Let's dive into the world of an incredibly tiny creature, known as thrips! These minute insects are so small that you might need a magnifying glass to spot them. With slender bodies and fringed wings, they can be quite a variety of colors, from translucent white to dark black or even strikingly patterned. You'll find them all over the world, living in a range of environments, from forests to deserts.

Speaking of where they live, these fascinating creatures play a unique role in the grand scheme of things. Thrips enjoy a diet that consists of plant juices, making them a part of the complex food chain of their ecosystem. They use their sharp, needle-like mouthparts to puncture plants and suck up the tasty juices. But despite their size, they are not just prey; some types of thrips are known to be predators, feeding on other small insects and mites.

Our little friends have an interesting life cycle, much like butterflies. They start their journey as eggs, then grow into larvae, followed by a non-feeding stage called the prepupa and pupa before finally becoming adults. Some of them can even reproduce without needing a mate, which is quite an impressive skill! But it's not all fun and games, they have to watch out for predators like spiders, mites, and other insects who might fancy them for a snack.

Now, you might be wondering about their relationship with us humans and other animals. Well, sometimes they can be a bit of a problem for gardeners and farmers because they like to eat and damage plants. On the other hand, the predatory thrips can be quite helpful, as they control the population of harmful pests. So, while they might be minute, thrips play a big role in the ecosystem and show us that every creature, no matter how small, has its place in the world.

Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) Where can thrips be found?

A. Thrips can be found all over the world, in forests to deserts.
B. Thrips can only be found in damp, humid places.
C. Thrips are found only in cold, snowy regions.
D. Thrips can only be found in dry, arid deserts.

2) Who might consider thrips a problem?

A. Architects and engineers might consider thrips a problem.
B. Fishermen and hunters might consider thrips a problem.
C. Cookers and chefs might consider thrips a problem.
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A. Small with no wings
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7) How big are thrips?

A. So small you need a microscope to see them.
B. They are about the size of a grasshopper.
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8) What is unique about some thrips reproduction?

A. Thrips reproduce every 17 years.
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1-10	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50
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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

10) "You might not see me easily, I am so tiny that you would need a magnifying glass to catch a glimpse."
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12) "Guess what? I can also be quite a predator, some of us thrips eat other bugs and mites!"
13) "Did you know that I started my life as a tiny white egg?"
14) "Thrips like me live all over the world!"
15) "Sometimes, I don't even need a mate to reproduce, I can have babies all on my own!"
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17) "You'll never catch me munching on insects or mites; I prefer a strictly vegetarian diet!"
18) "I enjoy a tasty diet of plant juice. Give me a plant smoothie any day of the week."
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21) "I have a very unique life, like butterflies, I start off as an egg and then go through different stages before becoming an adult."
22) "I can cause some trouble on gardens and farms, I enjoy eating plants, you know."
23) "We're pretty hardy. You can find us in areas from forests to deserts!"

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

24) Some thrips can reproduce without needing a mate.
25) The fact that some thrips can reproduce without a mate is amazing.
26) Thrips undergo several stages of growth, starting from eggs to becoming adults.
27) Thrips' sharp, needle-like mouthparts are scary.
28) Thrips have a diet that mainly includes plant juices.
29) It's not fair that thrips should be food for other insects and spiders.
30) Thrips can cause damage to plants, which can be problematic for gardeners and farmers.
31) Thrips consume plant juices by using their sharp mouthparts to puncture plants.
32) Thrips have the most striking colors among all small insects.
33) Thrips' diverse colors make them incredibly eye-catching for such tiny insects.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

34) Thrips can be a problem for gardeners as they eat and damage plants.
35) Thrips usually eat insects and even smaller birds.
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38) Some types of thrips are known to feed on other small insects.
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40) Thrips can grow to be the size of a cell phone.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

44) Even though thrips are tiny, their impact on plants is huge!
45) Remember to wash your hands after touching plants to prevent thrips from spreading.
46) How do thrips defend themselves?
47) It's unimaginable that over 6,000 species of thrips exist!
48) Thrips are tiny insects that can be found all around the world.
49) How do thrips move from one plant to another?
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1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____
2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____
3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____
4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____
5. _____ 30. _____ 55. _____
6. _____ 31. _____
7. _____ 32. _____
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. _____
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1. A
2. D
3. C
4. C
5. D
6. C
7. C
8. C
9. A
10. Would
11. Not
12. Would
13. Would
14. Would
15. Would
16. Not
17. Not
18. Would
19. Would
20. Not
21. Would
22. Would
23. Would
24. fact
25. opinion
26. fact
27. opinion
28. fact
29. opinion
30. fact
31. fact
32. opinion
33. opinion
34. true
35. false
36. true
37. false
38. true
39. false
40. false
41. false
42. true
43. true
44. exclamatory
45. imperative
46. interrogative
47. exclamatory
48. declarative
49. interrogative
50. declarative
51. interrogative
52. declarative
53. imperative
54. exclamatory
55. imperative

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C.
D.

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11-12	8	0								