



## PASSAGE V

## Fixing Raptor Feathers

Raptors, or birds of prey, cannot afford to be grounded for weeks waiting for a large number of flight feathers to regrow. They must be able to fly if they are to hunt and eat. Raptors, including eagles and hawks, therefore normally shed their feathers slowly, one or two at a time.

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The premature loss of a flight feather to injury, then, is not an incidental matter to raptors, most of which are diurnal. If a feather breaks off with the stub of its hollow quill shaft still in place, the bird's body mistakenly believes the feather is whole. Only when the quill socket containing the stub is

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empty will a new feather grow. Quills are hollow, so the

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removal of a quill stub before it is ready to be naturally

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shed would be very painful to the animal. Bird

rehabilitators, therefore, treat broken raptor feathers

through imping—the implanting of a new feather into

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the quill stub.

61. The writer wants to describe the way raptors shed feathers. Which choice would be most consistent with the way the feather-shedding process has been described up to this point?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. in an all-at-once blizzard.
- C. often losing them in clumps.
- D. leaving them flightless for long periods of time.

62. F. NO CHANGE

- G. raptors.
- H. raptors, most of which are mainly active during the day—that is, diurnal.
- J. raptors, daytime-hunting creatures for the most part.

63. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?

- A. sound.
- B. complete.
- C. total.
- D. intact.

64. Given that all of the choices are true, which one most clearly provides a reason for the statement that follows in this sentence?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. fasten deeply,
- H. break occasionally,
- J. are very light,

65. A. NO CHANGE

- B. they are
- C. those are
- D. that is

66. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?

- F. *imping*, which is the
- G. *imping*: the
- H. *imping*. The
- J. *imping*, the



The bird rehabilitator begins by determining which feather has been damaged. On each wing, all flighted birds, having ten primary flight feathers, each one shaped

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slight different. If the left number seven feather is broken off, the rehabilitator selects a number seven feather from a collection kept exclusively for imping. If necessary, a number six or eight feather can be carefully trimmed with small scissors to the shape of a number seven feather. 69

The quill of this replacement feather is trimmed so that when the replacement feather is eventually attached to the quill stub still in the bird's body, the repaired feather will

be equal in length to the original, whole feather.

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Next, the rehabilitator whittles a bamboo chopstick to duplicate the curve and slant of the complete feather shaft. He or she then inserts the carved chopstick into the quill stub. After sliding the shaft of the replacement feather over the sturdy, light bamboo stick, glue—just a touch—is applied. The raptor now

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has a rebuilt, functional feather. Eventually, it will be

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67. A. NO CHANGE  
 B. birds, by having  
 C. birds, which have  
 D. birds have
68. F. NO CHANGE  
 G. slight differently.  
 H. slightly differently.  
 J. slightly more different.
69. The writer is considering revising the preceding sentence to read as follows:  
 If necessary, a number six or eight feather can be cut to the shape of a number seven feather.  
 If the writer did this, the sentence would primarily lose a sense of how:  
 A. limited rehabilitators' feather collections are.  
 B. delicate the work being described is.  
 C. different each of a bird's flight feathers is.  
 D. easy it is to replace a number seven feather.
70. F. NO CHANGE  
 G. be equally long  
 H. equal the length  
 J. equal in length
71. A. NO CHANGE  
 B. However,  
 C. Indeed,  
 D. Finally,
72. F. NO CHANGE  
 G. a touch of glue is applied by the rehabilitator.  
 H. the application of a touch of glue follows.  
 J. the rehabilitator applies a touch of glue.
73. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?  
 A. feather; eventually, it  
 B. feather, eventually, it  
 C. feather, which eventually  
 D. feather that eventually



shed, allowing a new, complete feather to grow in it's  
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place. 75

74. F. NO CHANGE

G. grow in its

H. have grow in its

J. have grow in it's

75. At this point, the writer is considering adding the following true statement:

This imping procedure is just one of the many responsibilities bird rehabilitators have.

Should the writer make this addition here?

A. Yes, because it reveals the relative importance of imping compared to the other work of bird rehabilitators.

B. Yes, because it reinforces the idea that imping is of great benefit to raptors.

C. No, because it goes beyond the scope of the essay, which focuses on how the feathers of certain types of birds are repaired.

D. No, because it undermines the essay's earlier claim that imping is the most important work that bird rehabilitators do.

**END OF TEST 1**

**STOP! DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO.**