Imagine a beetle, not just any beetle, but one of the largest, most impressive beetles in the world - the Hercules beetle! These incredible insects are famous for their size, which can reach up to 6.7 inches long, and their spectacular horn-like structures, which males use to battle each other. The Hercules beetle is shiny and can be green, gray, or brown, and it's known to change its color, almost like magic, depending on the light and the humidity. With their strong bodies, they can carry up to 850 times their own weight, making them one of the strongest creatures on earth.

Speaking of their strength, ever wondered what kind of meals fuel these mighty creatures? Hercules beetles are natural recyclers as they love munching on rotting wood and fruits for dinner. They play a very important role in the ecosystem by helping to break down and recycle dead plants. But remember, just like us, they need water to live, so they often live near streams or places where they can easily access water.



Now that we know what they eat and where they live, let's dive into their fascinating life cycle. Hercules beetles start their life as tiny eggs, which then hatch into larvae, the

stage at which they do most of their growing. They then change into pupae, sort of like beetle teenagers, before finally becoming adult Hercules beetles. This entire process can take up to two years, which is quite long for an insect.



We've learned so much about these amazing beetles, but how do they interact with humans and other animals? In general, they are harmless to humans and prefer to avoid confrontation, using their impressive horns to defend themselves if necessary. They are often kept as pets due to their unique appearance and low maintenance, and have a peaceful relationship with other animals. So, next time you think of Hercules, don't just think of the strong hero from Greek mythology, but also remember the mighty Hercules beetle, one of the largest and strongest beetles in the world.



Hercules Beetles

Solve each problem.

501	e each problem.		
	the article to answer the question. How do Hercules beetles use their horns?	P	
	A. to protect their eggs		to dig burrows
	C. to swim in water	D.	to battle each other
2)	Why are Hercules beetles called recyclers? A. They break down and recycle dead	B.	They help bees recycle nectar into
	plants C. They collect and store food for the winter	D.	honey They naturally sort plastic from organic waste
	winter		organie waste
3)	What do Hercules beetles eat?		
	A. nectar from flowers	В.	rotting wood and fruits
	C. other insects	D.	grass and leaves
4)	Why are Hercules beetles often kept as pets?	Б	
	A. because they can perform tricks		because they are friendly and playful
	C. due to their unique appearance and low maintenance	D.	because they are rare and valuable
5)	Are Hercules beetles harmful to humans?		
,	A. No	B.	Only female beetles
	C. Yes		Only males beetles
6)	What is the Hercules beetle famous for?		
	A. their long lives		their ability to change color
	C. their great swimming ability	D.	their size and horn-like structures
7)	How do Hercules beetles help the ecosystem?)	
.,	A. by providing food for other animals		by breaking down and recycling dead plants
	C. by creating underground burrows	D.	by pollinating flowers
Q)	Where would you most likely find a Hercules	ha	atlas living?
8)	A. In an urban area		near a stream
	C. in the desert	D.	At the top of a mountain
9)	Do Hercules beetles have a long or short life	cyc	le compared to other insects?
	A. Depends on the specific beetle	B.	Long
	C. Short	D.	The same as other insects
10)			
10)	How long does it take for a Hercules beetle to		up to one year

- A. up to six months B. up to one year
- C. up to two years D. up to five years

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

	Hercules Beetles Name:
<u>11</u>)	"I can lift 10,000 times my own weight."
12)	"No one can match my strength. I can lift things 850 times heavier than my own body weight!"
13)	"I start life as a tiny egg, then grow into a larva, that's when I do most of my growing!"
14)	"I don't need fancy food. Give me rotting wood or fruits, that's my kind of meal!"
15)	"I'm one of the biggest beetles you'll ever see. At almost 7 inches long, I'm longer than a dollar bill!"
16)	"I am harmful to humans."
17)	"I despise rotten food, it makes me sick."
18)	"I play my part in keeping nature clean. I help break down and recycle dead plants."
19)	"My transformation from a tiny egg to an adult happens in a few weeks."
20)	"My life cycle is very short."
21)	"I've got pretty amazing horns on my head! I use them to wrestle with other males."
22)	"My horns are just for show, they serve no real purpose."
23)	"I need water to live, so I like to be near streams or places where it's easy for me to find water."
24)	"I'm usually peaceful and try and avoid conflicts. But if necessary, I will use my horns to defend myself."
25)	"I'm always aggressive and ready to fight."
26)	"I don't need much care. That's why many people keep me as a pet."
27)	"From being an egg to growing into an adult, it takes me around two years!"
28)	"I usually live in dry places where water isn't accessible."
29)	"I don't need any water to live."
Dete	ermine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.
30)	Hercules beetles can live up to two years.
31)	Hercules beetles are not at all scary, they are just unique-looking.
32)	Hercules beetles are often found eating decaying wood and fruits.
33)	I think it's amazing how Hercules beetles can change their color, almost like magic.
34)	Hercules beetles can be among the largest beetles in the world, reaching lengths of over 6 inches.
35)	The life cycle of Hercules beetles is fascinating, from eggs to larvae, to pupae, and finally into adult beetles.
36)	Hercules beetles can usually be found near sources of water.
37)	Hercules beetles can lift something that is 850 times heavier than themselves.
38)	Having a Hanaylas hastle as a not can be your interacting due to their unique annearance

- **38)** Having a Hercules beetle as a pet can be very interesting due to their unique appearance.
- **39)** It's cool how Hercules beetles eat decaying plant matter and fruit.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

40) The life cycle of the Hercules beetle can take up to two years.

			N			
<u>41</u>)	Hercules Be	ettes	Name:			
, i	Hercules beetle larvae only eat rotting wood.					
42) 43)	Adult Hercules beetles can carry up to 850 tim	-				
43)	The Hercules beetle is one of the smallest beet	les in the world.				
44)	Hercules beetles may eat rotting wood.					
45)	Hercules beetles can carry up to 10,000 times	C				
46)	Hercules beetles will attack humans if they con	ne near.				
47)	Hercules beetles do not need water to live.					
48)	Hercules beetles are often kept as pets.					
49)	The Hercules beetle can change its color depen	nding on the light and humidity	у.			
Dete	rmine which choice is the expanded form of	the underlined contraction.				
50)	They <u>don't</u> bite or sting humans.					
		3. do not				
	C. did not	D. will not				
51)	You <u>won't</u> believe how big they can grow.					
	A. will not	3. cannot				
	C. would not	D. do not				
52)	Hercules beetles can't fly very far.					
	A. can	3. are not able				
	C. will not	D. cannot				
53)	<u>It's</u> amazing how strong they are for their size.					
	A. it is	3. it was				
	C. it will	D. it has				
54)	They're known for their large horns.					
	A. they will	3. they were				
	C. they are	D. they do				
Dete	rmine if the sentence is a declarative(d), excl	amatory(e), interrogative(i)	or			
	erative(m).		-			
55)	Amazing isn't it, that the lifecycle of a Hercule	s beetle can last up to three ye	ars!			
56)	Be careful not to touch the hercules beetle's ho	rns.				

- **57**) Are Hercules beetles dangerous to humans?
- **58)** Can you believe Hercules beetles can lift up to 850 times their own body weight? That's like a human lifting an elephant!
- **59**) Hercules beetle larvae mostly eat rotten wood and leaf litter.
- **60)** What is the purpose of the large horn on a male Hercules beetle?
- 61) Hercules beetles are harmless to humans and do not bite or sting.
- **62)** What do Hercules beetle larvae eat?
- **63)** Male Hercules beetles use their large horns to fight other beetles.



Hercules Beetles

Name:

64) Observe the unique patterns on the exoskeleton of Hercules beetles.

65) Hercules beetles are one of the largest insects in the world!

66) Handle Hercules beetles with care.

	Hercules Beetles		Name:
1 26		51	_
2 27		52.	_
3 28		53.	
4 29		54	_
5 30		55.	-
6 31		56	-
7 32		57	-
8 33	·	58	-
9 34		59	-
10 35		60.	-
11 36	·	61	-
12 37		62.	-
13 38		63	-
14 39		64.	-
15 40		65.	-
16 41		66.	-
17 42			
18 43			
19 44			
20 45			
21 46			
22 47			
23 48			
24 49			
25 50			
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	the article to answer the question. How do Hercules beetles use their horns?		
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10)	How long does it take for a Hercules beetle to	o co	mplete its life cycle?
	A. up to six months	B.	up to one year
		р	(- C

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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).

	Hercules Beetles Na	me:	Answer	Kev					
11)				<u> </u>					
12)	•	body							
13)	"I start life as a tiny egg, then grow into a larva, that's when I do most of my growing!"								
14)	"I don't need fancy food. Give me rotting wood or fruits, that's my kind of meal!"	"I don't need fancy food. Give me rotting wood or fruits, that's my kind of meal!"							
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16)	"I am harmful to humans."								
17)	"I despise rotten food, it makes me sick."								
18)	"I play my part in keeping nature clean. I help break down and recycle dead plan	ts."							
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20)	My life cycle is very short."								
21)	"I've got pretty amazing horns on my head! I use them to wrestle with other male	es."							
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47)	Hercules beetles do not need water to live.						
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49)	The Hercules beetle can change its color dep	bend	ling on the light and humidit	y.			
Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form o	of th	e underlined contraction.				
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	A. does not	B.	do not				
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	A. will not	B.	cannot				
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	A. it is	В.	it was				
	C. it will	D.	it has				
54)	They're known for their large horns.						
	A. they will	В.	they were				
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Name: Answer Key

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			Hercules Beet	les		Name:	Answer	Key
1.	D	26.	true	51.	А			
2.	A	27.	true	52.	D	_		
3.	В	28.	false	53.	A	_		
4.	С	29.	false	54.	С	_		
5.	Α	30.	fact	55.	exclamatory			
6.	D	31.	opinion	56.	imperative			
7.	В	32.	fact	57.	interrogative	_		
8.	<u> </u>	33.	opinion	58.	exclamatory	_		
9.	<u> </u>	34	fact	59.	declarative	_		
10.	<u> </u>	35	opinion	60.	interrogative	_		
11.	false	36.	fact	61.	declarative	_		
12.	true	37	fact	62.	interrogative	_		
13.	true	38.	opinion	63.	declarative	_		
14.	true	39.	opinion	64.	imperative	_		
15.	true	40.	true	65.	exclamatory	_		
16.	false	41	false	66.	imperative	_		
17.	false	42.	true					
18.	true	43.	false					
19.	false	44.	true					
20.	false	45.	false					
21.	true	46.	false					
22.	false	47.	false					
23.	true	48.	true					
24.	true	49.	true					
25.	false	50.	В					
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	Hercu	ales Beetles	Name:
Solv	e each problem.		
Use 1)	the article to answer the question. How do Hercules beetles use their horn	NS? (paragraph 1) B.	
	A. to protect their eggsC.	D. to battle each other	
2)	Why are Hercules beetles called recycleA. They break down and recycle dead plantsC.		ycle nectar into
3)	What do Hercules beetles eat? (paragraph 2 A. nectar from flowers C.	²⁾ B. rotting wood and fr D.	ruits
4)	Why are Hercules beetles often kept asA. because they can perform tricksC. due to their unique appearance and low maintenance	B. because they are fr	iendly and playful
5)	Are Hercules beetles harmful to human A. No C.	IS? (paragraph 4) B. Only female beetle D.	S
6)	What is the Hercules beetle famous for A. their long lives C.	? (paragraph 1) B. their ability to char D. their size and horn-	0
7)	How do Hercules beetles help the ecosy A.	B. by breaking down a plants	and recycling dead
8)	C. Where would you most likely find a He A. C.	D. ercules beetles living? (paragraph) B. near a stream D.	2)
9)	Do Hercules beetles have a long or sho A. Depends on the specific beetle C.	rt life cycle compared to other B. Long D.	insects? (paragraph 3)
10)	How long does it take for a Hercules beA. up to six monthsC. up to two years	eetle to complete its life cycle? B. up to one year D.	? (paragraph 3)

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



Hercules Beetles

- 11) "I can lift 10,000 times my own weight." (paragraph 1)
- 12) "No one can match my strength. I can lift things 850 times heavier than my own body weight!" (paragraph 1)