



Imagine a cockroach that's as big as a mouse, that's the giant burrowing cockroach! These creatures are the heavyweights of the cockroach world, reaching up to 3 inches in length and weighing up to 35 grams. They are dark brown in color and have a shiny, hard shell that acts as their outer skeleton. Unlike their regular cockroach cousins, these giants can't fly but they're fantastic burrowers instead.



Speaking of burrowing, these roach giants love to dig deep into the soil of Australia's tropical rainforests. They make their homes underground, using their strong legs and body to create tunnels and burrows. Living in a burrow helps them stay cool during the hot days and warm during chilly nights. Their burrows also provide a safe place to hide from predators.

Now, you might be wondering what these underground dwellers eat. Their main diet consists of dry leaves, wood, and other plant material. This makes them important for the environment as they help break down dead plant matter, returning nutrients back to the soil. Did you know? They can live up to 10 years, which is quite long for an insect!



Let's now talk about their relationship with us humans and other animals. While they might seem scary to some, they are completely harmless and do not pose any threat. In fact, some people even keep these gentle giants as pets. So, whether it's their burrowing skills, their important role in the ecosystem, or their gentle nature, there's certainly more to the giant burrowing cockroach than meets the eye.

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

- 1) How big can a giant burrowing cockroach get?
A. The size of a ruler B. About 3 inches
C. About 6 inches D. About 9 inches

- 2) How heavy can a giant burrowing cockroach get?
A. Up to 40 grams B. Up to 30 grams
C. Up to 35 grams D. Up to 50 grams

- 3) Can giant burrowing cockroaches fly?
A. No B. Only when they are young
C. Only when they are adults D. Yes

- 4) Do giant burrowing cockroaches pose any threat to humans?
A. Yes B. Only the females
C. No D. Only the males

- 5) How long can a giant burrowing cockroach live?
A. Up to 5 years B. Up to 10 years
C. Up to 20 years D. Up to 1 year

- 6) What color are giant burrowing cockroaches?
A. Dark blue B. Dark brown
C. Light blue D. Light brown

- 7) Where do giant burrowing cockroaches live?
A. In trees B. In houses
C. In water D. In soil

- 8) What type of climate do giant burrowing cockroaches prefer?
A. Mountains B. Deserts
C. Tropical rainforests D. Grasslands

- 9) Where do the giant burrowing cockroaches make their homes?
A. In trees B. Underground
C. In caves D. In rivers

- 10) Which do giant burrowing cockroaches eat?
A. Small insects B. Oak Seeds
C. Fresh Fruits D. Dry leaves

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

- 11) "I'm really good for the environment! I break down plant matter and return nutrients to the soil."
- 12) "Wood and plant material are my favorite things to munch on."
- 13) "My home? I dig it deep in the soil of Australia's tropical rainforests."
- 14) "While I can't fly, I love to dig and burrow. That's why I'm called a burrowing cockroach."
- 15) "I don't really live that long, just a year or two."



Giant Burrowing Cockroach

Name: _____

- 16) "While many other insects live short lives, I can live for up to 10 years! If I went to school, that would mean I was in 4th grade!"
- 17) "When predators come, I safely hide in my burrow."
- 18) "I'm not a giant, I only reach up to 1 inch in length."
- 19) "Oh, I just love to spread my wings and fly!"
- 20) "Some people think I'm pretty cool and keep me as a pet."
- 21) "I hate staying inside my burrow during the day, it's too dark."
- 22) "I'm heavier than most other bugs. I can weigh up to 35 grams. That's as much as a deck of playing cards."
- 23) "Even if I look scary to some people, I promise I'm completely harmless."
- 24) "I feast on insects and small animals."
- 25) "My burrow basically has air conditioning. It keeps me cool during hot days and warm when it's chilly."

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

- 26) Giant burrowing cockroaches can live up to 10 years.
- 27) Giant burrowing cockroaches are much more interesting than regular ones.
- 28) The diet of giant burrowing cockroaches primarily consists of dry leaves, wood, and other plant material.
- 29) It's amazing how long giant burrowing cockroaches can live, up to 10 years!
- 30) Giant burrowing cockroaches can not fly.
- 31) I feel bad for the giant burrowing cockroaches that have to live underground all the time.
- 32) Some people keep giant burrowing cockroaches as pets.
- 33) Giant burrowing cockroaches live in the soil of Australia's tropical rainforests.
- 34) It is weird that some people keep giant burrowing cockroaches as pets.
- 35) These cockroaches are not gross, despite what many people say.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 36) Giant burrowing cockroaches can live up to 10 years.
- 37) Giant burrowing cockroaches only live about 6 months.
- 38) Giant burrowing cockroaches are not able to fly.
- 39) Giant burrowing cockroaches are smaller than regular cockroaches.
- 40) Giant burrowing cockroaches eat dry leaves and wood.
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- 42) Giant burrowing cockroaches mainly eat other insects.
- 43) Giant burrowing cockroaches have a venom that is dangerous to humans.
- 44) Some people keep giant burrowing cockroaches as pets.
- 45) Giant burrowing cockroaches live in Australia.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.



Giant Burrowing Cockroach

Name: _____

48) Giant burrowing cockroaches don't have wings, so they can't fly.

- A. does not
- B. cannot
- C. did not
- D. do not

49) It's easy to take care of them as pets because they're low-maintenance.

- A. It is
- B. It was
- C. It are
- D. It has

50) They're great at recycling dead plants in the environment.

- A. They am
- B. They were
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

51) Giant burrowing cockroaches are native to Australia.

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54) Giant burrowing cockroaches are generally harmless and do not bite.

55) Can giant burrowing cockroaches fly?

56) Giant Burrowing Cockroaches grow really big, some can even reach 3 inches long!

57) How big can giant burrowing cockroaches grow?



Giant Burrowing Cockroach

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____

2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____

3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____

4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____

5. _____ 30. _____ 55. _____

6. _____ 31. _____ 56. _____

7. _____ 32. _____ 57. _____

8. _____ 33. _____

9. _____ 34. _____

10. _____ 35. _____

11. _____ 36. _____

12. _____ 37. _____

13. _____ 38. _____

14. _____ 39. _____

15. _____ 40. _____

16. _____ 41. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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Giant Burrowing Cockroach

Name: **Answer Key**

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1.	B	26.	fact	51.	declarative
2.	C	27.	opinion	52.	interrogative
3.	A	28.	fact	53.	declarative
4.	C	29.	opinion	54.	declarative
5.	B	30.	fact	55.	interrogative
6.	B	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory
7.	D	32.	fact	57.	interrogative
8.	C	33.	fact		
9.	B	34.	opinion		
10.	D	35.	opinion		
11.	Would	36.	true		
12.	Would	37.	false		
13.	Would	38.	true		
14.	Would	39.	false		
15.	Not	40.	true		
16.	Would	41.	false		
17.	Would	42.	false		
18.	Not	43.	false		
19.	Not	44.	true		
20.	Would	45.	true		
21.	Not	46.	B		
22.	Would	47.	A		
23.	Would	48.	D		
24.	Not	49.	A		
25.	Would	50.	C		



Giant Burrowing Cockroach

Name: _____

Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) How big can a giant burrowing cockroach get? (paragraph 1)
A. _____ B. About 3 inches
C. _____ D. _____

- 2) How heavy can a giant burrowing cockroach get? (paragraph 1)
A. _____ B. Up to 30 grams
C. Up to 35 grams D. _____

- 3) Can giant burrowing cockroaches fly? (paragraph 1)
A. No B. _____
C. _____ D. _____

- 4) Do giant burrowing cockroaches pose any threat to humans? (paragraph 4)
A. Yes B. _____
C. No D. _____

- 5) How long can a giant burrowing cockroach live? (paragraph 3)
A. Up to 5 years B. Up to 10 years
C. _____ D. _____

- 6) What color are giant burrowing cockroaches? (paragraph 1)
A. _____ B. Dark brown
C. _____ D. _____

- 7) Where do giant burrowing cockroaches live? (paragraph 2)
A. _____ B. In houses
C. _____ D. In soil

- 8) What type of climate do giant burrowing cockroaches prefer? (paragraph 2)
A. _____ B. Deserts
C. Tropical rainforests D. _____

- 9) Where do the giant burrowing cockroaches make their homes? (paragraph 2)
A. In trees B. Underground
C. _____ D. _____

- 10) Which do giant burrowing cockroaches eat? (paragraph 3)
A. Small insects B. _____
C. _____ D. Dry leaves

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

- 11) "I'm really good for the environment! I break down plant matter and return nutrients to the soil." (paragraph 3)

- 12) "Wood and plant material are my favorite things to munch on." (paragraph 3)