

# THE ULTIMATE CROCODILE QUIZ

100 Additional Wildlife Questions



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# Section 1: Easy Questions (1-30)

1. What is the primary material that makes up a crocodile's teeth? A) Solid bone B) Keratin like fingernails **C) Enamel and dentin like human teeth** D) Calcified cartilage
2. Crocodiles are the only reptiles that have a true four-chambered heart. **False (They share this with alligators, caimans, and gharials—all crocodylians)**
3. What color is crocodile blood? A) Blue due to copper-based hemocyanin B) Green due to bile compounds C) Clear with no pigmentation **D) Red due to iron-based hemoglobin**
4. How do crocodiles communicate with each other over long distances? A) Chemical scent trails B) High-pitched whistles C) Visual displays only **D) Deep infrasonic rumbles through water and ground**
5. A crocodile can regenerate lost limbs like a salamander. **False**
6. **[SCENARIO]** You're a wildlife veterinarian examining a crocodile. Where would you take its pulse to check heart rate? **A) Behind the front leg** B) The tail base C) The throat area D) Crocodiles have no detectable pulse
7. What is the primary function of a crocodile's powerful tail beyond swimming? A) Temperature regulation **B) Defense weapon and communication tool** C) Fat storage for lean times D) Digging nesting burrows
8. Crocodiles have vocal cords and can produce a wide range of sounds. **True**
9. How many teeth does an adult crocodile typically have? A) 32 (same as adult humans) **B) 60-80** C) Over 100 D) 48-52
10. What happens when a crocodile gets too cold? A) It enters hibernation for months B) It migrates to warmer waters **C) Its digestion stops completely** D) It generates body heat through shivering
11. Crocodile scales are made of the same material as bird feathers. **False (Scales are keratin; feathers are also keratin but structured differently)**

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12. What unique ability allows crocodiles to stay submerged without drowning while holding prey? A) Gills that extract oxygen from water B) Storing oxygen in their tail **C) A valve that separates breathing from swallowing** D) The ability to absorb oxygen through their skin

13. Which body part do crocodiles use to produce the "water dance" display? A) Their tail slapping the surface B) Their jaws clapping together **C) Their entire body and tail creating vibrations** D) Their legs kicking underwater

14. Baby crocodiles are born with a special "egg tooth" to break out of their shell. **True**

15. How do crocodiles control their buoyancy in water? **A) By adjusting lung volume** B) By filling air sacs throughout their body C) By controlling muscle tension D) By swallowing or expelling water

16. **[SCENARIO]** A crocodile hasn't eaten in 6 months. How is this possible? A) It's sick and will die soon B) This is impossible, crocodiles must eat monthly **C) Its extremely slow metabolism allows long fasting periods** D) It's been eating small snacks unobserved

17. What is the name of the transparent eyelid that protects a crocodile's eye underwater? A) Tapetum lucidum B) Corneal shield **C) Nictitating membrane** D) Scleral ossicle

18. Crocodiles can taste their food before swallowing. **False (They have limited taste receptors)**

19. What percentage of a crocodile's brain is dedicated to processing smell? **A) Approximately 30%** B) Less than 5% C) About 15% D) Over 50%

20. How long does a crocodile egg take to hatch? A) 30-45 days **B) 80-90 days** C) 55-70 days D) 120-150 days

21. Crocodiles close their nostrils underwater using muscular flaps. **True**

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22. What is the function of the raised bumps (tubercles) on a crocodile's back and tail? A) Armor reinforcement with embedded bone B) Temperature regulation through blood vessels C) Sensory organs for detecting vibrations **D) All of the above**
23. **[SCENARIO TIME]** You observe a crocodile floating motionless at the surface with just its eyes and nostrils visible. What is this behavior called? A) Ambush posture **B) Logging** C) Thermoregulation stance D) Periscope floating
24. Which predator is the biggest threat to baby crocodiles? A) Monitor lizards B) Large birds like herons and eagles C) Other adult crocodiles **D) All of the above**
25. What color are crocodile eggs? A) White and hard like chicken eggs B) Greenish with camouflage patterns **C) Cream-colored with a leathery shell** D) Translucent and leathery
26. How many times can a crocodile replace its teeth throughout its lifetime? A) Once—they get two sets total **B) Up to 50 times or more** C) 3-5 times D) 10-20 times
27. Crocodiles can climb steep riverbanks and slopes up to 45 degrees. **True**
28. What triggers a mother crocodile to open her nest and help babies hatch? A) A specific time after laying (internal clock) B) Temperature changes in the nest **C) The babies' chirping sounds from inside the eggs** D) Rainfall softening the nest material
29. How fast can a crocodile swim in short bursts? A) 5-8 mph **B) 18-22 mph** C) 12-15 mph D) Over 25 mph
30. What is the typical pH level of crocodile stomach acid during active digestion? A) pH 3-4 (moderately acidic) **B) pH 1-2 (extremely acidic)** C) pH 5-6 (mildly acidic) D) pH 7 (neutral)

## Section 2: Medium Questions (31-70)

31. What is the typical body temperature range for an active crocodile? A) 60-70°F (15-21°C) **B) 85-95°F (29-35°C)** C) 75-85°F (24-29°C) D) 98-102°F (37-39°C)

32. Crocodiles can survive for over a year without eating. **True**

33. What is the primary component of the white paste that crocodiles sometimes excrete? A) Excess calcium B) Mineral deposits **C) Concentrated uric acid** D) Undigested bone fragments

34. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A crocodile is found 50 miles inland from any water source. What most likely happened? A) This scenario is impossible **B) It traveled overland searching for new territory** C) It was transported by humans D) It was swept inland by flooding

35. How do crocodiles drink freshwater? A) They extract it from their prey **B) They open their mouths and gulp** C) They absorb it through their skin D) They filter it through specialized glands

36. The crocodylian lineage survived the extinction event that killed the dinosaurs. **True**

37. What is the estimated bite force of a Nile crocodile? **A) 5,000 PSI** B) 1,500 PSI C) 2,500 PSI D) 3,000 PSI

38. How do male crocodiles attract females during mating season? A) Fighting other males exclusively B) Building elaborate nests **C) Infrasonic bellows and water displays** D) Colorful skin changes

39. Crocodiles have been observed using bait to lure prey. **True**

40. What is the average clutch size for most crocodile species? A) 50-60 eggs B) 10-20 eggs C) 70-90 eggs **D) 25-40 eggs**

41. **[SCENARIO TIME]** Two male crocodiles are fighting over territory. What typically determines the winner? A) The one who arrives at the territory first **B) Size and age—larger males dominate** C) The one with the loudest bellow D) Speed and agility in the water

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42. What material lines a crocodile's stomach to protect it from sharp bones and debris? A) Keratin coating **B) Thick mucus layers** C) Chitinous plates D) Dense muscle tissue
43. Crocodiles can detect prey movements through vibrations in their jaw sensors from over 20 feet away. **True**
44. Which organ system allows crocodiles to perform a "cardiac shunt"? A) Nervous system **B) Circulatory system with specialized heart valves** C) Respiratory system D) Digestive system
45. What is the primary reason crocodiles bask with their mouths open? **A) Thermoregulation through mouth tissues** B) Threat display C) Allowing birds to clean their teeth D) Drying their tongue
46. The Cuban crocodile is known for its unusual ability to do what? A) Walk on two legs for short distances B) Vocalize in complex patterns C) Climb trees regularly **D) Leap vertically out of the water**
47. Crocodiles have a lateral line system similar to fish. **False (They have integumentary sense organs but not a true lateral line)**
48. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A wildlife researcher wants to estimate a wild crocodile's age. What's the most reliable method? A) Measuring overall length B) Examining tooth wear **C) Counting growth rings in bones** D) Assessing skin texture and scarring
49. What adaptation allows crocodiles to dive for extended periods? A) Reducing metabolic rate by 90% B) Extracting oxygen from water through their skin C) Storing oxygen in specialized muscle cells **D) Closing off blood flow to non-essential organs**
50. The American crocodile is more tolerant of saltwater than the American alligator. **True**
51. How do crocodiles regulate their body temperature at night? A) They cannot regulate temperature and become inactive B) They generate metabolic heat through digestion **C) They retain heat absorbed during the day** D) They bask under moonlight

## Section 2: Medium Questions (31-70)

52. What is unique about the way crocodiles' eyes reflect light? A) They change color based on mood B) They glow blue in darkness **C) They create a bright orange/red "eyeshine"** D) They don't reflect light at all
53. Crocodiles can go into a state similar to torpor during cold weather. **True**
54. What percentage of crocodile attacks on humans occur in freshwater versus saltwater? A) 70% freshwater, 30% saltwater **B) 90% freshwater, 10% saltwater** C) 50/50 split D) 30% freshwater, 70% saltwater
55. **[SCENARIO TIME]** You're studying crocodile communication. You notice juveniles making specific sounds. What information are they most likely conveying? **A) Distress signals or contact calls** B) Their exact location to mother C) Aggression toward siblings D) Hunger levels
56. How many chambers does a crocodile's cloaca have? A) Four specialized compartments B) One multi-purpose chamber **C) Three distinct sections** D) Two separate chambers
57. Crocodiles are capable of recognizing human faces. **True**
58. What is the maximum depth a crocodile can dive? A) Over 100 feet B) 10-15 feet C) 25-30 feet **D) 50-65 feet**
59. Which sense is most important for a crocodile hunting in complete darkness? A) Thermal sensing B) Hearing C) Smell **D) Mechanoreception (detecting water movement)**
60. The Orinoco crocodile is one of the most endangered crocodile species. **True**
61. What causes the powerful "tail-walk" behavior seen in some crocodiles? A) Escaping predators B) Mating ritual **C) Intimidation display or launching attacks** D) Removing parasites
62. How long can a crocodile remain completely still while waiting for prey? A) 10-15 minutes maximum **B) Several hours to over a day** C) 30-45 minutes D) 1-2 hours

## Section 2: Medium Questions (31-70)

63. Crocodiles shed their skin in large pieces like snakes. **False (They shed individual scales gradually)**

64. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A crocodile farm wants to maximize female offspring. What nest temperature should they maintain? **A) 31.6-32°C (89-90°F)** B) 28-29°C (82-84°F) C) 30-31°C (86-88°F) D) 33-34°C (91-93°F)

65. What is the function of the "gular pump" in crocodiles? A) Pumping water out of their lungs B) Filtering food particles C) Circulating blood to their brain **D) Drawing air into their lungs while submerged**

66. Crocodile embryos can vocalize before hatching to synchronize hatching times. **True**

67. What is the typical territorial range for an adult male saltwater crocodile? A) 1-2 square miles **B) Over 40 square miles** C) 5-10 square miles D) 15-30 square miles

68. How do crocodiles generate the force for their devastating bite? **A) Massive jaw muscles that close like a trap** B) Pneumatic pressure in jaw chambers C) Spring-loaded tendons that release energy D) Hydraulic fluid in specialized bone cavities

69. The gharial is technically a crocodylian but not a true crocodile. **True**

70. What unusual cooperative behavior have Nile crocodiles demonstrated? A) Sharing large kills with non-relatives B) Teaching hunting skills to juveniles **C) Coordinated hunting and ambush tactics** D) Group defense of communal nesting sites

# Section 3: Hard Questions (71-100)

71. Crocodiles possess ossified tendons in their tails for additional strength. **True**

72. What evolutionary advantage does the crocodile's secondary palate provide? A) Stronger bite force B) Enhanced sense of smell **C) Ability to breathe while partially submerged with prey** D) Better vocalization capabilities

73. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A conservation team is reintroducing crocodiles to a historic habitat. What factor is most critical for success? A) Absence of human settlements within 50 miles B) Initial population size (at least 100 individuals) **C) Year-round water availability and prey abundance** D) Genetic diversity in the founding population

74. How do crocodiles' hemoglobin molecules differ from mammals? **A) They release oxygen more readily in acidic conditions** B) They carry 50% more oxygen per molecule C) They don't differ significantly D) They can bind carbon monoxide safely

75. The Morelet's crocodile is also known by what other name? A) Central American crocodile B) Belize crocodile **C) Mexican crocodile** D) All of the above

76. Crocodiles have been documented traveling over 300 miles in ocean currents. **True**

77. What is the primary cause of mortality in juvenile crocodiles beyond predation? A) Starvation B) Drowning during storms **C) Disease and parasites** D) Abandonment by mothers

80. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A researcher observes a crocodile performing a "high walk" on land. What does this behavior indicate? A) Injury to its swimming muscles **B) Active movement over distance, not just basking** C) Aggressive territorial display D) The animal is overheating and seeking water

91. How many vertebrae does a typical crocodile have? A) 33 (same as humans) B) 80-90 **C) 60-70** D) 50-55

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82. The New Guinea crocodile is one of the smallest crocodile species. **True**

83. What is the maximum recorded age of a crocodile in captivity? A) Over 140 years B) 68 years **C) 110 years** D) 85 years

84. **[SCENARIO TIME]** You're analyzing crocodile population genetics. What level of genetic diversity is considered healthy for long-term survival? A) At least 5-10 breeding pairs **B) 500+ individuals with gene flow between populations** C) 50-100 reproductively active individuals D) 1000+ individuals in isolated populations

85. Crocodiles have pressure-sensitive receptors on every scale of their body. **False (Mainly on the head and jaw in most species)**

86. What drives the "albino" or leucistic crocodiles occasionally seen in the wild? A) Dietary deficiency in carotenoids B) Environmental pollution **C) Genetic mutation affecting pigment production** D) Parasitic infection

87. How many heart beats per minute does a resting crocodile typically have? A) 2-4 beats per minute B) 60-80 beats per minute **C) 25-35 beats per minute** D) 8-15 beats per minute

88. The West African crocodile was only recognized as a separate species from the Nile crocodile in 2011. **True**

89. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A crocodile researcher is comparing brain-to-body ratios. How does the crocodile compare to other reptiles? A) Significantly smaller brain ratio **B) Similar to most reptiles** C) Larger brain ratio, approaching some mammals D) The largest brain-to-body ratio of any reptile

90. What is the primary threat to crocodile populations worldwide today? A) Hunting for leather and meat B) Climate change altering nest temperatures **C) Habitat loss and human encroachment** D) Pollution and water contamination

# Section 3: Hard Questions (71-100)

91. The Australian freshwater crocodile has a more docile temperament than most crocodile species. **True**
92. What is the function of the Foramen of Panizza in crocodile hearts?  
A) Regulates blood pressure during diving **B) Connects the left and right aortic arches** C) Allows mixing of oxygenated and deoxygenated blood D) Controls heart rate during digestion
93. How long does it take for a crocodile to digest a large meal? A) 12-24 hours B) Over a month C) 2-4 days **D) 1-2 weeks**
94. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A paleontologist discovers fossilized crocodylian tracks showing only hind limb impressions. What does this suggest?  
A) Swimming with hind legs touching bottom B) Front legs were too small to leave marks **C) Bipedal locomotion capability** D) The animal was injured
95. What percentage of a crocodile's oxygen consumption occurs through its skin? A) Less than 1% B) Over 30% **C) About 5-10%** D) 20-25%
96. Crocodile skin contains antimicrobial peptides that help prevent infection. **True**
97. What is the typical gestation period for crocodile eggs (from laying to hatching)? A) 100-120 days B) 45-60 days **C) 80-95 days** D) 65-80 days
98. Which crocodile species has the most restricted geographic range?  
A) Philippine crocodile **B) Cuban crocodile** C) Siamese crocodile D) Chinese alligator (if counting all crocodylians)
99. Crocodiles can taste sweetness, bitterness, and saltiness but not sourness. **False (They have very limited taste overall)**
100. **[SCENARIO TIME]** A wildlife biologist needs to transport a 12-foot crocodile. What's the most critical safety consideration? A) Securing the tail to prevent thrashing **B) Taping the jaws shut with proper restraint** C) Keeping the animal cool and moist D) Covering the eyes to reduce stress