

Answer Key to 2020 Ornithology Sample Tournament
by **Karen L. Lancour**

Be sure to use the names listed on the 2020 SO National Bird List.

Station A – Photo of Common Loon

1. Gaviiformes *Gaviidae*
2. Common Loon *Gavia immer*
3. loud yodels
4. sterilized breeding lakes + acid dissolves shell= decline in numbers

Station B – Photo of White Pelican

5. Pelecaniformes *Pelecanidae*
6. American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*
7. pesticides Note: laws banning pesticides have helped them come back
8. Feeds mostly on fish while swimming, snatching prey with large bill - *Unlike the Brown Pelican, this bird does not plunge dive for food*

Station C – Photo of Great Blue Heron

9. Pelecaniformes *Ardeidae*
10. Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*
11. in colonies
12. standing or wading on the edge of pond or marsh. It eats fish and frogs.

Station D – Photo of Canada Goose

13. Anseriformes *Anatidae*
14. Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*
15. V-shaped flight pattern
16. cities have goose dropping everywhere. Some cities are having hunts to reduce the population.

Station E – Photo of Wood Duck

17. Anseriformes *Anatidae*
18. Wood Duck *Aix sponsa*
19. snapping turtles
20. cavities of trees or nest boxes

Station F – Photo of Bald Eagle

21. Accipitriformes *Accipitridae*
22. Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
24. national bird in US
24. "fish vulture" it catches fish or sometimes steals fish from osprey.

Station G – Photo of Downy Woodpecker

25. Piciformes *Picidae*
26. Downy Woodpecker
27. it digs insects out of trees/ also visits suet feeders
28. it is often found in mixed flocks

Station H – Photo of American Crow

29. Passeriformes *Corvidae*
30. American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos*
31. it eats road kill and also eats insects that destroy crops
32. very intelligent bird – has been used for intelligence testing.

Station I – Photo of Ruby-throated Hummingbird

33. Caprimulgiformes *Trochilidae*
34. Ruby-throated Hummingbird
35. needle-like bill for sipping nectar
36. they are the only birds that can fly backwards and hover in one spot – it helps in feeding (Hummingbirds fly with extremely fast wing movements, they can remain suspended in one spot and are the only birds who can fly backwards. They do not walk – their legs are too weak. They help pollinate the flowers that supply the birds with nectar for food.)

Station J – Photo of Northern Cardinal

37. Passeriformes *Cardinalidae*
38. Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis*
39. This specie is non-migratory and set up a year round territory
40. seeds and insects during the breeding season

Station K – Photo of Ring-Necked Pheasant

41. Galliformes *Phasianidae*
42. Ring-necked Pheasant
43. prairies, farmland, bushy areas
44. for hunting, it is a game bird

Station L – Photo of Baltimore Oriole

45. Passeriformes *Icteridae*
46. Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*
47. Hummingbird feeders or orange nectar also orange slices
48. Baltimore Oriole baseball team

Station M – Photo of Herring Gull

- 49. Charadriiformes *Laridae*
- 50. Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*
- 51. "seagull"
- 52. a scavenger – it cleans up beaches and harbors, but it will make a mess of residential garbage

Station N – Photo of Great Horned Owl

- 53. Strigiformes *Strigidae*
- 54. Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus*
- 55. ear tufts
- 56. in the cold of winter – as early as late January

Station O – Photo of American Robin

- 57. Passeriformes *Turdidae*
- 58. American Robin *Turdus migratorius*
- 59. light blue – a special color is named "robin egg blue"
- 60. a worm

Station P – Photo of Cedar Waxwing

- 61. Passeriformes *Bombycillidae*
- 62. Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum*
- 63. eats berries (have been known to get intoxicated eating over-ripe berries)
- 64. very social – almost always in flocks

Station Q – Photo of Morning Dove

- 65. Columbiformes *Columbidae*
- 66. Mourning Dove *Zenaidura macroura*
- 67. long pointed tail with white tips on outer tail feathers
- 68. ground feeders and they eat almost exclusively seeds (99% of diet) – often under bird feeders

Station R – Photo of American Goldfinch

- 69. Passeriformes *Fringillidae*
- 70. American Goldfinch *Carduelis tristis*
- 71. man has made special thistle feeders for these birds
- 72. seeds

Station S – Photo of Greater Roadrunner

73. Cuculiformes *Cuculidae*

74. Greater Roadrunner

75. Two toes forward and two toes back – allows it to run very fast – its common name.

76. Insects, lizards, snakes, rodents and small birds

Station T – Photo of Purple Martin

77. Passeriformes *Hirundinidae*

78. Purple Martin

79. deep forked tails

80. it eats while flying – it consumes insects