



Imagine a beetle as long as your hand, with powerful jaws and a shiny, dark-brown shell! That's the titan beetle, one of the largest insects in the world. This gigantic critter can grow up to 6.5 inches long, which is about the length of a dollar bill! Its strong, spiky legs are perfect for climbing and its giant jaws can snap pencils in half!

After meeting our big friend, let's explore where it lives. Titan beetles call the rainforests of South America home. They like to hang out in the undergrowth, where it's hot and humid, just the way they like it. And guess what? Most of their life they spend as grubs, buried deep in the soil, munching on decaying wood.

Having learned about their home, let's see how these giants interact with other creatures. Despite their scary looks, titan beetles aren't a threat to humans unless provoked. In the wild, they have few predators due to their hard, tough shell and their powerful jaws. However, they are often sought after by collectors and scientists due to their size and rarity.



Now that we've made friends with titan beetles, let's uncover some unique facts about them. Unlike most insects, adult titan beetles don't eat - at all! They rely on the energy they stored as grubs to carry them through their adult life. So next time you spot a beetle, remember, it could be a titan, living a large life in a small world!

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

- 1) What is the color of a titan beetle's shell?
  - A. Green
  - B. Brown
  - C. Red
  - D. Black
  
- 2) Are titan beetles dangerous to humans?
  - A. Only when provoked
  - B. Only to children
  - C. Yes, always
  - D. No, never
  
- 3) Where does the titan beetle live?
  - A. In the forests of North America
  - B. In the deserts of Africa
  - C. In the rainforests of South America
  - D. In the jungles of Asia
  
- 4) What do adult titan beetles eat?
  - A. They eat small insects
  - B. They eat leaves
  - C. They eat fruits
  - D. They do not eat
  
- 5) Why do titan beetles have few predators?
  - A. Because they have strong venom
  - B. Because they're extremely fast
  - C. Because of their hard shell and powerful jaws
  - D. Because they can fly very high
  
- 6) How long can a titan beetle grow?
  - A. About 6 inches long
  - B. About 8 inches long
  - C. About 4 inches long
  - D. About 10 inches long
  
- 7) What is the titan beetle's habitat like?
  - A. Light and airy
  - B. Hot and humid
  - C. Dark and damp
  - D. Cold and dry
  
- 8) What do titan beetles spend most of their life as?
  - A. Eggs
  - B. Cocoons
  - C. Grubs
  - D. Adults
  
- 9) How powerful are the jaws of a titan beetle?
  - A. They can break bones
  - B. They can cut through branches
  - C. They can snap pencils in half
  - D. They can crush small rocks
  
- 10) What do titan beetle grubs usually eat?
  - A. Small insects and worms
  - B. Decaying wood
  - C. Leaves and grass
  - D. Fruits and seeds

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

- 11) "The early part of my life is spent as a grub deep underground."
- 12) "It's rare to find me in the wild, so I'm something of a collector beetle, ya know."



- 13) "I'm one of the largest beetles in the world."
- 14) "I'm named the titan beetle because of my large size."
- 15) "I live in deserts."
- 16) "Although I look fierce, I am not harmful to humans unless they bother me."
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- 19) "I am a small insect, barely an inch long."
- 20) "In my adult life, I don't need to eat because I've stored enough energy during my grub phase."
- 21) "I like to live in open fields."
- 22) "When fully grown, I can be as long as your hand."
- 23) "My hard shell gives me protection from many predators."
- 24) "As an adult, my main meal is fresh fruits."
- 25) "At my largest, I can be half as long as a ruler!"

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

- 26) Due to their large size and rarity, titan beetles are often wanted by collectors and researchers.
- 27) Titan beetles are the strongest insects because they can snap pencils in half with their jaws.
- 28) Titan beetles live most of their lives as grubs, underneath the soil, feeding on decaying wood.
- 29) The fact that titan beetles spend most of their lives as grubs in the soil is super cool.
- 30) Titan beetles are one of the biggest insects in the world.
- 31) The lack of students that know about titan beetles is disappointing.
- 32) Titan beetles, in their adult phase, depend on the energy they stored as grubs.
- 33) The titan beetles usually live in the rainforests of South America.
- 34) With their large size and powerful jaws, titan beetles are a bit intimidating.
- 35) The fact that adult titan beetles don't eat at all is interesting.

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

- 36) Titan beetles spend most of their life as grubs.
- 37) Titan beetle's only spend a single day as a grub before becoming an adult beetle.
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- 39) Titan beetles live in the deserts of South America.
- 40) Titan beetles can grow up to the length of a dollar bill.
- 41) Despite their size, titan beetles have many predators in the wild.
- 42) Adult titan beetles will only eat leaves from Elm trees.
- 43) The titan beetle is a small, green insect.
- 44) During their adulthood, titan beetles do not eat anything.



45) Titan beetles are one of the largest insects in the world.

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

46) Titan beetles live in tropical rainforests.

47) Titan beetles can grow up to 6.5 inches long, it's astonishing!

48) The larval stage of the Titan beetle can last for several years, it's incredible!

49) Titan beetles fly through the rainforest in search of a mate, it's so romantic!

50) When threatened, Titan beetles can make a hissing sound, it's wild!

51) Titan beetles are one of the largest beetles in the world.

52) How many legs do titan beetles have?

53) Despite having strong jaws, adult Titan beetles usually do not eat, it's unbelievable!

54) When disturbed, titan beetles make a hissing sound to try to scare away predators.

55) How do titan beetles defend themselves?

56) The Titan beetle is one of the largest insects on Earth, it's mind-blowing!

57) Where can titan beetles be found?

58) Titan beetles can be found in the Amazon Rainforest, it's astounding!

59) Full grown Titan beetles can fend off spiders, birds, and even snakes with their strong, sharp mandibles, it's amazing!

60) They are named Titan beetles after the Titans, the giants of Greek mythology, it's fascinating!

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| 1. _____  | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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- |     |              |     |                    |     |                      |
|-----|--------------|-----|--------------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1.  | <b>B</b>     | 26. | <b>fact</b>        | 51. | <b>declarative</b>   |
| 2.  | <b>A</b>     | 27. | <b>opinion</b>     | 52. | <b>interrogative</b> |
| 3.  | <b>C</b>     | 28. | <b>fact</b>        | 53. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 4.  | <b>D</b>     | 29. | <b>opinion</b>     | 54. | <b>declarative</b>   |
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| 10. | <b>B</b>     | 35. | <b>opinion</b>     | 60. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 11. | <b>true</b>  | 36. | <b>true</b>        | 61. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 12. | <b>true</b>  | 37. | <b>false</b>       |     |                      |
| 13. | <b>true</b>  | 38. | <b>true</b>        |     |                      |
| 14. | <b>true</b>  | 39. | <b>false</b>       |     |                      |
| 15. | <b>false</b> | 40. | <b>true</b>        |     |                      |
| 16. | <b>true</b>  | 41. | <b>false</b>       |     |                      |
| 17. | <b>true</b>  | 42. | <b>false</b>       |     |                      |
| 18. | <b>false</b> | 43. | <b>false</b>       |     |                      |
| 19. | <b>false</b> | 44. | <b>true</b>        |     |                      |
| 20. | <b>true</b>  | 45. | <b>true</b>        |     |                      |
| 21. | <b>false</b> | 46. | <b>declarative</b> |     |                      |
| 22. | <b>true</b>  | 47. | <b>exclamatory</b> |     |                      |
| 23. | <b>true</b>  | 48. | <b>exclamatory</b> |     |                      |
| 24. | <b>false</b> | 49. | <b>exclamatory</b> |     |                      |
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12) "It's rare to find me in the wild, so I'm something of a collector beetle, ya know." (paragraph 3)