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Carrying on from their stunning appearance, let's dig into where these speckled wonders like to hang out. Speckled racers are native to Central and South America, living in habitats ranging from forests to grasslands to marshes. They're real adventurers, aren't they? You can also find them slithering around your gardens or even in your homes, if you live in those areas!

From their homes, let's slither into the speckled racer's diet and their relationship with other animals. These clever snakes are carnivorous, which means they eat meat, and their diet mainly consists of small rodents, frogs, and lizards. They're not picky eaters and will even dine on insects and bird eggs if they get the chance. However, these snakes are also on the menu for larger predators like birds of prey and bigger snakes.



Now that we've learned about their diet, let's wrap up with some cool facts and their relationship with us, humans. Unlike many snake species, speckled racers are active during the day, which is called being diurnal. While they can bite if threatened, they're generally not dangerous to humans and prefer to escape rather than fight. So, the next time you see a speckled racer, remember they're just as scared of you as you might be of them, and they're an important part of our wonderful ecosystem.



**Solve each problem.**

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

- 1) What gives the speckled racer snakes their name?
  - A. Their venomous bite gives them their name.
  - B. Their ability to race quickly gives them their name.
  - C. Their speckled appearance gives them their name.
  - D. Their large size compared to other racer snakes gives them their name.
  
- 2) What is one of the main predators of speckled racer snakes?
  - A. Wolves
  - B. Turtles
  - C. Birds of prey
  - D. Coyotes
  
- 3) What kind of diet do speckled racer snakes have?
  - A. Vegetarian, they eat plants
  - B. Omnivorous, they eat both plants and meat
  - C. Insectivorous, they eat insects
  - D. Carnivorous, they eat meat
  
- 4) What is the speckled racer's diet?
  - A. They eat only insects and other tiny critters.
  - B. They primarily feed on fruits and plant matter.
  - C. Their diet mainly consists of small rodents, frogs, and lizards.
  - D. They eat only invertebrates and mollusks.
  
- 5) What is the relationship between speckled racer snakes and humans?
  - A. They carry deadly diseases and should be avoided
  - B. They're generally not dangerous to humans
  - C. They are known to attack humans on sight
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- 6) When are the speckled racers usually active?
  - A. They are only active during the twilight hours.
  - B. They are most active at night.
  - C. They are randomly active throughout day and night.
  - D. They are active during the day.
  
- 7) What's the speckled racer's skin pattern like?
  - A. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  - B. They have colorful strips on their skin
  - C. They have dark or light solid color skin
  - D. Their skin is transparent
  
- 8) What kinds of places do speckled racers like to live in?
  - A. Forests, grasslands, and marshes
  - B. Swamps, rivers and jungles
  - C. Prairies, beaches and caves
  - D. Deserts, mountains and cities



- 9) Where can we find the speckled racer snake in their natural habitats?
- A. Europe and Africa  
B. Asia and North America  
C. Central and South America  
D. Australia and New Zealand

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

- 10) "You can spot me not only in forests, I'm also known to visit gardens and even houses at times!"
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- 13) "Predators? Nah, I am on the top, no one dares to mess with me."
- 14) "I'm a carnivorous snake, which means I only eat meat!"
- 15) "I only live in North America."
- 16) "I do have a few predators, like other bigger snakes and birds of prey, but I'm generally not dangerous to humans."
- 17) "Who needs sunshine? I'm a creature of the night and love to hunt when the world is asleep."
- 18) "Delicious, juicy fruits and vegetables, that's what I eat."
- 19) "We're strict vegetarians and love munching on green leafy vegetables."

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

- 20) Speckled racer snakes are active during the day.
- 21) It's scary to think that speckled racer snakes can be found slithering around your gardens or even inside your homes.
- 22) Speckled racer snakes are often targeted by predators such as bigger snakes and birds of prey.
- 23) It's amazing that despite their slim body shape, speckled racer snakes can eat eggs and insects.
- 24) Speckled racer snakes are indigenous to Central and South America.
- 25) The greatest part about speckled racers is that they are not dangerous to humans.
- 26) While being cautious, speckled racer snakes typically choose to flee rather than engage in a confrontation with humans.
- 27) Speckled racer snakes consume small rodents, frogs, lizards, insects, and bird eggs in order to survive.
- 28) Speckled racer snakes, with their slim and sleek body, are the most beautiful of all snake species.
- 29) It's impressive that speckled racer snakes can escape from their enemies by sheer speed.

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

- 30) Speckled racer snakes are active during the day.
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- 33) Speckled racer snakes are native to Europe and Asia.
- 34) Speckled racer snakes are carnivorous.
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- 36) Speckled racer snakes have a poisonous bite that can kill any living being instantly.
- 37) Speckled racer snakes are herbivores.
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**Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.**

- 40) Speckled racer snakes aren't poisonous.
- A. can not    B. are not  
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- 41) Speckled racer snakes don't normally attack humans.
- A. do not    B. are not  
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- 42) Speckled racer snakes don't have venom.
- A. does not    B. will not  
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- 43) Speckled racer snakes aren't just cool; they're helpful, too!
- A. are not    B. are  
C. will not     D. can not
- 44) They're known for their shiny, speckled scales.
- A. They do    B. They were  
C. They are     D. They is

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

- 45) Speckled racer snakes feed on small animals like rodents and lizards.
- 46) Do speckled racer snakes have venom?
- 47) Speckled racer snakes are found in various habitats, from grasslands to forests.
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|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____  | 26. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 27. _____ |
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- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>      <b>C</b>      </u>        | 26. <u>      <b>fact</b>      </u>          |
| 2. <u>      <b>C</b>      </u>        | 27. <u>      <b>fact</b>      </u>          |
| 3. <u>      <b>D</b>      </u>        | 28. <u>      <b>opinion</b>      </u>       |
| 4. <u>      <b>C</b>      </u>        | 29. <u>      <b>opinion</b>      </u>       |
| 5. <u>      <b>B</b>      </u>        | 30. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>          |
| 6. <u>      <b>D</b>      </u>        | 31. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>         |
| 7. <u>      <b>A</b>      </u>        | 32. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>          |
| 8. <u>      <b>A</b>      </u>        | 33. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>         |
| 9. <u>      <b>C</b>      </u>        | 34. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>          |
| 10. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>    | 35. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>         |
| 11. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>    | 36. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>         |
| 12. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>    | 37. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>         |
| 13. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>   | 38. <u>      <b>true</b>      </u>          |
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| 15. <u>      <b>false</b>      </u>   | 40. <u>      <b>B</b>      </u>             |
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| 20. <u>      <b>fact</b>      </u>    | 45. <u>      <b>declarative</b>      </u>   |
| 21. <u>      <b>opinion</b>      </u> | 46. <u>      <b>interrogative</b>      </u> |
| 22. <u>      <b>fact</b>      </u>    | 47. <u>      <b>declarative</b>      </u>   |
| 23. <u>      <b>opinion</b>      </u> | 48. <u>      <b>declarative</b>      </u>   |
| 24. <u>      <b>fact</b>      </u>    | 49. <u>      <b>interrogative</b>      </u> |
| 25. <u>      <b>opinion</b>      </u> | 50. <u>      <b>interrogative</b>      </u> |

**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What gives the speckled racer snakes their name? (paragraph 1)
  - A. Their venomous bite gives them their name.
  - B. Their speckled appearance gives them their name.
  - C. Their venomous bite gives them their name.
  - D. Their speckled appearance gives them their name.
  
- 2) What is one of the main predators of speckled racer snakes? (paragraph 3)
  - A. Wolves
  - B. Birds of prey
  - C. Wolves
  - D. Birds of prey
  
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  - A. Omnivorous, they eat both plants and meat
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  - A. They carry deadly diseases and should be avoided
  - B. They're generally not dangerous to humans
  - C. They carry deadly diseases and should be avoided
  - D. They're generally not dangerous to humans
  
- 6) When are the speckled racers usually active? (paragraph 4)
  - A. They are most active at night.
  - B. They are active during the day.
  - C. They are most active at night.
  - D. They are active during the day.
  
- 7) What's the speckled racer's skin pattern like? (paragraph 1)
  - A. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  - B. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  - C. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  - D. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  
- 8) What kinds of places do speckled racers like to live in? (paragraph 2)
  - A. Forests, grasslands, and marshes
  - B. Forests, grasslands, and marshes
  - C. Forests, grasslands, and marshes
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- 9) Where can we find the speckled racer snake in their natural habitats? (paragraph 2)
  - A. Europe and Africa
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  - D. Europe and Africa

**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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