Guess what, there's a creature named after two animals – the ant and the lion, but it's not related to either! The ant lion, as it's called, is actually a tiny insect that looks a bit like a dragonfly when it's fully grown. In their younger stage, they're called 'ant lion larvae' and look like little bugs with big jaws. These guys are unique with their flat bodies, six tiny legs and a pair of fearsome jaws.

Speaking of their looks, did you know these creatures are also famous for their homes? Ant lions usually live in sandy or dusty areas where they dig small, funnel-shaped pits. These pits are not just any home, they are clever traps for unsuspecting prey, mainly ants. When an ant stumbles into the pit, the ant lion waits at the bottom to catch it with its large jaws.



Now that we've seen their homes, let's dive into their life cycle and diet. Ant lions start their life as an egg, then they hatch into larvae (the stage where they dig pits and catch ants), and finally transform into adults. The adult stage is the only time they can fly and they mostly eat pollen and nectar. Interestingly, adult ant lions don't have any jaws to eat solid food, so they only have a short time to find a mate and lay eggs before they starve.



Even though they might seem a little scary, ant lions are harmless to humans and are even beneficial. Their pits help aerate the soil and their hunting reduces the number of ants, which can be pests. They also serve as food for other creatures like birds and spiders. So, next time you see a tiny pit in a sandy area, remember it could be the home of an ant lion, an insect that's not an ant or a lion but an amazing creature in its own right.



#### Solve each problem.

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

1) What does the ant lion look like when it's fully grown?

A. It looks like a sparrow.

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C. No, they do not affect the number of

D. No, they have no interactions with ants.

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A. They use the pits to store food.

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C. No, no other creatures eat them.

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A. They fly in their larvae stage.

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

- 11) "My diet is completely different from my larvae stage to when I grow my wings. From ants to pollen."
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- 28) During their adult period, ant lions feed mostly on nectar and pollen.
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- **32)** The ant lion is an insect and not a type of ant or lion.
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- **38)** Birds and spiders eat ant lions.
- **39**) Ant lions bites contain a toxin that is deadly to humans.
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## Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- **48)** Ant lions are also known as doodlebugs because of the squiggly trails they leave behind as they move through the sand.
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### Ant Lions

Name:

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Name: Answer Key

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### Ant Lions

Name: Answer Key

		7 HIT LIONS
C	26.	false
В	27.	true
В	28.	fact
В	29.	opinion
C	30.	fact
A	31.	opinion
C	32.	fact
C	33.	opinion
A	34.	fact
В	35.	fact
true	36.	opinion
true	37.	opinion
true	38.	true
false	39.	false
true	40.	true
false	41.	false
false	42.	true
true	43.	false
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51.	interrogative	_
52.	interrogative	_
53.	exclamatory	_
54.	declarative	_
55.	interrogative	
56.	exclamatory	_



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Use	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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C. D.

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