as a tasty meal
- 3) Where in the world can you find mayflies?
  - A. only in America

    B. all over the world
    C. only in Europe

    D. only in Africa
- 4) Who uses artificial flies that look like mayflies?
  - A. Gardeners use artificial flies that look like mayflies to attract bees
- B. Photographers use artificial flies that look like mayflies to take pictures
- C. Bird watchers use artificial flies that look like mayflies to attract birds
- D. Fishermen use artificial flies that look like mayflies to attract fish
- 5) What is special about the wings of mayflies?
  - A. Mayflies' wings are colorful and patterned
- B. Mayflies have two pairs of wings
- C. Mayflies have only one pair of wings
- D. Mayflies' wings are transparent

- **6)** Where do mayflies live?
  - A. near deserts with lots of sand to hide
  - C. near clean water
- B. near swampy water
- D. near flowers and gardens

- 7) What do adult mayflies eat?
  - A. fruits and vegetables
  - C. they do not eat

- B. algae and dead plants
- D. small water creatures
- 8) What is the lifespan of an adult mayfly?
  - A. a few days

B. a few hours

C. a few weeks

D. a few months

- **9)** Are mayflies nocturnal?
  - A. The paragraph doesn't provide any information about whether mayflies are nocturnal or not
- B. Mayflies are active both during the day and the night
- C. Yes, mayflies are nocturnal insects
- D. No, mayflies are not nocturnal insects

- 10) What do young mayflies eat?
  - A. algae and dead plantsB. tree bark and tree seedsC. fresh fruits and vegetablesD. they do not eat anything



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

- 11) "As a mayfly, I find the oceans as the perfect habitat."
- 12) "As a mayfly I live up to 5 years."
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- 15) "I contribute to polluting water bodies."
- **16)** "I as a mayfly, love to roam around the desert."
- 17) "I love clean water bodies. If it's clean, it means home to me!"
- 18) "When I was young, I used to eat algae, dead plants, and even tiny water creatures!"
- **19**) "I have a long slender body with two sets of wings."
- **20**) I am one of the largest insects, almost half a ruler long!
- 21) "We may flies are not found in Europe."
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- 24) "Adult mayflies, like me, prefer to munch on a variety of food."
- 25) "Did you know birds, bats, spiders, and other insects see me as a tasty meal? Well, I can't blame them!"
- 26) "As an adult, I don't eat anything at all! That's because my adult life is very short, sometimes just a few hours!"
- 27) "I'm not just here in America, you can find my family all over the world! From Africa to Asia, we're everywhere!"
- **28**) "Fishermen find us mayflies quite annoying."
- 29) "My body is tiny, only about an inch in length. You really have to look closely to spot me!"
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## Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- **31**) Mayflies can be seen all around the world.
- 32) Mayflies are quite interesting because they do not eat anything in their adult life.
- 33) Mayflies live near clean freshwater bodies like rivers and lakes.
- **34)** It is astonishing how mayflies can lead such a short life.
- 35) Mayflies have two pairs of wings.
- **36)** Mayflies are more helpful than other flying insects as they keep water bodies clean and balanced.
- 37) As adults, Mayflies do not need to eat anything.
- **38)** Mayflies have a pair of long, thread-like tails.
- Mayflies have the most unique tails compared to other insects.



**40**) Mayflies live in the most beautiful parts of the world.

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

- **41)** Mayflies can be found in Africa, Europe, and Asia.
- **42**) Adult mayflies are typically 12 inches in length.
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- 44) Mayflies are normally found around sewers and marshes.
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# Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 51) It's amazing to think that may flies have been around for over 300 million years!
- **52)** Identify the predators of mayflies and how they avoid being eaten.
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- **54)** Wow, did you know mayflies only live for 24 hours!
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- **59**) Mayflies help keep the water clean by eating algae.
- **60**) Look closely at a mayfly nymph and notice its small, tube-like gills.
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		Mayflies		1	Name:	
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			
11.	36.		61.			
12.	37.		62			
13.	38.					
14.	39.					
15.	40.					
16.	41.					
17.	42.					
18.	43.					
19.	44.					
20.	45.					
21.	46.					
22. 23.	47.					
24.	48.					
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50.

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Name:



#### Solve each problem.

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1-10										
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

Mayflies

Name: Answer Key

1.	В	26.	true
2.	B	27.	true
3.	B	28.	false
4.	D	29.	true
5.	B	30.	true
6.	C	31.	fact
7.	C	32.	opinion
8.	В	33.	fact
9.	<u>A</u>	34.	opinion
10.	A	35.	fact
11.	false	36.	opinion
12.	false	37.	fact
13.	true	38.	fact
14.	false	39.	opinion
15.	false	40.	opinion
16.	false	41.	true
17.	true	42.	false
18.	true	43.	true
19.	true	44.	false
20.	false	45.	true
21.	false	46.	false
22.	false	47.	false
23.	true	48.	false
24.	false	49.	true
25.	true	50.	true

	N
51.	exclamatory
52.	imperative
53.	interrogative
54.	exclamatory
55.	declarative
56.	interrogative
57.	declarative
58.	interrogative
59.	declarative
60.	imperative
61.	exclamatory
62.	imperative



#### Solve each problem.

Use	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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1) What is the average length of a mayfly? (paragraph 1)

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C. D.

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C. D.

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A. B. all over the world

C. D.

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A. Mayflies' wings are colorful and patterned

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C. D.

**6)** Where do mayflies live? (paragraph 2)

A. B. near swampy water

C. near clean water D.

7) What do adult mayflies eat? (paragraph 3)

A. fruits and vegetables B.

C. they do not eat D.

8) What is the lifespan of an adult mayfly? (paragraph 3)

A. a few days B. a few hours

C. D.

**9)** Are mayflies nocturnal? (paragraph 4)

A. The paragraph doesn't provide any information about whether mayflies are nocturnal or not

C. D.

**10)** What do young mayflies eat? (paragraph 3)

A. algae and dead plants B. tree bark and tree seeds

C. D.



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

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