

ENGLISH PLUS

WITH
ANSWER
KEY

PRACTICE WORKSHEETS



WORD POWER

PEREGRINE FALCON

Word Power | The Rescue of the Peregrine Falcon

1. Fill in the blanks with the keywords provided.

The Rescue of the Peregrine Falcon

Few sights are as [1] _____ to American environmentalists as that of a peregrine falcon nesting high on a rocky cliff. From the 1940s until the early 1990s, the very existence of this beautiful bird of prey in North America was threatened.

Noted for their speed and skill in flight, peregrine falcons are small to medium-sized hawks. The diet of young peregrines consists mainly of butterflies and dragonflies. Adults [2] _____ themselves on rodents or small birds that they often capture in flight with a spectacular show of skill, strength, and speed. Peregrines average about 50 miles per hour in normal, level flight. However, scientists believe that when peregrines swoop toward their prey, they can [3] _____ speeds of 200 to 300 miles per hour.

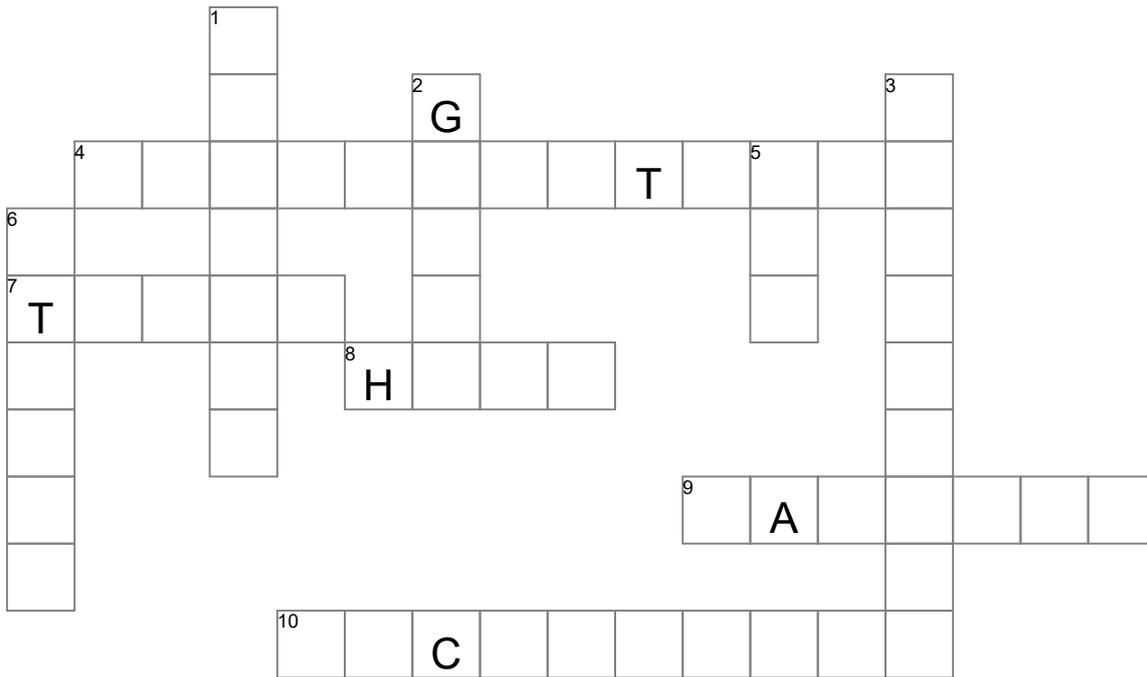
Peregrines tend to reside in treeless tundra regions such as the Arctic areas of Alaska and Canada. They construct hidden nests in areas that are the natural [4] _____ of birds, mice, lemmings, and other small rodents. In the late 1940s North American peregrines began to disappear at a rapid and [5] _____ pace. By the early 1970s the decline was widespread. Eventually, scientists determined what had happened.

Up until 1972 Americans refused to [6] _____ warnings about the effect on the food chain and used DDT and other [7] _____ to control insect populations. When fish, birds, and small rodents eat insects or grain treated with pesticides, they take in the [8] _____ from the pesticides. Creatures that feed on these animals eat the poisons that have [9] _____ in the animals' bodies. Since peregrines eat so many birds and rodents, they were exposed to massive amounts of poison. The poisons affected the eggs that the falcons laid. The eggshells were so weak that they broke easily. Most eggs that did survive never hatched. The falcons that did hatch were too few in number to continue the population.

In the early 1970s environmentalists took action. The American and Arctic peregrine was placed on a list of endangered species. In 1972 laws were passed [10] _____ most uses of DDT. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service, along with other environmental agencies, established a recovery program that reintroduced peregrines into the wild. Today thousands of peregrine pairs nest throughout Arctic North America and Alaska.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------|----------------|
| A. toxins | B. gorge | C. heed | D. attain | E. accumulated |
| F. pesticides | G. gratifying | H. unaccountable | I. banning | J. habitats |

2. **Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.**



ACROSS

- 4. inexplicable, mysterious, baffling, odd
- 7. poison, venom
- 8. pay attention to, listen to, take notice of, follow
- 9. home, environment, surroundings, element
- 10. build up, increase, grow, be stored

DOWN

- 1. please, delight, satisfy, thrill
- 2. overeat, bolt, devour, gobble
- 3. a chemical used for killing pests, esp. insects and rodents
- 5. prohibit, black, bar, block
- 6. reach, achieve, realize, acquire

Choose the best option the completes the sentences below:

- 3. ___ A _____ is an official ruling that something must not be done, shown, or used.
a. heed b. gratify c. attain d. habitat e. ban
- 4. ___ A _____ is a deep, narrow valley with very steep sides, usually where a river passes through mountains or an area of hard rock.
a. toxin b. unaccountable c. accumulate d. gorge e. pesticide
- 5. ___ If you take _____ of what someone says or if you pay _____ to them, you pay attention to them and consider carefully what they say.
a. pesticide b. heed c. accumulate d. gorge e. unaccountable
- 6. ___ to gather or become gathered together in an increasing quantity; amass; collect
a. attain b. ban c. heed d. habitat e. accumulate
- 7. ___ any chemical used for killing insects, weeds, etc.
a. heed b. gratify c. unaccountable d. pesticide e. toxin
- 8. ___ If you _____ a particular state or condition, you may reach it as a result of natural development or work hard to _____ this state.
a. gorge b. toxin c. pesticide d. habitat e. attain

9. ___ the environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows
a. ban b. gratify c. gorge d. accumulate e. habitat
10. ___ If you describe a person or organization as _____, you are critical of them because they are not responsible to anyone for their actions, or do not feel they have to explain their actions to anyone.
a. unaccountable b. toxin c. ban d. heed e. pesticide
11. ___ any of various poisonous compounds produced by some microorganisms and causing certain diseases
a. attain b. toxin c. gratify d. accumulate e. habitat
12. ___ If you _____ your own or another person's desire, you do what is necessary to please yourself or them.
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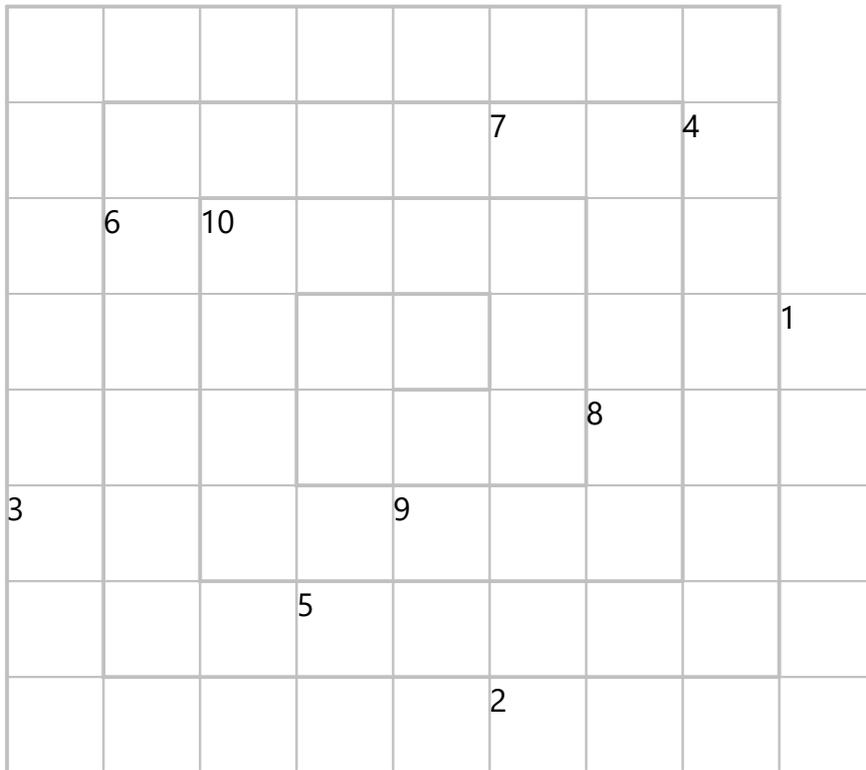
For each question below a number of similar words appear, but only one is spelled correctly and matches the clue that is provided. Write the letter of the correctly spelled word in the space by the question number.

13. ___ a. BAN b. BIN c. BANE d. BUN
To _____ something means to state officially that it must not be done, shown, or used.
14. ___ a. ATTAEN b. AGTAIN c. ATTAIN d. ATTAINNE
If you _____ something, you gain it or achieve it, often after a lot of effort.
15. ___ a. GRATIFY b. GRATIFI c. GRETIFY d. GRATIFEE
If you are _____(ied) by something, it gives you pleasure or satisfaction.
16. ___ a. PSTICID b. PESTIKIDE c. PASTICIDE d. PESTICIDE
Pesticides are chemicals which farmers put on their crops to kill harmful insects.
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A _____ is any poisonous substance produced by bacteria, animals, or plants.
18. ___ a. ACUMULATE b. ACCUMULATE c. ACZUMULATE d. ACCUMULEAT
When you _____ things or when they _____, they collect or are gathered over a period of time.
19. ___ a. HEED b. HEEED c. HED d. HEAD
If you _____ someone's advice or warning, you pay attention to it and do what they suggest.
20. ___ a. UNACCOUNTTABLE b. UNACCOUNTABEL c. UNACCONTABLE
d. UNACCOUNTABLE
Something that is _____ does not seem to have any sensible explanation.
21. ___ a. GORRGE b. GERGE c. GOWGE d. GORGE
If you _____ on something or _____ yourself on it, you eat lots of it in a very greedy way.

22. ___ a. HABITAT b. HABBITAT c. HABITATE d. HABIRAT

The _____ of an animal or plant is the natural environment in which it normally lives or grows.

23. Numbered clues appear below the spiral grid. Determine the word that matches the clue, and write that word in the spiral puzzle. The word does not overlap with the next word (marked by the next number) and it must be written in the correct direction (from a lower numbered space to a higher numbered space).



- 1. The _____ of an animal or plant is the natural environment in which it normally lives or grows.
- 2. If you are _____(ied) by something, it gives you pleasure or satisfaction.
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- 4. Pesticides are chemicals which farmers put on their crops to kill harmful insects.
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- 8. To _____ something means to state officially that it must not be done, shown, or used.
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- 10. When you _____ things or when they _____, they collect or are gathered over a period of time.

24. In each line of text below there is one word that has been misspelled. Circle the misspelled word and then write the correct spelling of the word on the line on the right side of the page.

The Rescue of the Peregrine Falcon

Few sights our as **gratifying** to American environmentalists as that of se peregrine falcon nesting high on a rocky cliff. From the 1940s until the early 1990s, the very existence of this beautiful birde of prey in North Amirica was threatened.

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- 1. _____
- 2. _____
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- 10. _____
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- 12. _____
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- 27. _____
- 28. _____
- 29. _____
- 30. _____
- 31. _____
- 32. _____
- 33. _____
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wild. Today thousands of peregrine pairs nest throughout Arctic North America and Alaska. 37. _____
38. _____

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C	P	R	O	K	T	U	D	Y	W	F	F	A	U	D	Y	T	N	Y	E
W	C	B	E	L	E	E	J	N	M	H	Q	Z	O	P	M	S	M	H	A
H	U	B	Y	F	C	O	D	W	F	K	Z	I	P	M	Z	N	M	C	F
T	A	T	T	P	K	Q	L	P	N	O	F	M	F	Q	F	G	G	Y	X
A	T	I	A	C	U	C	E	B	A	A	C	Z	J	Q	A	N	I	C	H
I	I	N	A	C	M	U	T	K	C	P	Y	G	G	O	K	C	K	X	E
P	B	E	D	J	R	L	A	W	C	Y	F	Z	G	R	D	T	J	S	J
Z	A	H	I	C	L	N	T	O	O	X	I	J	E	H	G	V	K	P	S
Z	W	D	O	I	Z	Y	L	S	I	T	A	R	G	M	O	C	H	I	Y
O	Y	S	S	T	S	E	P	Y	F	I	N	T	Q	N	W	Z	W	F	C
L	B	R	H	E	E	P	N	U	I	N	A	H	P	V	S	L	N	S	F
H	A	M	E	L	D	T	I	N	A	P	Z	L	S	H	D	R	Z	E	F
F	Q	R	A	B	A	O	X	C	C	C	F	P	X	K	W	T	U	H	Q
Z	D	Z	H	C	T	N	U	O	V	O	J	N	K	K	W	T	K	D	X
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- | | |
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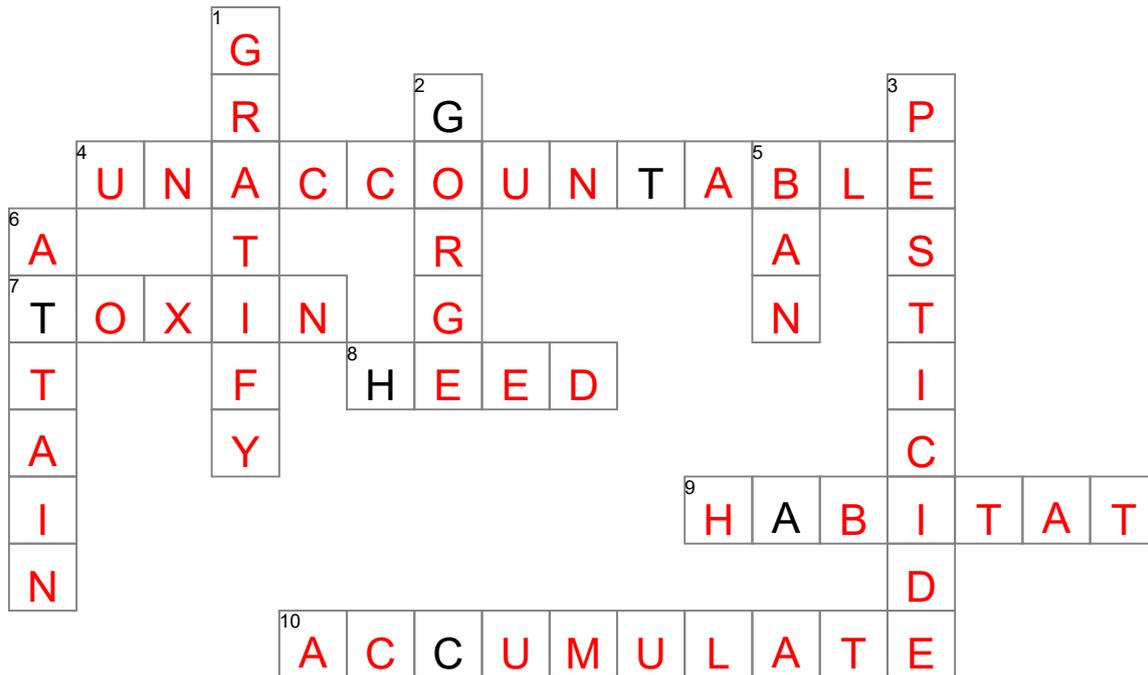
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O	U	N	T	A	B	L	E	
C	O	X	I	N	⁷ H	E	⁴ P	
⁶ C	T	¹⁰ A	C	C	U	E	E	
A	N	E	T	E	M	D	¹ S	H
N	I	G	A	L	⁸ U	B	T	A
³ U	A	R	O	⁹ G	N	A	I	B
Y	T	T	⁵ A	E	D	I	C	I
F	I	T	A	R	² G	T	A	T

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- 1. Falcon _____
- 2. are _____
- 3. s _____
- 4. bird _____
- 5. America _____
- 6. are _____
- 7. of _____
- 8. rodents _____
- 9. spectacular _____
- 10. hour _____
- 11. flight _____
- 12. toward _____
- 13. hour _____
- 14. as _____
- 15. nests _____
- 16. lemmings _____
- 17. s _____
- 18. disappear _____
- 19. what _____
- 20. happened _____
- 21. heed _____
- 22. and _____
- 23. and _____
- 24. take _____
- 25. that _____
- 26. eat _____
- 27. amounts _____
- 28. were _____
- 29. that _____
- 30. to _____
- 31. the _____
- 32. early _____
- 33. peregrine _____
- 34. passed _____
- 35. environmental _____
- 36. that _____

wild. Today thousands of **peregrine** pairs nest throughout Arctic North **Amirica** and Alaska.

37. **peregrine**

38. **America**

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C	P	R	O	K	T	U	D	Y	W	F	F	A	U	D	Y	T	N	Y	E
W	C	B	E	L	E	E	J	N	M	H	Q	Z	O	P	M	S	M	H	A
H	U	B	Y	F	C	O	D	W	F	K	Z	I	P	M	Z	N	M	C	F
T	A	T	T	P	K	Q	L	P	N	O	F	M	F	Q	F	G	G	Y	X
A	T	I	A	C	U	C	E	B	A	A	C	Z	J	Q	A	N	I	C	H
I	I	N	A	C	M	U	T	K	C	P	Y	G	G	O	K	C	K	X	E
P	B	E	D	J	R	L	A	W	C	Y	F	Z	G	R	D	T	J	S	J
Z	A	H	I	C	L	N	T	O	O	X	I	J	E	H	G	V	K	P	S
Z	W	D	O	I	Z	Y	L	S	I	T	A	R	G	M	O	C	H	I	Y
O	Y	S	S	T	S	E	P	Y	F	I	N	T	Q	N	W	Z	W	F	C
L	B	R	H	E	E	P	N	U	I	N	A	H	P	V	S	L	N	S	F
H	A	M	E	L	D	T	I	N	A	P	Z	L	S	H	D	R	Z	E	F
F	Q	R	A	B	A	O	X	C	C	C	F	P	X	K	W	T	U	H	Q
Z	D	Z	H	C	T	N	U	O	V	O	J	N	K	K	W	T	K	D	X
Z	I	J	U	B	Y	D	S	I	H	C	H	W	D	S	V	S	U	S	D

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