

Avian Species of Southeast Asia

Zoology · Answer Key · 24 Questions

1. What is the Indian Peafowl well-known for?

- A) Its dull coloration
- B) Its spectacular coloring and distinctive call**
- C) Its ability to swim
- D) Its nocturnal habits

2. What does the male Indian Peafowl develop during the breeding season?

- A) A short crest
- B) A long train of feathers**
- C) A thicker beak
- D) Wings that change color

3. What is at the tip of each tail feather of the Indian Peafowl?

- A) A small barb
- B) A single iridescent eyespot (ocellus)**
- C) A sharp point
- D) A soft downy tuft

4. What unique distinction does the Nicobar Pigeon hold among living birds?

- A) It is the largest pigeon species
- B) It is the only living relative of the extinct Dodo**
- C) It can mimic human speech
- D) It builds nests in caves

5. What is a characteristic of the Nicobar Pigeon's upper plumage?

- A) It is uniformly brown
- B) It has a metallic sheen**
- C) It is covered in spikes
- D) It is transparent

6. Which sex of the Nicobar Pigeon has a larger knob or wattle at the top of its bill?

- A) Females
- B) Males**
- C) Both sexes equally
- D) Neither sex

7. How do Nicobar Pigeons often communicate with each other?

- A) Through melodic songs
- B) Using harsh, guttural croaks**
- C) Via wing signals
- D) Through scent marking

8. Where do Nicobar Pigeons forage and feed?

- A) Exclusively in trees
- B) On the forest floor**
- C) In bodies of water
- D) On mountaintops

9. What is the nesting behavior of female Nicobar Pigeons during the breeding season?

- A) They build elaborate nests in caves
- B) They dig burrows in the ground
- C) They build a loose platform of twigs high in trees**
- D) They lay eggs directly on the ground

10. What are the reasons for the declining numbers of the Nicobar Pigeon?

- A) Climate change and pollution
- B) Competition with other bird species
- C) Capture for pet trade, as food, habitat loss, and hunting by predators**
- D) A natural decline in their reproductive rate

11. What kind of relationship do White-breasted Ground Dove pairs form?

- A) Polygamous
- B) Monogamous, with the same mate year after year**
- C) They do not form pairs
- D) Short-term mating pairs

12. When do White-breasted Ground Doves usually breed?

- A) During the dry season
- B) When food is most abundant**
- C) In the coldest months
- D) After heavy rainfall

13. What is the primary foraging behavior of the White-breasted Ground Dove?

- A) Foraging in trees
- B) Foraging on the ground**
- C) Foraging in water
- D) Foraging in burrows

14. The Nicobar Pigeon is the only living relative of which extinct bird?

- A) The Great Auk
- B) The Passenger Pigeon

C) The Dodo

- D) The Moa

15. What is the term for the iridescent eyespot on the tip of an Indian Peafowl's tail feather?

- A) A crest

B) An ocellus

- C) A spur
- D) A ruff

16. Nicobar Pigeons are known to have a mane of long neck what?

- A) Feathers

B) Hackles

- C) Scales
- D) Spines

17. Although capable of powerful flight, Nicobar Pigeons always do what?

- A) Migrate long distances

B) Forage and feed on the forest floor

- C) Communicate by singing
- D) Build nests in cliffs

18. What is a major threat to the Nicobar Pigeon population?

- A) Avian flu
- B) Habitat destruction by natural disasters

C) Introduced predators like cats

- D) Lack of suitable nesting sites

19. What describes the White-breasted Ground Dove's movement patterns?

- A) Strictly territorial

B) Nomadic throughout their large range

- C) Migratory only in winter
- D) Stationary in one location

20. What action do Indian Peafowl males perform during courtship?

- A) They sing complex songs
- B) They build elaborate nests

C) They fan out their train of feathers and shake it

- D) They display bright blue neck feathers

21. The Nicobar Pigeon has a knob or wattle at the top of its bill, which is larger in which sex?

A) Females

B) Males

C) Both sexes equally

D) It is not present in either sex

22. Nicobar Pigeons can be found in flocks of up to how many birds?

A) 10

B) 20

C) 30

D) 50

23. White-breasted Ground Doves are described as stocky pigeons that do what?

A) Fly long distances

B) Forage for food on the ground

C) Build nests in tall trees

D) Communicate with loud calls

24. What is the habitat mentioned for the White-breasted Ground Dove?

A) Desert

B) Rainforest

C) Arctic tundra

D) Oceanic islands