

Turtle Review Questions

1. On which continents would you NOT expect to find pleurodire turtles?
2. Which turtle families are totally marine? Of these families, which normally occurs in northern seas?
3. Give several examples of pleurodiran and cryptodiran turtles, which are ecological equivalents of each other, or have similar specialized adaptations.
4. Which turtle families have reduced plastrons? Describe how you would separate the Connecticut species in these families?
5. Indicate for the following Connecticut emydids whether they are terrestrial, semi-aquatic, or semi-marine:
 - a) *Glyptemys insculpta*
 - b) *Terrapene carolina*
 - c) *Clemmys picta*
 - d) *Glyptemys muhlenbergi*
 - e) *Malaclemys terrapin*
6. What are the most conspicuous morphological differences between terrestrial and aquatic turtles?
7. Name at least two morphological feeding specializations found in turtles. Give an example from the handout of convergent evolution between turtle families relating to feeding morphology.
8. Describe the various types of carapace structures found in modern turtles. Do you see some obvious correlations between habitat type and the nature of the shell?
9. What turtle family seems to represent the link between the soft-shell turtles and other Cryptodiran lineages? Why?
10. What one characteristic will differentiate a chelid from a dermochelid?
11. What is the difference between pleurodira and cryptodira?
12. Name the only freshwater turtle family found in Australia.

13. Put these Connecticut turtle species in order of clutch sizes from the smallest to largest:
Terrepepe carolina, *Clemmys guttata*, *Chrysemys picta*.

14. Name the families that are in the subgroup pleurodira.

15. What is the name of the skull condition found in turtles?

16. Name all turtle families that have representatives in Madagascar?

17. What type of nesting site does the Family Podocnemidae use?

18. What is the species name of the smallest turtle in Connecticut?

19. Match the following turtle families to the statement that fits them:

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| [A] This Neotropical family has the ability to absorb oxygen by gas exchange in its buccopharyngeal region? | | Bataguridae |
| [B] This family has representatives that show convergent evolution with both Trionychidae and Chelydridae. | | Dermatemydidae |
| [C] This family has representatives in Asia that represent extreme convergent evolution with North American box turtles. | | Dermochelidae |
| [D] This turtle family has the largest geographical distribution. | | Chelidae |

20. What are the three major parts of the turtle shell?