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# SOnerd's Ornithology Test: SSSS 2019

2.5 minutes per station

Student Names: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Station 1 (9 points)



1. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
2. (1 point) According to the IUCN, is this bird's worldwide population trend increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same?
3. (1 point) T/F: Because this bird has eyes that are poorly adapted for underwater vision, it finds most of its prey above the water surface.
4. (1 point) Does this bird prefer brackish water, freshwater, or saltwater?
5. (1 point) At approximately what age do females of this species begin breeding?
6. (1 point) T/F: Only the females of this species incubate eggs.
7. (3 points) Is the organism shown a male or a female? List 2 unique coloration traits of breeding males.

## Station 2 (10 points)

8. (1 point) What is the common name of this bird?
9. (3 points) Which of the following describes the mating behavior of this bird? Select all that apply.
  - a. Males engage in lekking at "booming grounds"
  - b. Males are highly territorial and establish dominance hierarchies during mating season
  - c. Females nest in trees
  - d. Up to 300 males may be present at a single mating site
  - e. Females take care of young for approximately 3 months
10. (1 point) Generally speaking, what is the single greatest threat to the survival of this species?
11. (1 point) At what age are young considered to be strong fliers?
12. (1 point) Approximately how long are adults of this species?
  - a. 12 inches
  - b. 17 inches
  - c. 23 inches
  - d. 27 inches
13. (1 point) T/F: This species is known for its extensive migrations.
14. (2 points, TB1) What is the technical term for the feathers indicated by the red arrow? What is their use?



### Station 3 (9 points)

15. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
16. (3 points, TB2) What is "anting" and why would a bird do it? Does this species exhibit anting?
17. (1 point) How does this bird orient itself during migration? Select the single best answer.
  - a. Following the location of the North Star
  - b. Sensing variations in the Earth's magnetic field
  - c. Following global wind patterns
  - d. These birds do not migrate.
18. (1 point) T/F: This bird is a diet specialist, feeding only on specific species of wheat.
19. (1 point) Approximately what percentage of young survive to adulthood?
20. (1 point) Which of the following terms describes this bird's mating system? Select the single best answer.
  - a. Polygynous
  - b. Polygynandrous
  - c. Polyandrous
  - d. Monogamous
21. (1 point) In what types of areas does this bird prefer to nest?
  - a. Areas with dense trees close to open areas
  - b. Wetlands with ample vegetation
  - c. Open meadows
  - d. Scrublands close to slow-flowing rivers

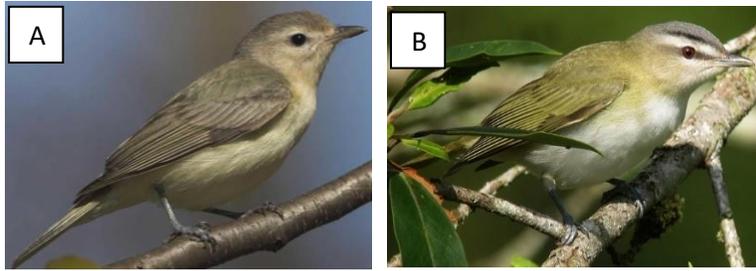


### Station 4 (7 points)

22. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
23. (1 point) What is this bird's preferred food source?
24. (1 point) T/F: This bird can survive temperatures below -40°F.
25. (1 point) Approximately how long is this bird?
  - a. 5cm
  - b. 10cm
  - c. 12cm
  - d. 15cm
26. (1 point) What is the name of the structure indicated by the red arrow?
27. (1 point) Among what general type of trees does this bird prefer to live?
28. (1 point) In what general area of the US is this bird commonly found during the winter?
  - a. Pacific Northwest
  - b. Midwest
  - c. Southeast
  - d. Southwest



## Station 5 (9 points)



29. (2 points) Taxonomically, these two birds are classified in the same... (Select all that apply)
- Family
  - Genus
  - Species
30. (1 point) The young of which bird remain in the nest for longer after hatching?
31. (1 point) Which bird has a predominantly eastern distribution in the US during breeding season?
32. (2 points, TB3) Why would bird A harmed less than bird B with the destruction of forest habitat?
33. (1 point) What is the source of bird A's common name?
34. (1 point) What other species on the National List often lays eggs in bird A's nest?
35. (1 point) T/F: Males in bird B's taxonomic group are responsible for building nests.

## Station 6 (9 points)



36. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
37. (2 points) These birds often lay eggs in nearby nests of conspecifics. What is the technical term for this, and how is it advantageous to the bird?
38. (1 point) At what age can young begin to vocalize?
39. (2 points) This bird has \_\_\_ toes on each foot, \_\_\_ of which point forward.
40. (1 point) Is this bird diurnal, nocturnal, or crepuscular?
41. (1 point) What is the highest recorded lifespan in this species?
42. (1 point) What color are juveniles' legs and feet?

## Station 7 (11 points)



43. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
44. (3 points) Which of the following is/are true about this bird's mating habits? Select all that apply.
  - a. They mate from March to August
  - b. Eggs take approximately 1 month to incubate
  - c. Young are born precocial and will leave the nest just a few days after birth
  - d. Adult mating pairs will remain together until death
  - e. Females typically lay only 2-3 eggs at once
45. (2 points) List 2 factors that have led to recent population declines in this species.
46. (1 point) T/F: This species is mostly found in the extreme southern US.
47. (1 point) What is the technical term for the part of the leg indicated by the red arrow?
48. (1 point) T/F: This species has been observed stealing food from other birds.
49. (1 point) Are members of this species typically heavier in body weight in the tropics or northern part of the range?
50. (1 point) What is this bird's main source of food?

## Station 8 (8 points)



51. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
52. (1 point) What is this bird's preferred habitat?
53. (1 point) What is the main difference between males and females of this species?
54. (1 point) During which months does this bird mate in North America?
55. (1 point) What is this bird's conservation status on the IUCN Red List?
56. (3 points) Females of this species lay \_\_\_ broods of eggs per season, each containing approximately \_\_\_ eggs that incubate for \_\_\_\_\_ days.

## Station 9 (9 points)



57. (1 point) What is the common name of this bird?
58. (1 point) How are these birds able to catch prey in total darkness?
59. (1 point) How do these organisms positively impact farmers?
60. (1 point) T/F: Males of this species have pronounced ear tufts that are only visible during mating season.
61. (1 point) How have scientists been able to gain in-depth knowledge about this group's diet?
62. (3 points) Are these birds r- or K-selected? List two of their life history traits that helped you decide.
63. (1 point) T/F: These birds use their sharp bills to break prey apart into many tiny pieces before eating it.

## Station 10 (10 points)



64. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
65. (2 points) Is this a male or a female? How can you tell?
66. (2 points) Why does this species sync nesting activity with the phases of the moon? Does it prefer to nest when the moon is full or new?
67. (2 points) What is "roosting"? Where does this bird prefer to roost?
68. (1 point) T/F: This species is known for their extensive nest-building tendencies, digging a 6-inch depression and fighting conspecifics for the best nesting material.
69. (1 point) Are young of this species cared for by males, females, both, or neither?
70. (1 point) Why might this bird make a "hissing" noise?

## Station 11 (8 points)



71. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
72. (1 point) Which of the following tree type(s) does this bird prefer in its habitat? Select all that apply.
  - a. Plane trees
  - b. Sycamores
  - c. Aspens
  - d. Ginkgoes
73. (1 point) What unique ability does this bird have when maneuvering on its feet?
74. (1 point) T/F: This bird reaches sexual maturity in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of life.
75. (1 point) How does this bird break open seeds?
76. (2 points) What is the difference between altricial and precocial young? Which better describes the young of this species?
77. (1 point, TB4) How does this bird use resin in building its nest?

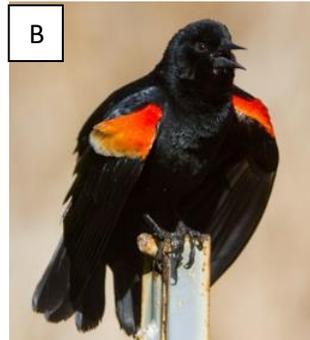
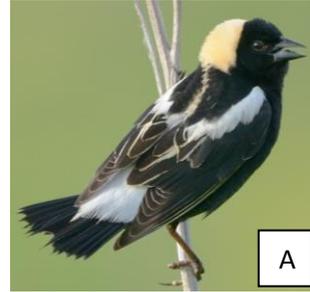
## Station 12 (8 points)



78. (1 point) What is the common name of this bird?
79. (1 point) What is the estimated first-year survivorship of this species?
80. (2 points) List two predators of this species.
81. (1 point) What zoonotic disease is this species known to carry?
82. (1 point) What US law protects this species throughout its range?
83. (1 point) What do adults of this species typically feed their young?
84. (1 point) Approximately how much do adults of this species typically weigh?

### Station 13 (9 points)

85. (1 point) What is the scientific name of bird A?
86. (1 point) What is the scientific name of bird B?
87. (2 points) Which species has females that are referred to as “primary females” and “secondary females”? What is the difference between a “primary” and “secondary” female?
88. (1 point) Which species is solitary outside of the breeding season?
- Species A
  - Species B
  - Both A and B
  - Neither species
89. (1 point) Which species prefers to breed in wetlands?
- Species A
  - Species B
  - Both A and B
  - Neither species
90. (2 points) List two anti-predation adaptations of species B.
91. (1 point, TB5) What adverse effect do surfactants have on species B?



### Station 14 (7 points)



92. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
93. (1 point, TB6) If you saw a very similar-looking bird sitting on a perch, how could you immediately tell that it does not belong to this species?
94. (1 point) Describe the breeding range (geographic location) of this species.
95. (1 point) Why might a large group of these birds produce a “thundering” sound?
96. (1 point) How long do pair bonds in this species typically last?
97. (1 point) What do parents of this species typically feed their young?
98. (1 point) What is the IUCN Red List status of this species?

This test will be publicly released at the end of the summer. Do not use for tournaments or tryouts.

## Station 15 (7 points)



99. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
100. (1 point) How many broods per year does this species typically produce?
- 1
  - 2
  - 4
  - 5
101. (1 point) How did this bird get its common name?
102. (1 point) How can birdwatchers differentiate juveniles from adults of this species?
103. (1 point) Which sex initiates copulation in this species?
104. (1 point) Seasonally, what is unique about this bird's timing of migration?
105. (1 point) What 2 functions do male vocalizations serve in this species?
106. (1 point) How have humans allowed this bird to expand its range across North America?

## Station 16 (7 points)



107. (1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
108. (1 point) What plant is this bird's preferred food and the source of its scientific name?
109. (1 point) What is another name for a large group of these birds in the water?
110. (1 point) What is this bird's average wingspan, in inches?
111. (1 point) What is this bird's top flying (air) speed?
112. (1 point) Where does this bird typically build its nests?
113. (1 point) T/F: This bird primarily uses visual signals in mating, as opposed to vocalizations.

### Station 17 (7 points)

- 114.(1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
- 115.(1 point) Why is it advantageous for this bird to hunt by ambushing prey?
- 116.(1 point) Approximately how long are beaks of this species, in cm?
- 117.(1 point) How does this bird's diet vary based on the season?
- 118.(1 point) How long does it take for this bird to reach sexual maturity?
- 119.(1 point) How old are hatchlings of this species when they leave the nest?
- 120.(1 point) T/F: These birds have been found nesting in giant cacti.
- 121.(1 point) How many eggs do females of this species typically lay at once?



### Station 18 (8 points)

- 122.(1 point) What is the scientific name of this bird?
- 123.(1 point) How does this bird eat? What does it do with the prey that it can't digest?
- 124.(1 point) What is the maximum elevation at which this species can be found?
- 125.(1 point) Are males or females of this species larger?
- 126.(1 point) According to the IUCN, is this species increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same in global population size?
- 127.(1 point) T/F: Because of this bird's highly social nature, calls can often be heard outside of the typical breeding season.
- 128.(2 points) List 2 adaptations that allows this bird to hear well.



## Station 19 (9 points)

129.(1 point) Which of the following terms best describes the foot arrangement shown to the right?

- a. Anisodactyl
- b. Heterodactyl
- c. Syndactyl
- d. Zygodactyl



130.(3 points) How many chambers does a bird heart have, and what is each chamber called?

131.(1 point) What protein are bird feathers made of?

132.(1 point) Are birds endotherms or ectotherms?

133.(1 point) Which order of birds contains the largest number of species?

134.(2 points) What is the difference between a semiplume and a filoplume?

## Station 20 (9 points)

135.(4 points) State the common name of each of the following birds:



136.(1 point) Generally speaking, how are birds' bones adapted to flight?

137.(1 point) T/F: All extant bird species have wings.

138.(1 point) What animals are the closest living relatives of birds?

- a. Mammals
- b. Crocodylians
- c. Insects
- d. Reptiles

139.(1 point) What is guano, and what do humans use it for?

140.(2 points) What two major functions does a bird's cloaca serve?