



Hey there, have you ever noticed the little brown birds chirping in your backyard? Those are probably sparrows! Sparrows might seem small but they have a big personality. They have a stout body, rounded wings and a short tail that they often fluff up. These little birds have brownish or grayish bodies with unique patterns of black, white, or brown on their wings and tails. Interesting fact: there are about 140 species of sparrows, so the next time you see one, remember it could be from a different species!

Now, let's talk about where these chirpy sparrows live and what they eat. Sparrows can be found in almost every corner of the world, except for the polar regions. They love to make their homes in both rural and urban areas. When it comes to food, sparrows are not picky eaters. They love to eat seeds, berries, and insects. Did you know that in cities, sparrows often eat food scraps that humans leave behind?

Let's dive into the life cycle of a sparrow and their relationship with humans and other animals. Sparrows usually live for about 4-5 years. They build their nests in small cavities, and the female usually lays about 4-5 eggs at a time. Humans and sparrows have a close relationship because sparrows often live around us, in our cities and farms. But, sparrows can also help us by eating harmful insects. In the wild, sparrows have to watch out for various animals like cats and hawks, that see them as a tasty snack.

Finally, let's look at the defenses of sparrows and how they differ from other bird species. When threatened, sparrows use their quick flight speed to escape. They also use their sharp beaks and claws to defend against predators. Compared to other birds, sparrows are smaller and less colorful, which helps them blend into their surroundings and avoid predators. To sum it up, sparrows are fascinating little birds with unique characteristics that make them a special part of our natural world.



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

- 1) How many species of sparrows are there?
 - A. About 300
 - B. About 140
 - C. About 50
 - D. About 200
- 2) Which would sparrows most likely eat?
 - A. Rodents
 - B. Nuts
 - C. Leaves
 - D. Berries
- 3) Where can you not find sparrows?
 - A. Tropical regions
 - B. Urban areas
 - C. Rural areas
 - D. Polar regions
- 4) Where can you find sparrows?
 - A. In neither rural or urban areas
 - B. In only urban areas
 - C. In only rural areas
 - D. In both rural and urban areas
- 5) How do sparrows defend against predators?
 - A. They can attack with their sharp claws
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 - C. They release a foul smelling odor
 - D. They can let out a loud cry
- 6) What color are sparrows' bodies usually?
 - A. Black and white
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 - C. Purple and yellow
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- 7) How long do sparrows usually live?
 - A. 6-7 years
 - B. Over 10 years
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 - D. 1-2 years
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- 9) How do sparrows help do in farms?
 - A. They eat toxic plants
 - B. They plant seeds
 - C. They scare off other birds
 - D. They eat harmful insects
- 10) Where do sparrows usually build their nests?
 - A. In burrows
 - B. On treetops
 - C. Near rivers
 - D. In small cavities

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

- 11) "I am usually found in the icy polar regions."
- 12) "I refuse to eat seeds."



- 13) "You can find me and my cousins everywhere in the world. Except in the cold north and south."
- 14) "I am the only species of sparrows."
- 15) "I build my nest in wide open spaces."
- 16) "I only live in forests."
- 17) "We sparrows only live for around 5 years."
- 18) "I have to keep an eye out for cats. They see me as a tasty snack."
- 19) "There are 140 different species of sparrow."
- 20) "I don't have any predators."
- 21) "I don't eat insects."
- 22) "I am the largest bird in North America."
- 23) "From seeds to berries, insects to food scraps, I can munch on almost anything. I am not a choosy eater."
- 24) "I live for about 15 years."
- 25) "When a female lays eggs, she usually lays about 4-5 at a time."
- 26) "I feel comfortable both in rural areas with plenty of trees or in busy cities. I can make my home almost anywhere."
- 27) "If needed, I can protect myself with my sharp beak and claws."
- 28) "I never lay eggs."
- 29) "I have a stylish brown body."
- 30) "If a predator comes near, I use my speedy flight to escape."

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

- 31) A sparrow's diet includes seeds, berries, and insects.
- 32) It's incredible how sparrows can build nests in small cavities.
- 33) Sparrows are found globally excluding the polar regions.
- 34) The most incredible thing about sparrows is how they can fly quickly to escape from danger.
- 35) Sparrows have different shades of brown, gray, black, and white on their body.
- 36) It's interesting to watch sparrows hopping around to find food.
- 37) Sparrows have a lifespan of around 4-5 years.
- 38) There are approximately 140 different species of sparrows.
- 39) Sparrows have unique patterns which make them prettier than other small birds.
- 40) Sparrows are boring because they are not as colorful as other birds.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Sparrows can live up to 5 years.
- 42) Sparrows bright colors help them blend in with their tropical homes.
- 43) Sparrows will defend themselves using their sharp beaks and claws.



- 44) Sparrows make their homes in the cold polar regions.
- 45) Female sparrows will usually lay 4 or 5 eggs.
- 46) There are about 50 species of sparrows.
- 47) Sparrows love to eat meat.
- 48) The life span of sparrows is usually about 12 years.
- 49) Sparrows will eat the food scraps that humans leave behind.
- 50) Sparrows love to eat seeds.

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

- 51) Sparrows are social birds that live in flocks.
- 52) Can sparrows swim?
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Finally, let's look at the defenses of sparrows and how they differ from other bird species. When threatened, sparrows use their quick flight speed to escape. They also use their sharp beaks and claws to defend against predators. Compared to other birds, sparrows are smaller and less colorful, which helps them blend into their surroundings and avoid predators. To sum it up, sparrows are fascinating little birds with unique characteristics that make them a special part of our natural world.





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 - C. About 50
 - D. About 200
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1-10	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0



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|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | <u> B </u> | 26. | <u> true </u> | 51. | <u> declarative </u> |
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| 3. | <u> D </u> | 28. | <u> false </u> | 53. | <u> declarative </u> |
| 4. | <u> D </u> | 29. | <u> true </u> | 54. | <u> declarative </u> |
| 5. | <u> A </u> | 30. | <u> true </u> | 55. | <u> interrogative </u> |
| 6. | <u> B </u> | 31. | <u> fact </u> | 56. | <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 9. | <u> D </u> | 34. | <u> opinion </u> | | |
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| 14. | <u> false </u> | 39. | <u> opinion </u> | | |
| 15. | <u> false </u> | 40. | <u> opinion </u> | | |
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| 24. | <u> false </u> | 49. | <u> true </u> | | |
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12) "I refuse to eat seeds." (paragraph 2)