Name:

Let's dive into the world of an incredibly tiny creature, known as thrips! These minute insects are so small that you might need a magnifying glass to spot them. With slender bodies and fringed wings, they can be quite a variety of colors, from translucent white to dark black or even strikingly patterned. You'll find them all over the world, living in a range of environments, from forests to deserts.



Speaking of where they live, these fascinating creatures play a unique role in the grand scheme of things. Thrips enjoy a diet that consists of plant juices, making them a part of the complex food chain of their ecosystem. They use their sharp, needle-like mouthparts to puncture plants and suck up the tasty juices. But despite their size, they are not just prey; some types of thrips are known to be predators, feeding on other small insects and mites.

Our little friends have an interesting life cycle, much like butterflies. They start their journey as eggs, then grow into larvae, followed by a non-feeding stage called the prepupa and pupa before finally becoming adults. Some of them can even reproduce without needing a mate, which is quite an impressive skill! But it's not all fun and games, they have to watch out for predators like spiders, mites, and other insects who might fancy them for a snack.



Now, you might be wondering about their relationship with us humans and other animals. Well, sometimes they can be a bit of a problem for gardeners and farmers because they like to eat and damage plants. On the other hand, the predatory thrips can be quite helpful, as they control the population of harmful pests. So, while they might be minute, thrips play a big role in the ecosystem and show us that every creature, no matter how small, has its place in the world.



## Thrips

#### Solve each problem.

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

- **1**) Where can thrips be found?
  - A. Thrips can be found all over the world, in forests to deserts.
  - C. Thrips can only be found in damp, humid places.
- 2) Who might consider thrips a problem?
  - A. Gardeners and farmers might consider thrips a problem.
  - C. Cookers and chefs might consider thrips a problem.
- 3) Who do Thrips have to watch out for?
  - A. Thrips have to watch out for predators like birds and mammals.
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- 4) What do thrips eat?
  - A. Thrips eat only other insects.
  - C. Thrips eat plant juices.
- 5) How can you describe the body of a thrip?
  - A. Slender with fringed wings
  - C. Round with smooth wings
- 6) What do thrips use to get plant juices?
  - A. Thrips use their legs to extract plant juices.
  - C. Thrips use their wings to absorb plant juices.
- 7) How big are thrips?
  - A. They are about the size of a grasshopper.
  - C. So small you need a microscope to see them.
- 8) What is unique about some thrips reproduction?
  - A. Some thrips can reproduce without needing a mate.
  - C. Thrips lay eggs in other creatures' nests.

- B. Thrips can only be found in dry, arid deserts.
- D. Thrips are found only in cold, snowy regions.
- B. Architects and engineers might consider thrips a problem.
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- B. Thrips have to watch out for predators like fish and crabs.
- D. Thrips have to watch out for predators like snakes and frogs.
- B. Thrips eat pieces of leaves and bark.
- D. Thrips primarily feed on nectar from flowers.
- B. Big with strong wings
- D. Small with no wings
- B. Thrips use their needle-like mouthparts to eat plant juices.
- D. Thrips use their antennae to consume plant juices.
- B. They are about half a foot long.
- D. So small you need a magnifying glass to see them.
- B. Thrips reproduce every 17 years.
- D. Thrips give live birth like a mammal.

	Thrips	Name:					
9)		The last stage of the thring life evel					
	A. The last stage of the thrips life cycle B. is the larva stage.	The last stage of the thrips life cycle is the egg stage.					
	C. The last stage of the thrips life cycle D. is becoming an adult.	The last stage of the thrips life cycle is the pupa stage.					
	Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).						
10)	) "You might not see me easily, I am so tiny that catch a glimpse."	you would need a magnifying glass to					
11)	) "I always feed on harmful pests, I never eat plan	nts!"					
12)	) "Guess what? I can also be quite a predator, sor	ne of us thrips eat other bugs and mites!"					
13)	"Did you know that I started my life as a tiny white egg?"						
14)	"Thrips like me live all over the world!"						
15)	"Sometimes, I don't even need a mate to reproduce, I can have babies all on my own!"						
<b>16</b> )	"I can be found only in forests, nowhere else!"						
17)	"You'll never catch me munching on insects or mites; I prefer a strictly vegetarian diet!"						
18)	) "I enjoy a tasty diet of plant juice. Give me a pl	ant smoothie any day of the week."					
<b>19</b> )	) "I have to be careful, a lot of creatures, like spic	lers, would love to make a meal of me."					
20)	"I lack any sort of wings, thats why you'll only find me crawling around!"						
21)	"I have a very unique life, like butterflies, I start off as an egg and then go through different stages before becoming an adult."						
22)	"I can cause some trouble on gardens and farms, I enjoy eating plants, you know."						
23)	) "We're pretty hardy. You can find us in areas fr	om forests to deserts!"					
Det	termine if the statement is a fact or opinion bas	ed on the information in the article.					
24)	) Some thrips can reproduce without needing a m	ate.					
25)	) The fact that some thrips can reproduce without	a mate is amazing.					
26)							
27)	) Thrips' sharp, needle-like mouthparts are scary.						
28)	) Thrips have a diet that mainly includes plant jui	ces.					

- **29)** It's not fair that thrips should be food for other insects and spiders.
- **30**) Thrips can cause damage to plants, which can be problematic for gardeners and farmers.
- 31) Thrips consume plant juices by using their sharp mouthparts to puncture plants.
- 32) Thrips have the most striking colors among all small insects.
- **33**) Thrips' diverse colors make them incredibly eye-catching for such tiny insects.

## Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 34) Thrips can be a problem for gardeners as they eat and damage plants.
- **35)** Thrips usually eat insects and even smaller birds.
- **36**) Thrips can be white, black and patterned.

	Thrips Name:					
37)	Thrips have 2 large teeth that they use to smash their food.					
38)	Some types of thrips are known to feed on other small insects.					
<b>39</b> )	Thrips are found only in forests.					
<b>40</b> )	Thrips can grow to be the size of a cell phone.					
<b>41</b> )	Predators avoid thrips because their blood is toxic.					
42)	Some thrips help control the population of pests.					
43)	Thrips use their sharp mouths to puncture plants.					
Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).						
44)	Even though thrips are tiny, their impact on plants is huge!					
45)	Remember to wash your hands after touching plants to prevent thrips from spreading.					
<b>46</b> )	How do thrips defend themselves?					

- **47)** It's unimaginable that over 6,000 species of thrips exist!
- **48)** Thrips are tiny insects that can be found all around the world.
- **49)** How do thrips move from one plant to another?
- 50) Thrips use their small size and ability to hide in tight spaces to avoid predators.
- 51) How do thrips damage plants?
- 52) Thrips mainly eat plants, but some also eat other tiny insects or pollen.
- 53) Look for thrips on plants and flowers.
- 54) I can't believe how tiny thrips are!
- **55)** Use a magnifying glass to see thrips more clearly.

		Thrips			Name:
1.	26.		51.		
2.	27.		52.		
3.	28.		53.		
4.	29.		. 54.		
5.	30.		55.		
6.	31.				
7.	32.				
8.	33.				
9.	34.				
10.	35.				
11.	36.				
12.	37.				
13.	38.				
14.	39.				
15.	40.				
16.	41.				
17.	42.				
18.	43.				
19.	44.				
20.	45.				
21.	46.				
22.	47.				
23.	48.				
24.	49.				
25.	50. Reading	onCoreSheets.com	Page	5 of 5	

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			Thrips			Name:	Answer Key
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2.	Α	27.	opinion	52.	declarative		
3.	C	28.	fact	53.	imperative		
4.	С	29.	opinion	54.	exclamatory		
5.	A	30.	fact	55.	imperative		
6.	В	31.	fact				
7.	D	32.	opinion				
8.	A	33.	opinion				
9.	С	34.	true				
10.	true	35.	false				
11.	false	36.	true				
12.	true	37.	false				
13.	true	38.	true				
14.	true	39.	false				
15.	true	40.	false				
16.	false	41.	false				
17.	false	42.	true				
18.	true	43.	true				
19.	true	44.	exclamatory				
20.	false	45.	imperative				
21.	true	46.	interrogative				
22.	true	47.	exclamatory				
23.	true	48.	declarative				
24.	fact	49.	interrogative				
25.	opinion	50.	declarative				
		ww.Commo	nCoreSheets.com	Page 4	4 of 4		

Thrips       Name:         Solve each problem.       Solve each problem.         Use the article to answer the question.       I)       Where can thrips be found? (paragraph 1)         A. Thrips can be found all over the world, in forests to deserts.       B.       Thrips can only be found in dry, arid deserts.         C.       D.       Other thrips a problem? (paragraph 4)       A cardeners and farmers might consider       B. Architects and engineers might consider thrips a problem.         C.       D.       O       O       O       O       O       O         30       Who do Thrips have to watch out for? (paragraph 3)       A.       B. Thrips have to watch out for predators like fish and crabs.       D.         31       What do thrips eart? (paragraph 2)       A.       B.       Thrips have to watch out for predators like fish and crabs.         41       What do thrips eart? (paragraph 2)       A.       B.       B.       C.       D.         51       How can you describe the body of a thrip? (paragraph 1)       A.       Sign with strong wings       C.         62       What do thrips use to get plant juices? (paragraph 2)       A.       Thrips use their needle-like mouthparagraph 2)         63       Mode with fringed wings       B.       B.       B. Thrips use their needle-like mouthparagraph 2)         74 </th <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>					
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<ul> <li>A. Slender with fringed wings</li> <li>B. Big with strong wings</li> <li>C.</li> <li>D.</li> <li>6) What do thrips use to get plant juices? (paragraph 2)</li> <li>A. Thrips use their legs to extract plant guices.</li> <li>C.</li> <li>D.</li> <li>7) How big are thrips? (paragraph 1)</li> <li>A. They are about the size of a grasshopper.</li> <li>C.</li> <li>D. So small you need a magnifying glass to see them.</li> <li>8) What is unique about some thrips reproduction? (paragraph 3)</li> <li>A. Some thrips can reproduce without</li> <li>B. Thrips reproduce every 17 years.</li> </ul>	4)	A. Thrips eat only other insects.			
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<ul> <li>A. They are about the size of a grasshopper.</li> <li>C. D. So small you need a magnifying glass to see them.</li> <li>8) What is unique about some thrips reproduction? (paragraph 3) <ul> <li>A. Some thrips can reproduce without</li> <li>B. Thrips reproduce every 17 years.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	6)	A. Thrips use their legs to extract plan juices.	B. Thrips use their new mouthparts to eat p		
A. Some thrips can reproduce without B. Thrips reproduce every 17 years.	7)	A. They are about the size of a grasshopper.	D. So small you need	ł a magnifying glass	
needing a mate. C. D.	8)	A. Some thrips can reproduce without needing a mate.	B. Thrips reproduce e	every 17 years.	
<ul> <li>9) What is the last stage of the thrips life cycle? (paragraph 3)</li> <li>A. The last stage of the thrips life cycle B. is the larva stage.</li> <li>C. The last stage of the thrips life cycle D. is becoming an adult.</li> </ul>	9)	<ul><li>A. The last stage of the thrips life cycl is the larva stage.</li><li>C. The last stage of the thrips life cycl</li></ul>	В.		



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

- **10)** "You might not see me easily, I am so tiny that you would need a magnifying glass to catch a glimpse." (paragraph 1)
- 11) "I always feed on harmful pests, I never eat plants!" (paragraph 2)
- 12) "Guess what? I can also be quite a predator, some of us thrips eat other bugs and mites!" (paragraph 2)