



Bird Migration Exam

Instructions: Please complete the questions in the Fill in the Blank, True/False, and Multiple Choice sections of this exam. Each question has only one correct answer. Good luck!

Fill in the Blank

Fill in the blanks with the best word or phrase to complete the sentences below.

1. Bird _____ is the seasonal movement of birds from one region or climate to another and back again.
2. Over _____ million birds pass through Chicago each year.
3. Some bird species do not use the same routes to travel from their breeding grounds and from their _____.
4. _____ migrants generally begin their flight shortly after sundown, gain their maximum altitude quickly and maintain this peak until midnight.
5. Even if they're not traveling together, you might see different _____ passing through the same area at the same time.
6. This 3,000-mile migration route is uninterrupted by mountains and its woodlands and sufficient water supply provide ideal conditions for migrating birds. This route contains the _____ that brings millions of migrants through Chicago each year.
7. The purpose of the _____ is to conserve the ecosystems upon which threatened species depend.
8. Scientists have identified _____ general routes for the southern migration of birds through the U.S.
9. Urban _____ Treaty for Migratory Birds
10. The _____ can reach speeds of up to 200 miles per hour.
11. The _____ is the smallest bird in Chicago.
12. Birds need _____ from the weather and from predators.
13. Avoid using _____ on your lawn.
14. Large, reflective _____ often trick and injure or even kill birds.
15. Due to the fermentation of the fruit they eat, the _____ is occasionally unable to take flight due to intoxication.
16. The _____ makes an unmistakable, eerie, wailing cry that you may recognize from camping trips up north.
17. When the _____ takes flight, it performs a distinctive zigzag pattern to confuse predators.
18. The _____ is known for its striped head and white throat.



19. To attract and _____ birds in your backyard, you can establish wild areas containing native plant species that feed and shelter birds.
20. Considering the fact that any single loss of an endangered or threatened bird is significant reveals the benefit of keeping even one additional _____.

True/False

For each of the statements below, decide whether that statement is true or false.

- T F 1. Birds are the most mobile creatures on earth and approximately 7 million pass through Chicago each year.
- T F 2. Chicago is an important stopover on the Great Plains Route, because Lake Michigan on the east and open farmland on the west and to the south do not provide the necessary resting and feeding stops during migration.
- T F 3. Birds typically migrate during the daytime to take advantage of the light to find their way.
- T F 4. Studies have shown that birds travel several miles per hour faster during their fall migration to their wintering grounds than to their summer homes in the spring.
- T F 5. Although there is a great degree of variation, the species who breed the farthest north tend to winter the farthest south.
- T F 6. Radar studies indicate that nocturnal migrants fly in tighter groups than daytime migrants.
- T F 7. During the period of time prior to migration, birds typically increase their night activity.
- T F 8. The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is the speed at which their wings flap – up to 180 times per second.
- T F 9. Common Mergansers feed mostly on fish and attract prey by vibrating their bill rapidly in the water.
- T F 10. According to the EPA's wildlife mortality incident database, three of the commonly used pesticides for home use kill millions of birds every year.



Multiple Choice

For each of the questions or statements below, select the answer that best answers the question or completes the statement.

1. During the early days of bird migration study, researchers believed that during the winter birds did all of the following, except _____.
 - a. Hibernated in caves
 - b. Hibernated in hollow trees
 - c. Changed seasonally from one species to another
 - d. Hitched a ride on the backs of larger birds
 - e. None of the above
2. To help them find their way during migration, scientists believe that birds use all but the following environmental indicators to find their way, except _____?
 - a. Landmarks
 - b. Stars
 - c. The earth's magnetic field
 - d. The moon
 - e. Sonar
3. Which of the following is not one of the seven major North American flyways?
 - a. Atlantic Oceanic Route
 - b. Atlantic Coast Route and Tributaries East
 - c. Mississippi Flyway
 - d. Pacific Coast Route
 - e. Pacific Oceanic Route
4. Most birds fly at a speed of _____.
 - a. 5 to 15 miles per hour
 - b. 15 to 40 miles per hour
 - c. 20 to 50 miles per hour
 - d. 35 to 65 miles per hour
 - e. None of the above
5. Radar studies indicate that daytime migrants fly in tighter groups than nocturnal migrants. Scientists have theorized that this may be for all of the following reasons, except _____.
 - a. Light, as birds can see better
 - b. Protection, as most predators hunt their prey by day
 - c. Aerodynamics, as calmer skies typically occur by night
 - d. All of the above



6. The bird that migrates farther than any other bird is the _____.
 - a. Peregrine Falcon
 - b. Arctic Tern
 - c. Prothonotary Warbler
 - d. Canada Goose
 - e. Scarlet Tanager

7. Scientists have suggested that higher altitudes may benefit birds by allowing them to _____.
 - a. Locate familiar landmarks
 - b. Fly above certain weather conditions
 - c. Fly over physical barriers
 - d. Take advantage of tail winds
 - e. All of the above

8. Radar studies have shown that the majority of migrating birds travel at the following altitude.
 - a. Less than 3,000 feet
 - b. 3,000 to 5,000 feet
 - c. 5,000 to 10,000 feet
 - d. 10000 to 20,000 feet
 - e. More than 20,000 feet

9. Why might related bird species sometimes not travel together during migration?
 - a. To avoid predators
 - b. To conserve food
 - c. To conserve air space
 - d. All of the above

10. _____ contributes to the routes traveled by migrating birds.
 - a. Travel distance
 - b. Migration starting time
 - c. Flight speed
 - d. Location of wintering grounds
 - e. All of the above

11. The Chicago area's largest duck is the _____.
 - a. Common Snipe
 - b. Common Nighthawk
 - c. Common Merganser
 - d. Common Loon
 - e. Belted Kingfisher



12. The _____ thrives in areas where there is water nearby and will return to the same nesting area year-after-year, if it's available.
- Indigo Bunting
 - Arctic Tern
 - Purple Martin
 - Red-tailed Hawk
 - Bonaparte's Gull
13. This crafty bird, whose name comes from its call, actually fakes a "broken wing" to lure predators to themselves and away from their nest.
- Eastern Kingbird
 - Killdeer
 - Prothonotary Warbler
 - Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 - Snowy Owl
14. _____ have been known to attack larger birds, including hawks and crows, and even humans.
- Black-crowned Nigh-Herons
 - Eastern Kingbirds
 - Peregrine Falcons
 - Ruby-throated Hummingbirds
 - Killdeer
15. Which of the following bird species is properly capitalized?
- Wild turkey
 - Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
 - Green-Winged Teal
 - Greater White-Fronted Goose
16. _____ are common warm weather inhabitants of City parks that are difficult to see, because they nest high up in deciduous trees.
- Peregrine Falcons
 - Belted Kingfishers
 - Common Loons
 - Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers
 - Baltimore Orioles
17. Potential migration perils include all of the following, except _____.
- Exhaustion
 - Storms
 - Buildings
 - Television and radio antennas.
 - None of the above



18. To attract birds to your backyard, do all of the following, except:
- Plant vegetation in layers of varying heights
 - Plant fruit trees and shrubs and clear out all fallen leaves on a periodic basis
 - Plant shrubs that provide seeds and berries
 - Let seed-bearing plants stand through the winter
 - None of the above
19. Cats have distinct advantages over native predators and are estimated to kill hundreds of millions of birds and _____ small mammals each year.
- A half a billion
 - Millions of
 - Hundreds of thousands of
 - None of the above
20. To minimize the risk of hazardous windows, do all of the following, except _____.
- Keep your windows spotless
 - Cover them with netting or hang ribbons or other strips of material on the outside
 - Place bird feeders less than one yard or more than three yards away from the window
 - Close your blinds or draw the drapes during the spring and fall migration seasons
 - None of the above

