

Hey, have you ever seen a tiny dinosaur creeping around in your backyard? Well, it might just be a Texas horned lizard, a cool creature native to North America! Covered in sharp spines and adorned with two large horns on its head, this lizard looks like it jumped right out of a prehistoric picture book. Its flat body, often a mix of brown, gray, and red, is perfect for blending into its surroundings.

Speaking of surroundings, Texas horned lizards have a pretty specific habitat where they feel right at home. These small, spiky fellows love to live in semi-arid regions, which means they're often found in places like Texas, Arizona, and Mexico. They enjoy the warmth and spend their days basking in the sun or burrowing in the sand. But when they're not lounging, they're hunting for yummy ants, their favorite food.



Oh yes, these lizards are quite the ant eaters! In fact, they can eat a large number of ants in one day, sometimes up to 200! Harvester ants are their absolute favorite, but they'll also munch on beetles, spiders, and other small invertebrates if ants are in short supply. This specialized diet helps control ant populations, which is a neat way they interact with other animals.



Now, these little lizards aren't just fascinating to watch, they also have some amazing defense mechanisms against predators. When threatened, they can puff up their bodies to appear larger and more intimidating. Even more extraordinary, they can squirt a stream of blood from the corners of their eyes to scare off attackers! So, next time you

see a Texas horned lizard, remember it's not just a mini dinosaur, but also a master of disguise and defense!



#### Solve each problem.

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

1) What are the Texas horned lizards covered with?

A. They are covered with soft feathers.

B. They are covered with shiny scales.D. They are covered with sharp spines.

C. They are covered with furry hair.

2) What can a Texas horned lizard do to scare off attackers?

A. Release a foul smelling odor B. Play dead

C. Make a loud screeching noise D. Squirt a stream of blood from the

corners of its eyes

3) Where would you most likely NOT find a texas horned lizard?

A. Texas

B. Arizona

C. Mexico

D. New York

4) What is the preferred food of a Texas horned lizard?

A. EarthwormsC. Butterflies

B. Ants

D. Grasshoppers

5) Where do Texas horned lizards usually live?

A. In tropical rainforests

B. In bodies of water like rivers and

lakes

C. In semi-arid regions

D. In cold, snowy areas

**6)** What color is the Texas horned lizard?

A. They are often a mix of yellow, orange, and brown.

orange, and brown.

B. They are often a mix of purple, pink,

and black.

C. They are often a mix of green, blue,

and white.

D. They are often a mix of brown, gray,

and red.

7) How many ants can a Texas horned lizard eat in one day?

A. They can eat up to 200 ants in one

day

B. They can eat up to 1000 ants in one

dav.

C. They can eat up to 500 ants in one

day.

D. They can eat up to 50 ants in one day.

8) Which insect is the absolute favorite food of a Texas horned lizard?

A. Ladybugs are their absolute favorite

food.

B. Harvester ants are their absolute

favorite food.

C. Grasshoppers are their absolute

favorite food

D. Butterflies are their absolute favorite food.

9) What do Texas horned lizards do during the day?

A. Swim in rivers and ponds

B. Bask in the sun

C. Climb trees and rest on branches

D. Hide underground

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

Name:

- **10**) What do Texas horned lizards do when they feel threatened?
  - A. They puff up their bodies to appear larger and more intimidating.
  - C. They play dead.

- B. They change their color to match the surroundings.
- D. They spit venom.

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

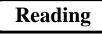
- 11) "I can survive just fine in snow-filled mountains, they're quite cozy for me."
- 12) "I eat loads of ants. In one day, I can eat up to 200 of them. Yum!"
- 13) "I love to bask in the sun or dig in the sand when I'm not busy eating ants."
- 14) "When I feel scared, I can make myself look bigger. But if that doesn't work, I can squirt a stream of blood from the corners of my eyes! Good way to surprise predators!"
- 15) "Being green makes it easier for me to hide in the brown desert."
- 16) "When predators come close, the best thing for me to do is to play dead."
- 17) "I wouldn't be caught dead in the sand. It's just so uncomfortable and grainy."
- 18) "Insects are a no-no for me. I'm all about nuts and seeds."
- 19) "You won't believe this, but I can eat up to a thousand ants in a day!"
- 20) "I live in Texas. It's warm and a bit dry, just how I like it."
- 21) "We love to roam around in lush, wet rainforests."
- 22) "I may be small, but my sharp spines and big horns make me look like a dinosaur!"

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

- 23) Texas horned lizards have a body that is flat and has a mix of colors like brown, grey, and red to blend in with their surroundings.
- 24) Texas horned lizards can eat up to two hundred ants in a day.
- 25) The most interesting thing about Texas horned lizards is their ability to eat a large number of ants in a single day.
- **26**) Being able to puff up their bodies to appear larger and more intimidating is the coolest thing that Texas horned lizards can do.
- 27) In case of danger, Texas horned lizards can squirt a stream of blood from the corners of their eyes.
- 28) Texas horned lizards are way cooler than other lizards because they have sharp spines.
- **29**) Texas horned lizards inhabit semi-arid regions.
- **30**) To protect itself, a Texas horned lizard can puff up its body to appear larger.
- 31) The diet of Texas horned lizards mainly consists of ants.
- **32)** It is impressive how the Texas horned lizards can survive in deserts.
- 33) It's gross how Texas horned lizards will squirt blood from their eyes.

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

- **34)** Texas horned lizards have two large horns on their head.
- 35) Texas horned lizards are often found in the cold northern states like New York.





#### Texas Horned Lizard

Name:

- **36)** Texas horned lizards can eat up to 200 ants in a day.
- 37) Texas horned lizards only hunt at night.
- **38)** Texas horned lizards are often a mix of brown, gray, and red.
- **39**) Texas horned lizards can only defend themselves by puffing up their bodies.
- **40**) Texas horned lizards are vegetarians and only eat leafy greens.
- 41) Texas horned lizards are mostly found in wet, rainforest regions.
- **42**) Texas horned lizards like to live in semi-arid regions.
- **43**) Texas horned lizards can squirt blood from their eyes.

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

- **44)** Texas horned lizards are often found in desert habitats.
- **45**) Can Texas horned lizards shoot blood from their eyes?
- **46)** Texas horned lizards are native to the southwestern United States.
- 47) Texas horned lizards have a unique ability to shoot blood from their eyes.
- **48**) Where can Texas horned lizards be found?
- **49**) What do Texas horned lizards eat?



### Texas Horned Lizard

Name:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 26. \_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

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10. \_\_\_\_\_ 35. \_\_\_\_

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20. 45.

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22. \_\_\_\_\_ 47. \_\_\_\_

23. \_\_\_\_\_ 48. \_\_\_\_

24. 49.



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#### Solve each problem.

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A. Release a foul smelling odor

C. They are covered with furry hair.

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3) Where would you most likely NOT find a texas horned lizard?

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Texas Horned Lizard Name: Answer Key

- 10) What do Texas horned lizards do when they feel threatened?
  - A. They puff up their bodies to appear larger and more intimidating.
  - C. They play dead.

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Answer Key

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### Texas Horned Lizard

**Answer Key** Name:

1.	D	26.	opinion		
		-			

- D fact 2. 27.
- $\mathbf{D}$ opinion 3. 28.
- B fact 29. 4.
- C fact 5. 30.
- D fact 31. 6.
- A opinion 32. 7.
- B opinion 8. 33.
- B true 9. 34.
- $\mathbf{A}$ false 10. 35.
- false true 11. 36.
- true false 12. 37.
- true true 13. 38.
- false true 14. 39.
- false false 15. 40.
- false false 16. 41.
- false true 17. 42.
- false true 18. 43.
- false declarative 19. 44.
- true interrogative 20. 45.
- false declarative 21. 46.
- true declarative 22. 47.
- fact

48.

- fact interrogative 24. 49.

opinion 25.

23.

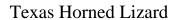
interrogative



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Jse	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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Use	the article to answer the question.					
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	C.	D.	They are covered with sharp spines.			
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	A. Release a foul smelling odor	B.	Play dead			
	C.	D.	Squirt a stream of blood from the			
			corners of its eyes			
3)	ere would you most likely NOT find a texas horned lizard? (paragraph 2)					
	A.	B.	Arizona			
	C.	D.	New York			
4)	What is the preferred food of a Texas horned lizard? (paragraph 3)					
	A. Earthworms	В.	Ants			
	C.	D.				
5)	Where do Texas horned lizards usually live?	(parag	graph 2)			
	A.	B.	In bodies of water like rivers and			
			lakes			
	C. In semi-arid regions	D.				
<b>6</b> )	What color is the Texas horned lizard? (paragraphic paragraphic)					
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	C.	D.	They are often a mix of brown, gray, and red.			
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	C.	D.	uay.			
ο.						
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	A.	В.	Harvester ants are their absolute favorite food.			
	C.	D.	lavonie 100a.			
9)	What do Texas horned lizards do during the o	ไลนวิ	(paragraph 2)			
)	A.	•	Bask in the sun			
	C.	D.	Dusk in the sair			
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10)	A. They puff up their bodies to appear		They change their color to match the			
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	C.	D.	-			



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