Hey, have you ever spotted a bird with a zebra-like pattern on its wings and a brilliant bright red cap? That's our friend, the Gila woodpecker! These unique fellows are medium-sized woodpeckers with a round head, straight pointed bill, and a stiff, spiky tail which they use for support when they're pecking away. They have striking black and white bars on their wings and tail, and don't forget to look for that dash of red on the heads of the males!

Now that we've met our winged buddy, let's fly off to its home. These birds are residents of the hot and dry desert areas of the southwestern United States and Mexico. Their favorite hangout spots are the giant cactus plants, known as saguaros, where they



drill holes to nest. Fun fact, these holes later serve as homes for other desert animals too, talk about being good neighbors!

Speaking of being good neighbors, what do you think these birds like to snack on? Their diet mainly consists of insects, but they also enjoy a mix of fruits and berries. Sometimes, they can even be seen sipping nectar from cactus flowers, just like hummingbirds! And during the breeding season, both mom and dad share the responsibility of feeding the little ones.



In the world of birds, these woodpeckers have some cool features that set them apart. Unlike many other woodpeckers, Gilas have a very special relationship with humans as they often nest in telephone poles and are even known to visit bird feeders. Also, their tongue is long and sticky, perfect for snatching up those tasty bugs! So next time you spot a bird with a funky pattern and a red cap, you'll know that's our friend, the Gila woodpecker, one of the desert's most interesting residents.



Gila Woodpecker

#### Solve each problem.

0011							
Use	Use the article to answer the question.						
1)	What color cap does the Gila woodpecker has	ve?					
	A. Red	В.	Purple				
	C. Green	D.	Blue				
2)	How are Gila woodpeckers like good neighbo	ors?					
,	A. They sing beautiful songs		They leave their holes for other desert animals to use				
	C. They protect other animals	D.	They share their food				
3)	What human-made structures do Gila woodpe	ecke	ers nest in?				
3)	A. Mailboxes		Chimneys and roofs				
	C. Telephone poles		Barns and sheds				
4)	What giant plants do Gila woodpeckers drill l						
	A. Palm trees		Bamboo plants				
	C. Oak trees	D.	Saguaros				
5)	What distinguishes male Gila woodpeckers fr	om	females?				
	A. A dash of red on their heads	В.	Their larger size				
	C. A long, colourful tail	D.	Bright, bold feathers				
6)	Where does the Gila woodpecker live?						
0)	A. In the cold tundras of Siberia	B.	On the coastlines of Australia				
	C. In the rainforests of South America		Desert areas of the Mexico				
_							
7)	What kind of tongue does the Gila woodpeck						
	A. Short and spiky		Long and sticky				
	C. Short and rough	D.	Long and smooth				
8)	Who shares the responsibility of feeding the l	ittle	ones during the breeding season?				
	A. Only mom	В.	Both mom and dad				
	C. The eldest baby woodpecker	D.	Only dad				
9)	What do Gila woodpeckers mainly eat?						
-)	A. Grains	B.	Meat				
	C. Seeds	D.	Insects				
10\		c ć					
10)	What do Gila woodpeckers use their tongues						
	A. To carry their young		To snatch up bugs				
	C. To pick up twigs	υ.	To drill holes in cactus				
Dot	rming if the statements is something the an	im	would say (W) or it it is not comethiz				

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

11) "Not only do I eat insects, sometimes I enjoy sipping sweet nectar from cactus flowers. It's my special dessert."

	Gila Woodpecker Name:
12)	"You see the holes in the saguaro cacti? Yes, we made those. We're quite the carpenters, aren't we?"
13)	"You see that flash of red on my head? If you do, then you're looking at a male, that's me!"
14)	"I only eat nectar from cactus flowers during the breeding season."
15)	"I'm an insect lover, that's my favorite meal!"
16)	"Only females feed the little ones, dad is responsible for making nests."
17)	"I only eat fruits and berries, insects are not my cup of tea."
<b>18</b> )	"I have been known to use telephone poles for nesting."
<b>19</b> )	"My tongue isn't just long, it's sticky too! It's the perfect tool for catching wiggly insects."
20)	"Sometimes some other animals use the holes I made as a home."
21)	"I prefer damp and cool climates, the desert is too hot for me."
22)	"My meal is quite varied, I enjoy nibbling on a mix of fruits and berries when I'm not catching insects."
23)	"I don't really like cactus, they're too prickly for me."
24)	"Unlike some birds, my tails isn't fluffy, it's stiff."
25)	"I live in a cold and wet environment."
26)	"My tongue is short and slippery."
27)	"I have a beak that's sharp and straight, perfect for drilling into cactus plants!"
-	

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

- 28) Other animals may use the holes drilled by Gila woodpeckers in cactuses as homes.
- **29)** It's interesting how both mom and dad Gila woodpeckers share the responsibility of feeding their young ones.
- **30)** Gila woodpeckers create holes in saguaro cactuses to make nests.
- **31**) The ability of Gila woodpeckers to drill holes in saguaro cacti is remarkable.
- **32)** Male Gila woodpeckers have a dash of red on their heads.
- **33**) The Gila woodpecker's long, sticky tongue is a very impressive adaptation.
- **34)** Both male and female Gila woodpeckers feed their young.
- **35)** Gila woodpeckers inhabit the desert regions of the southwestern United States and Mexico.
- **36)** The red cap on a gila woodpecker is definitely the most beautiful feature of any bird.
- **37)** The zebra-like pattern on Gila woodpeckers' wings is incredibly beautiful.

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

- **38)** Gila woodpeckers can be seen sipping nectar from cactus flowers.
- **39)** The female Gila woodpecker is responsible for feeding the little ones.
- **40)** Gila woodpeckers have a long and sticky tongue.
- **41**) Gila woodpeckers live in cold and icy regions.
- **42**) Gila woodpeckers drill holes in cactus plants to live in.

	Gila Woodpe	cker	Name:				
43)	Gila woodpeckers only eat insects.						
44)	Gila woodpeckers build their nests in burrows u	inderground.					
45)	Gila woodpeckers do not have tongues.						
<b>46</b> )	Gila woodpeckers often nest in telephone poles	Gila woodpeckers often nest in telephone poles.					
47)	The male Gila woodpecker has a bright red cap	on its head.					
Dete	rmine which choice is the expanded form of t	ne underlined contraction.					
<b>48</b> )	They're not just good at building homes, they're	•					
	5	They are					
	C. They were D	. They will					
<b>49</b> )	Don't be surprised if you see them eating insects	, fruits, or even nectar!					
	A. Do not B	. Did not					
	C. Does not D	. Will not					
<b>50</b> )	Gila woodpeckers aren't just birds, they're engin	eers of the desert!					
	A. is not B	. will not					
	C. do not D	. are not					
51)	It's fascinating how they peck holes in the cactu	s without hurting themselves,	isn't it?				
	A. It is B	. It has					
	C. It will D	. It was					
52)	They've built their homes in cacti to stay cool du	ring the hot summer months.					
	A. They will B	. They are					
	C. They have D	. They were					
	rmine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclaerative(m).	matory(e), interrogative(i)	or				
53)	Gila woodpeckers make holes in cacti to build t	heir nests.					
54)	Gila woodpeckers can peck up to 20 times per s						
55)	Despite its rough diet, a Gila woodpecker's tong from the wood, it's so cool!	, e	ct insects				
56)	Gila woodpeckers have a unique black and whi	te zebra-striped back, it's simp	ply fantastic!				
57)	The Gila woodpecker's loud, rolling call can be to!	heard in the desert, it's incred	lible to listen				
58)	Gila woodpeckers can drum on a tree up to 25 t	imas a second					

- **58)** Gila woodpeckers can drum on a tree up to 25 times a second.
- **59)** How tall can a gila woodpecker grow?
- 60) Isn't it amazing that Gila woodpeckers can live up to seven years in the wild!
- 61) Gila woodpeckers have a unique call that sounds like a loud "waka-waka-waka".
- 62) What color is the plumage of a gila woodpecker?
- 63) In spite of their small size, Gila woodpeckers are not easily intimidated and will defend their territory fiercely, that's impressive!
- 64) Where do gila woodpeckers build their nests?

	Gila Woodpecker	Name:				
65)	5) They use their strong beaks to drill holes into cacti, it's phenomenal!					
66)	6) The Gila woodpecker is known to share its cactus home with several other bird species, it's extraordinary!					
67)	) Even in the harsh desert environment, Gila woodpeckers thrive, which is quite remarkable!					
<b>68</b> )	) It's hard to believe that Gila woodpeckers line their nests with grass and feathers!					

	Gila Woodpe	ecker	Name:	
1.	26.			
2.	27.	_		
3.	28.			
4.	29.			
5.	30.			
6.	31.			
7.	32.	57		
8	33.			
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.	67		
18.	43.	68		
19	44	_		
20.	45.	_		
21.	46.	_		
22.	47	_		
23.	48.	_		
24.	49.	_		
25.	50	_		
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drill holes to nest. Fun fact, these holes later serve as homes for other desert animals too, talk about being good neighbors!

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#### Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.					
	What color cap does the Gila woodpecker hav	ve?			
,	A. Red		Purple		
	C. Green		Blue		
2)	How are Gila woodpeckers like good neighbo	rs?			
2)	A. They sing beautiful songs		They leave their holes for other desert		
	· · · ································	2,	animals to use		
	C. They protect other animals	D.	They share their food		
3)	What human-made structures do Gila woodpe	ecke	ers nest in?		
	A. Mailboxes	В.	Chimneys and roofs		
	C. Telephone poles	D.	Barns and sheds		
4)	What giant plants do Gila woodpeckers drill l	nole	s in to nest?		
	A. Palm trees	В.	Bamboo plants		
	C. Oak trees	D.	Saguaros		
5)	What distinguishes male Gila woodpeckers fr	om	females?		
	A. A dash of red on their heads	В.	Their larger size		
	C. A long, colourful tail	D.	Bright, bold feathers		
6)	Where does the Gila woodpecker live?				
	A. In the cold tundras of Siberia	В.	On the coastlines of Australia		
	C. In the rainforests of South America	D.	Desert areas of the Mexico		
7)	What kind of tongue does the Gila woodpeck	er h	ave?		
	A. Short and spiky	В.	Long and sticky		
	C. Short and rough	D.	Long and smooth		
8)	Who shares the responsibility of feeding the l	ittle	ones during the breeding season?		
	A. Only mom	В.	Both mom and dad		
	C. The eldest baby woodpecker	D.	Only dad		
9)	What do Gila woodpeckers mainly eat?				
	A. Grains	В.	Meat		
	C. Seeds	D.	Insects		
10)	What do Gila woodpeckers use their tongues	for			
	A. To carry their young	B.	To snatch up bugs		
	C. To pick up twigs	D.	To drill holes in cactus		
Date	aming if the statements is something the sur	••••	would gov (W) on it it is not comothing		

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

11) "Not only do I eat insects, sometimes I enjoy sipping sweet nectar from cactus flowers. It's my special dessert."

	Gila Woodpecker	Name:	Answer	Kev			
<u>12</u> )	"You see the holes in the saguaro cacti? Yes, we made those. We're quite th aren't we?"						
13)	"You see that flash of red on my head? If you do, then you're looking at a male, that's me!"						
14)							
15)	"I'm an insect lover, that's my favorite meal!"						
<b>16</b> )	"Only females feed the little ones, dad is responsible for making nests."						
17)	"I only eat fruits and berries, insects are not my cup of tea."						
18)	"I have been known to use telephone poles for nesting."						
<b>19</b> )	"My tongue isn't just long, it's sticky too! It's the perfect tool for catching w	iggly insec	ts."				
20)	"Sometimes some other animals use the holes I made as a home."						
21)	"I prefer damp and cool climates, the desert is too hot for me."						
22)	"My meal is quite varied, I enjoy nibbling on a mix of fruits and berries when I'm not catching insects."						
23)	"I don't really like cactus, they're too prickly for me."						
24)	"Unlike some birds, my tails isn't fluffy, it's stiff."						
25)	"I live in a cold and wet environment."						
26)	"My tongue is short and slippery."						
27)	"I have a beak that's sharp and straight, perfect for drilling into cactus plant	s!"					
Dete	rmine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in t	he article.					
28)	Other animals may use the holes drilled by Gila woodpeckers in cactuses as	s homes.					
29)	It's interesting how both mom and dad Gila woodpeckers share the responsi feeding their young ones.	bility of					
30)	Gila woodpeckers create holes in saguaro cactuses to make nests.						
31)	The ability of Gila woodpeckers to drill holes in saguaro cacti is remarkable	2.					

- **32)** Male Gila woodpeckers have a dash of red on their heads.
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- **34)** Both male and female Gila woodpeckers feed their young.
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- **39**) The female Gila woodpecker is responsible for feeding the little ones.
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- 41) Gila woodpeckers live in cold and icy regions.
- 42) Gila woodpeckers drill holes in cactus plants to live in.

	Gila Wood	dpecker	Name:	Answer Key			
43)	Gila woodpeckers only eat insects.						
44)	Gila woodpeckers build their nests in burrows underground.						
45)	Gila woodpeckers do not have tongues.						
<b>46</b> )	Gila woodpeckers often nest in telephone p	oles.					
47)	The male Gila woodpecker has a bright red	cap on its head.					
Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form						
<b>48</b> )	They're not just good at building homes, the		d.				
	A. They have	B. They are					
	C. They were	D. They will					
<b>49</b> )	Don't be surprised if you see them eating ins	sects, fruits, or even nectar!					
	A. Do not	B. Did not					
	C. Does not	D. Will not					
<b>50</b> )	Gila woodpeckers aren't just birds, they're e	ngineers of the desert!					
	A. is not	B. will not					
	C. do not	D. are not					
51)	It's fascinating how they peck holes in the ca	actus without hurting themselves	, isn't it?				
	A. It is	B. It has					
	C. It will	D. It was					
52)	They've built their homes in cacti to stay co	ol during the hot summer months	5.				
	A. They will	B. They are					
	C. They have	D. They were					
Det	ermine if the sentence is a declarative(d), e	xclamatory(e) interrogative(i)	) or				
	erative(m).						
53)							
54)	Gila woodpeckers can peck up to 20 times per second, it's astonishing!						
55)							
56)	Gila woodpeckers have a unique black and	white zebra-striped back, it's sin	nply fantas	tic!			
57)	The Gila woodpecker's loud, rolling call ca to!	n be heard in the desert, it's incre	edible to lis	sten			
58)	Gila woodpeckers can drum on a tree up to 25 times a second.						

- **59**) How tall can a gila woodpecker grow?
- 60) Isn't it amazing that Gila woodpeckers can live up to seven years in the wild!
- 61) Gila woodpeckers have a unique call that sounds like a loud "waka-waka-waka".
- 62) What color is the plumage of a gila woodpecker?
- **63**) In spite of their small size, Gila woodpeckers are not easily intimidated and will defend their territory fiercely, that's impressive!
- 64) Where do gila woodpeckers build their nests?

Gila Woodpecker	Name:	Answer Key			
They use their strong beaks to drill holes into cacti, it's phenomenal!					
b) The Gila woodpecker is known to share its cactus home with several other bird species, it's extraordinary!					
Even in the harsh desert environment, Gila woodpeckers thrive, which is a	quite remark	able!			
It's hard to believe that Gila woodpeckers line their nests with grass and fe	eathers!				
	They use their strong beaks to drill holes into cacti, it's phenomenal! The Gila woodpecker is known to share its cactus home with several other extraordinary! Even in the harsh desert environment, Gila woodpeckers thrive, which is o	They use their strong beaks to drill holes into cacti, it's phenomenal! The Gila woodpecker is known to share its cactus home with several other bird species			

			Gila Woodpec	ker		Name:	Answer Key
1.	Α	26.	false	51.	Α		
2.	B	27.	true	52.	С		
3.	C	28.	fact	53.	declarative		
4.	D	29.	opinion	54.	exclamatory	_	
5.	A		fact	55.	exclamatory		
6.	D	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory	_	
7.	В	32.	fact	57.	exclamatory		
8.	В	33.	opinion	58.	declarative		
9.	D	34.	fact	59.	interrogative		
10.	В	35.	fact	60.	exclamatory	_	
11.	true	36.	opinion	61.	declarative		
12.	true	37.	opinion	62.	interrogative	_	
13.	true	38.	true	63.	exclamatory	_	
14.	false	39.	false	64.	interrogative	_	
15.	true	40.	true	65.	exclamatory	_	
16.	false	41.	false	66.	exclamatory	_	
17.	false	42.	true	67.	exclamatory		
18.	true	43.	false	68.	exclamatory	_	
19.	true	44.	false				
20.	true	45.	false				
21.	false	46.	true				
22.	true	47.	true				
23.	false	48.	B				
24.	true	49.	Α				
25.	false	50.	D				
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		Gila Woodpec	ker Name:				
Solv	e each problem.		KCI Ivailie.				
	Use the article to answer the question.						
	What color cap does the Gila		(paragraph 1)				
	A. Red	B.	Purple				
	С.	D.					
2)	How are Gila woodpeckers lik	te good neighbors?	(paragraph 2)				
	A. They sing beautiful songs	B.	They leave their holes for other desert animals to use				
	С.	D.					
3)	What human-made structures	do Gila woodpecke	ers nest in? (paragraph 4)				
,	А.	-	Chimneys and roofs				
	C. Telephone poles	D.					
4)	What giant plants do Gila woo	odpeckers drill hole	es in to nest? (paragraph 2)				
	A. Palm trees	B.	Bamboo plants				
	С.	D.	Saguaros				
5)	What distinguishes male Gila	woodpeckers from	females? (paragraph 1)				
·	A. A dash of red on their hea	-	Their larger size				
	С.	D.					
6)	Where does the Gila woodpec	ker live? (paragraph 2)					
,	A. In the cold tundras of Sibe		On the coastlines of Australia				
	С.	D.	Desert areas of the Mexico				
7)	What kind of tongue does the	Gila woodpecker h	ave? (paragraph 4)				
,	A.	-	Long and sticky				
	С.	D.					
8)	Who shares the responsibility <sub>3)</sub>	of feeding the little	e ones during the breeding season? (paragraph				
	A. Only mom	B.	Both mom and dad				
	С.	D.					
9)	What do Gila woodpeckers m	ainly eat? (paragraph 3)					
- )	A. Grains	•	Meat				
	С.	D.	Insects				
10)	What do Gila woodpeckers us	e their tongues for?	(paragraph 4)				
- )	A. To carry their young	-	To snatch up bugs				
	C.	D.					

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

11) "Not only do I eat insects, sometimes I enjoy sipping sweet nectar from cactus flowers. It's my special dessert." (paragraph 3)



Gila Woodpecker

12) "You see the holes in the saguaro cacti? Yes, we made those. We're quite the carpenters, aren't we?" (paragraph 2)

