

Invasive Species Trivia Challenge Relay

Trivia Challenge Questions

Correct answer in **Bold** font.

Highlighted questions are more difficult and are options to “Risk It” (or select which ones you think will be hardest for your group!)

1. What is the best definition of an invasive species?
 - a. A weed that is taking over your garden.
 - b. A toxic plant or a predatory animal that can hurt people and their pets.
 - c. **A non-native species that spreads and takes over, causing harm to the environment or economy.**
 - d. American bullfrogs that were let loose in the Lower Mainland in the 1940s.
2. Why are native species important?
 - a. **Native species are a natural part of the ecosystem and have been here for thousands of years.**
 - b. Native species can outcompete invasive species, like Japanese knotweed and Himalayan blackberry.
 - c. Native species can stop climate change by absorbing CO₂.
 - d. Native species are food for invasive species, like the American bullfrog and goldfish.
3. What is the difference between a non-native species and an invasive species in British Columbia?
 - a. Non-native species come from other parts of British Columbia, while invasive species usually come from another continent.
 - b. **Invasive species cause harm to the environment or economy, while non-native species may not cause harm.**
 - c. Non-native species can be easily controlled, while invasive species are impossible to control once established.
 - d. Non-native species and invasive species are usually the same thing.
4. **Which of the following is invasive in British Columbia**
 - a. Canada lynx
 - b. Canada jay

- c. **Canada thistle**
 - d. Canada goldenrod
- 5. Which invasive fish has taken over some BC lakes after being released from fish tanks?
 - a. **Goldfish**
 - b. Siamese fighting fish
 - c. Yellow perch
 - d. Three-spined stickleback
- 6. What is allelopathy?
 - a. A defective gene on a chromosome, present in many invasive plants.
 - b. An allergic reaction caused by invasive plants.
 - c. **The release of toxins from a plant into the soil, which prevents other plants from growing nearby.**
 - d. Toxins found in invasive plant tissues, which spread diseases to grazing wildlife and herbivores.
- 7. Which of these features makes orange hawkweed so competitive against native species?
 - a. They grow tall enough to shade out other plants.
 - b. **They release chemicals into the soil that prevent plants from growing near them**
 - c. They have long, vine-like stems that twist around and strangle other plants
 - d. They have toxic sap that can kill deer and horses.
- 8. What is **not** an impact of invasive species
 - a. They cost a lot of money to manage and control
 - b. They can increase the impacts of climate change
 - c. They can take over our favourite parks and trails
 - d. **They can change your DNA**
- 9. Approximately how much money is lost each year in BC due to the impacts of invasive species on agriculture?
 - a. **\$50 million**

- b. \$50 billion
 - c. \$5 trillion
 - d. \$500,000 gain because many invasive species are edible.
10. How do invasive species impact First Peoples?
- a. They make the land look unappealing
 - b. **They push out traditional and cultural species used by First Peoples.**
 - c. They don't impact First Peoples at all.
 - d. They pollute the air, making it difficult to breathe.
11. What invasive plant is often found in wedding bouquets?
- a. **Baby's breath**
 - b. English ivy
 - c. Salal
 - d. None: Invasive plants are illegal to sell or contain in wedding bouquets.
12. What is an example of a non-native, but non-invasive plant?
- a. Common periwinkle
 - b. Purple loosestrife
 - c. **Tulip**
 - d. Salmonberry
13. What are some examples of invasive species that can be prevented from spreading by cleaning, draining, and drying boats and equipment used on the water?
- a. Red-eared sliders, yellow perch, and goldfish
 - b. Rainbow trout, Western painted turtles, and cattail
 - c. Himalayan blackberry, Spongy moth, and cheatgrass
 - d. **Zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, and Yellow flag iris**
14. When you are exploring outdoor trails, what is the name of a best practice describing how you can prevent the spread of invasive species?
- a. PlantWise
 - b. Buy Local, Burn Local

- c. Clean, Drain, Dry
 - d. **PlayCleanGo**
15. How can we be “PlantWise” in the garden?
- a. Only use wildflower seed mixes.
 - b. **Don’t buy, trade, or plant invasive plants in the garden.**
 - c. Plant mostly plants with red flowers to attract hummingbirds.
 - d. Make sure to dispose of garden waste at nearby green spaces so that it can decompose naturally.
16. Why should we not move firewood from one region to another?
- a. If it is still smouldering, it could spread a fire.
 - b. If the wood isn’t dead, it could sprout an invasive tree.
 - c. It takes away local forestry jobs.
 - d. **It could transport insect pests or diseases.**
17. What is **not** an adaptation of invasive species?
- a. They spread easily
 - b. **They take care of their babies for life**
 - c. They quickly establish and thrive
 - d. They have few predators or diseases
18. What is **not** an example of an animal in BC that was once a pet but became invasive once it escaped or was let loose?
- a. Common wall lizard
 - b. European rabbit
 - c. **Asian hamster**
 - d. Goldfish
19. What best describes the relationship between invasive species and biodiversity?
- a. **Invasive species are the second greatest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss.**
 - b. Biodiversity is enhanced in some areas by invasive species.

- c. Invasive animals can help biodiversity by eating invasive plants.
- d. We are in a biodiversity crisis because invasive plants poison the soil (allelopathy).

20. How do invasive species impact agricultural crops?

- a. They burn down crops.
- b. They attract plant-eating insects to destroy crops.
- c. They turn the crops mouldy.
- d. **They take up space and resources needed by crops**

21. What could happen if a horse eats hoary alyssum?

- a. It will start running very fast.
- b. It will act aggressively towards people.
- c. **It will get sick and possibly die.**
- d. Nothing will happen. Hoary alyssum is an excellent snack for horses!