



Whooshing through the sky with grace, here come the swans, one of nature's most elegant birds! These large, beautiful birds are known for their long, curved necks and soft, white feathers. But did you know that not all swans are white? Some are black or even black and white! With their wide, strong wings, they look like they are dancing when they fly.

Speaking of dancing, swans have some pretty interesting ways of living too. They can be found all over the world, from the cold climates of Canada and Russia to the warm areas of Australia and Africa. Swans like to live near water, like lakes and ponds, where they can swim, fish and even sleep! In fact, they are excellent swimmers and divers, using their strong legs and webbed feet to move through the water.

Just like us, swans have their favorite food too! Swans are omnivorous, which means they eat both plants and small animals. They love to munch on aquatic plants, grasses, and grains, but they also eat insects, fish, and small water animals when they can catch them. Swans are not picky eaters, but they do prefer to eat in the water where they can use their long necks to reach food.



Now, let's paddle further into the swan's life cycle and their relationship with humans and other animals. Swans usually mate for life and both parents take care of the eggs and cygnets (baby swans). Humans and swans have a long history together, with swans often appearing in our stories and art, but we need to remember to respect them and their habitats. And remember, while swans are generally peaceful animals, they can be very protective of their young and will use their strong wings to defend themselves if they feel threatened.



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

- 1) Are swans found all over the world?
  - A. No, swans are only found in America.
  - B. No, swans are only found in cold areas.
  - C. No, swans are only found in warm areas.
  - D. Yes, swans are found all over the world.
- 2) Do swans usually mate for life? Who takes care of the eggs and cygnets?
  - A. No, they don't mate for life and only one parent takes care of the eggs and cygnets
  - B. Yes, they mate for life and both parents take care of the eggs and cygnets
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- 3) Do all swans have white feathers?
  - A. Yes
  - B. Swans have feathers of different colors when they are born and they turn white as they grow
  - C. Only baby swans have white feathers
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  - A. Swans are omnivores
  - B. Swans are carnivores.
  - C. Swans do not eat.
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- 5) Are swans generally peaceful animals?
  - A. Only the females are peaceful
  - B. Only the males are peaceful
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- 6) Where do swans prefer to eat?
  - A. Swans prefer to eat in trees.
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  - D. Only during mating season
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  - A. Baby swans are called calf.
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  - C. Baby swans are called chicks.
  - D. Baby swans are called cygnets.



- 9) What are swans known for?
- A. Their small, round bodies and long, spiky feathers
  - B. Their long, curved beaks and webbed feet
  - C. Their short, straight necks and colorful feathers
  - D. Their long, curved necks and soft, white feathers

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

- 10) "Did you know we make good parents? Both males and females take care of the eggs and cygnets."
- 11) "I have a strong beak and strong wings to defend myself when I'm in danger."
- 12) "Not all of us are white you know. Some of us have black or black and white feathers."
- 13) "I don't eat plants."
- 14) "I always eat in water. My long neck is perfect for reaching food there."
- 15) "I can only be found in the warm areas of Australia and Africa."
- 16) "I don't need water, I prefer living on dry land."
- 17) "While I'm mostly vegetarian, I do like a good seafood dish like fish."
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- 20) "I can't fly; my wings aren't built for that."
- 21) "Water is my favorite place to be! I swim, fish and even sleep here."
- 22) "We never live in warm climates."
- 23) "I have a long, curved neck that make me stand out."
- 24) "We can't be found in cold climates."
- 25) "We swans don't take care of our eggs we lay them and then leave."
- 26) "Unlike a lot of birds you can find me even in the cold areas of Russia and Canada."

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

- 27) It's fascinating that swans can sleep while floating on water.
- 28) It is incredible that swans can use their strong wings to defend themselves.
- 29) It is pretty impressive that swans can live all over the world, even in cold places like Canada and Russia.
- 30) Swans come in more colors than just white: some swans are black or even black and white.
- 31) Swans are scary because they can be very protective of their young.
- 32) Swans are omnivorous, which means they eat both plants and small animals.
- 33) Swans' white feathers make them look even more beautiful.
- 34) While swans are generally calm animals, they can become very defensive and protective of their young.

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



- 35) Both male and female swans will take care of the eggs.
- 36) All swans are white.
- 37) Swans are omnivorous.
- 38) Swans cannot fly because of their weight.
- 39) Swans are excellent swimmers and divers.
- 40) Swans spend most of their time on land or in the air as they are unable to swim.
- 41) Swans are carnivores and only eat insects.
- 42) Unlike other animals, only the male swans take care of the baby swans.
- 43) Swans can be black.
- 44) Swans can live in both cold and warm climates.

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

- 45) Swans build nests to lay their eggs in.
- 46) Do baby swans look like their parents?
- 47) Swans can be white or black.
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| 1. _____  | 26. _____ |
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|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>D</u>      | 26. <u>true</u>          |
| 2. <u>B</u>      | 27. <u>opinion</u>       |
| 3. <u>D</u>      | 28. <u>opinion</u>       |
| 4. <u>A</u>      | 29. <u>opinion</u>       |
| 5. <u>C</u>      | 30. <u>fact</u>          |
| 6. <u>D</u>      | 31. <u>opinion</u>       |
| 7. <u>C</u>      | 32. <u>fact</u>          |
| 8. <u>D</u>      | 33. <u>opinion</u>       |
| 9. <u>D</u>      | 34. <u>fact</u>          |
| 10. <u>true</u>  | 35. <u>true</u>          |
| 11. <u>true</u>  | 36. <u>false</u>         |
| 12. <u>true</u>  | 37. <u>true</u>          |
| 13. <u>false</u> | 38. <u>false</u>         |
| 14. <u>true</u>  | 39. <u>true</u>          |
| 15. <u>false</u> | 40. <u>false</u>         |
| 16. <u>false</u> | 41. <u>false</u>         |
| 17. <u>true</u>  | 42. <u>false</u>         |
| 18. <u>true</u>  | 43. <u>true</u>          |
| 19. <u>true</u>  | 44. <u>true</u>          |
| 20. <u>false</u> | 45. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 21. <u>true</u>  | 46. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 22. <u>false</u> | 47. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 23. <u>true</u>  | 48. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 24. <u>false</u> | 49. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 25. <u>false</u> | 50. <u>interrogative</u> |



**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) Are swans found all over the world? (paragraph 2)
  - A.
  - B. No, swans are only found in cold areas.
  - C.
  - D. Yes, swans are found all over the world.
- 2) Do swans usually mate for life? Who takes care of the eggs and cygnets? (paragraph 4)
  - A. No, they don't mate for life and only one parent takes care of the eggs and cygnets
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  - C.
  - D.
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