Name:

Just like superheroes have unique costumes, the American Alligator has a special suit of its own - a tough, scaly skin which is usually black! This amazing creature can grow up to 15 feet long, that's longer than most cars! These alligators have a broad snout and their upper jaw is wider than the lower one, causing the teeth in the lower jaw to fit into the sockets of the upper jaw. Their eyes are placed high on their heads, so they can see while submerged in water.



Speaking of water, did you know that American Alligators are like the ultimate swimmers? They live in freshwater environments, such as ponds, marshes, wetlands, rivers, and swamps, primarily in the Southeastern United States. These areas provide all the things an alligator needs, like food, fresh water and plenty of sunbathing spots. Also, their nests, which are made of vegetation, sticks, leaves, and mud, can be found in these habitats.

Now, let's talk about the alligator's daily menu. Young alligators love to munch on small fish, insects, snails, crustaceans, and worms. As they grow larger, they expand their diet to larger fish, turtles, various mammals, birds, and other reptiles. They are known as opportunistic feeders because they can eat anything that comes near the water's edge.



While alligators may seem scary, they usually prefer to avoid humans unless their nests are threatened. However, they play an important role in their ecosystem by controlling the population of certain prey species. Alligators and humans have a complex relationship, they are often seen as dangerous, but they also fascinate us and are protected by conservation laws in many areas. So, the next time

you think of an alligator, remember they are not just big, scary creatures, but an important part of our natural world.

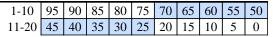
	American A	411ia	rator	Name:
Solv	e each problem.	mg	ator	Ivaine.
	-			
	the article to answer the question. What color is the American Alligator's skin?)		
1)	A. Black		White	
	C. Green		Brown	
2)	In which part of the United States are Ameri	ican .	Alligators primarily found?	
_)	A. Southwestern		Northeastern	
	C. Midwestern		Southeastern	
2)				
3)	What do young alligators eat? A. Large fish, turtles, various mammals	R	Grains and nuts	
	C. Small fish, insects, snails,		Fruits and vegetables	
	crustaceans, and worms	D.	Trutts and vegetables	
4)	Where do American Alligators live?			
-)	A. Saltwater environments	B.	Deserts	
	C. Freshwater environments	D.	Jungles	
5)	What is the shape of an alligator's snout?			
-)	A. Wider at the bottom	B.	Broad	
	C. Pointy	D.	Narrow	
6)	How long can an American Alligator grow?			
-)	A. Up to 15 feet long		Up to 10 feet long	
	C. Up to 20 feet long	D.	Up to 5 feet long	
7)	Are alligators often dangerous to humans?			
,	A. Yes, they often provoke humans	B.	Yes, they often hunt huma	ns for food
	C. Yes, they often attack humans on	D.	No, they prefer to avoid he	umans
	sight		unless their nests are threa	itened
8)	Where on their heads are American Alligato	ors' ey	ves located?	
	A. At the sides of their heads	B.	At the back of their heads	
	C. At the front of their heads	D.	High on their heads	
9)	What do alligators eat as they grow larger?			
	A. Larger fish, turtles, and mammals	B.	Rocks and soil	
	C. Bigger alligators	D.	More insects and worms	
10)	Why are American Allicators considered on			

10) Why are American Alligators considered opportunistic feeders?

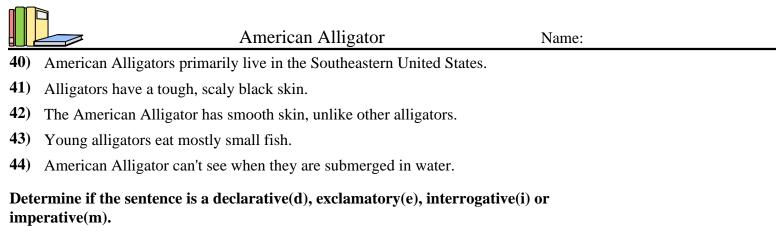
- A. They can eat anything that comes B. They only eat during certain seasons near the water's edge
 - C. They travel long distances to find food

D. They steal food from other animals

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



	American Alligaton
<u>11</u>	American Alligator Name: "You'll mostly find me in freshwater homes - like marshes, wetlands, rivers, swamps - you
)	name it!"
12)	"I live on a fruit-only diet. Berries are my favorite!"
13)	"I prefer the cold environment of mountainous areas, not the sweltering heat of the marshes."
14)	"I usually stick to dry places like deserts."
15)	"I have skin that is tough and scaly."
16)	"You know what's really cool about me? My eyes are placed high on my head, so I can see even when I'm submerged in the water."
17)	"I find it quite difficult to swim and you won't find me in much water."
18)	"I only dwell in salty sea water."
19)	"You know, my skin is actually quite soft and squishy, not rough or scaly at all."
20)	"Humans? Well, we usually stay away, but if someone threatens my nest, I have to defend it!"
21)	"I definitely enjoy the company of humans and love it when they come near my nest."
22)	"I build nests with sticks, leaves, and mud, just like how you would build a house with bricks and cement."
23)	"My eyes are positioned low on my head, so I can view fish underwater."
Dete	ermine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.
24)	American Alligators primarily live in freshwater environments.
25)	The American Alligator's black scaly skin looks sleek and elegant.
26)	American Alligators' eyes are located high on their heads to be able to see while they are underwater.
27)	It's neat that alligators can see well even when they are underwater.
28)	American Alligators usually have black scaly skin.
29)	It would be scary to see an alligator swimming towards you in a swamp.
30)	Young American Alligators eat a diet consisting of small fish, insects, snails, crustaceans, and worms.
31)	The upper jaw of an American Alligator is wider than the lower one.
32)	The alligator's broad snout and wide upper jaw make it look silly.
33)	The way the American Alligator can grow up to 15 feet long is incredible.
Dete	ermine if the statement is true or false.
34)	American alligators live in saltwater environments.
35)	American alligators only eat small insects.
36)	American alligators will eat anything that comes near the water's edge.
37)	The American Alligator lives in freshwater environments.
38)	American Alligators bodies grow to 30 ft long.
39)	American Alligators can grow up to 15 feet long.



- **45)** American alligators can stay underwater for up to two hours.
- **46)** Can American alligators climb trees?
- **47**) American alligators can live up to 50 years.
- **48)** American alligators are carnivorous and eat fish, turtles, and birds.
- **49**) What do American alligators eat?
- 50) What is the average length of an American alligator?

		American Allig	ator	Name:
1.	26.			
2.	27.			
3.	28.			
4.	29.			
5.	30.			
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.			
21.	46.			
22.	47.			
22.	47.			
24.	49.			
25.	50. Reading	nonCoreSheets.com	Page 5 of 5	

Name:

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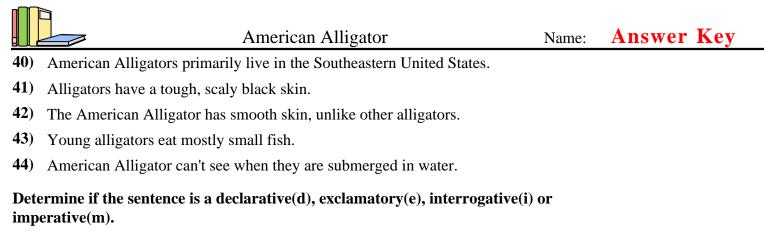
Name: Answer Key

Solve each problem.

S0IV	Solve each problem.				
Use the article to answer the question.					
1)	What color is the American Alligator's skin?				
	A. Black	B.	White		
	C. Green	D.	Brown		
2)	In which part of the United States are Americ	an A	Alligators primarily found?		
	A. Southwestern	B.	Northeastern		
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3)	What do young alligators eat?				
	A. Large fish, turtles, various mammals	B.	Grains and nuts		
	C. Small fish, insects, snails, crustaceans, and worms	D.	Fruits and vegetables		
4)	Where do American Alligators live?				
,	A. Saltwater environments	B.	Deserts		
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5)	What is the shape of an alligator's snout?				
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	A. Up to 15 feet long	B.	Up to 10 feet long		
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	A. Yes, they often provoke humans	B.	Yes, they often hunt humans for food		
	C. Yes, they often attack humans on	D.	No, they prefer to avoid humans		
	sight		unless their nests are threatened		
8)	Where on their heads are American Alligator	s' ey	ves located?		
	A. At the sides of their heads	В.	At the back of their heads		
	C. At the front of their heads	D.	High on their heads		
9)	What do alligators eat as they grow larger?				
	A. Larger fish, turtles, and mammals		Rocks and soil		
	C. Bigger alligators	D.	More insects and worms		
10)	Why are American Alligators considered opp	ortu	inistic feeders?		
	A. They can eat anything that comes near the water's edge	В.	They only eat during certain seasons		
	C. They travel long distances to find food	D.	They steal food from other animals		

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

11)	American Alligator Name: Answer Key	
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Dete	ermine if the statement is true or false.	
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			American Alligat	Or	Name:	Answer Key
1.	Α	26.	fact			
2.	D	27.	opinion			
3.	С	28.	fact			
4.	С	29.	opinion			
5.	В		fact			
6.	Α	31	fact			
7.	D	32.	opinion			
8.	D	33	opinion			
9.	Α	34	false			
10.	Α	35	false			
11.	true	36	true			
12.	false	37.	true			
13.	false	38.	false			
14.	false	39.	true			
15.	true	40.	true			
16.	true	41.	true			
17.	false	42.	false			
18.	false	43.	true			
19.	false	44	false			
20.	true	45.	declarative			
21.	false	46.	interrogative			
22.	true	47	declarative			
23.	false	48	declarative			
24.	fact	49	interrogative			
25.	opinion	50.	interrogative			
	Reading	www.Commo	onCoreSheets.com	Page 4 of 4		

	r

American Alligator

Solve each problem.

Solve each problem.						
	Use the article to answer the question.1) What color is the American Alligator's skin? (paragraph 1)					
	A. Black	B.				
	С.	D.				
2)	In which part of the United States are Americ A. Southwestern	B.				
	С.	D.	Southeastern			
3)	What do young alligators eat? (paragraph 3)A. Large fish, turtles, various mammalsC. Small fish, insects, snails, crustaceans, and worms	B. D.				
4)	Where do American Alligators live? (paragraph 2	2)				
	A. Saltwater environments	В.				
	C. Freshwater environments	D.				
-						
5)	What is the shape of an alligator's snout? (para					
	A. Wider at the bottom		Broad			
	С.	D.				
6)	How long can an American Alligator grow?	parag	raph 1)			
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	C.	D.				
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1)	Are alligators often dangerous to humans? (pa					
	A.		Yes, they often hunt humans for food			
	C.	D.	No, they prefer to avoid humans unless their nests are threatened			
8)	Where on their heads are American Alligator	s' et	/es located? (paragraph 1)			
0)	A.	•	At the back of their heads			
	C.		High on their heads			
	с.	D.	Tigh on their heads			
9)	What do alligators eat as they grow larger? (p	aragra	ph 3)			
	A. Larger fish, turtles, and mammals	B.	Rocks and soil			
	С.	D.				
10)	Why are American Alligators considered opp	orti	inistic feeders? (normariant 2)			
10)	A. They can eat anything that comes		They only eat during certain seasons			
	near the water's edge	Ъ.	They only cat during certain seasons			
	C.	D.				
	с.	D.				

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

American Alligator

- 11) "You'll mostly find me in freshwater homes like marshes, wetlands, rivers, swamps you name it!" (paragraph 2)
- 12) "I live on a fruit-only diet. Berries are my favorite!" (paragraph 3)