Chapter 14

Discussion & Essay #3-10, Multiple Choice #1-11

Discussion & Essay #2-10

1. List some reasons why the males of many species of birds are brightly colored while the females often have dull and plain coloring.
2. Discuss the importance of the calls and songs of territorial birds.
3. Identify some characteristics of house sparrows and starlings that helped them adapt quickly to the ecosystems of North America.
4. Define the following terms that describe mating habits of birds—polygynous, polygamous, monogamous, polyandry, and promiscuous.
5. Name and describe some well-known members of the thrush family of birds.
6. Describe how parasitic birds are able to reproduce without building their own nests.
7. Explain why gregarious birds tend to cause greater damage to crops than do solitary birds that have similar eating habits.
8. List some unique physical characteristics of hummingbirds that make it possible for them to gather and eat nectar.

Multiple Choice #1-11

1. The main purpose of the calls of songbirds is to
   1. Entertain humans and other creatures
   2. Define the boundaries of their territories
   3. Call their offspring together
   4. Inform other birds of a source of food
2. Which of the following birds is not a native of North America?
   1. Finch
   2. Grosbeak
   3. Bunting
   4. House sparrow
3. Which of the following is the world’s largest bird family?
   1. Fringillidae
   2. Traupidae
   3. Turdidae
   4. Mimidae
4. Birds that live together in flocks are described as
   1. Family birds
   2. Parasitic birds
   3. Gregarious birds
   4. Territorial birds
5. Among the perching birds, the male of the species
   1. Is more brightly colored
   2. Brings food to the nesting female
   3. Is always monogamous
   4. Does not help rear its offspring
6. Which of the following birds gathers aquatic insects from beneath the surface of the water for its food?
   1. Wren
   2. Cardinal
   3. Dipper
   4. Shrike
7. Which of the following birds impales its prey on thorns to store it for a later meal?
   1. Wren
   2. Cardinal
   3. Dipper
   4. Strike
8. Which of the following bird families mimics the calls of other birds?
   1. Fringillidae
   2. Traupidae
   3. Turdidae
   4. Mimidae
9. Birds that mate with numerous members of the opposite sex are described as being:
   1. Parasitic
   2. Promiscuous
   3. Gregarious
   4. Monogamous
10. Which of the following birds is often described as the most intelligent?
    1. Crow
    2. Starling
    3. Oriole
    4. Grackle
11. Which of the following birds depends on nectar as a source of food?
    1. Cuckoo
    2. Jay
    3. Hummingbird
    4. Magpie