Chicken Reproduction Questions Name (s):_____

Max of 3 people in a group*

1. What strategy have birds produced that is different from mammals that help them reproduce and build their numbers (no specific name, just describe it).

2. What is the difference between Precocial birds and Altricial birds? Give an example of each.

3. Where do avian's young develop?

4. The female reproductive system is separated into two parts. What are they?

5. In birds usually only one side is functional. Which side is it?

6. Why is only one side usually functional?

7. What is the ovary in a chicken?

8. What is an ova?

9. How many potential eggs could a chicken hatch?

10. When can the ova be counted in a chicken?
    a. When it is laid as an embryo
    b. When it hatches as a chick
    c. A week after it hatches and can be identified as a female
    d. When it reaches sexual maturity
11. Sometimes the color of the yolk is a dark yellow and sometimes a pale yellow. Why is that?

12. What is the definition of Ovulation?

13. Occasionally the vitelline membrane is damaged and pale spots or blotches develop on the yolk. What is that called?

14. When that happens does it change the nutritional value of the yolk?

15. How long after an egg is laid does the release of another ova occur?

16. How long is the oviduct? And what 5 major sections is it divided into?

17. How long is the infundibulum?

18. What is the nickname for the infundibulum? It both fits and doesn't fit well. Why does and doesn't that nickname fit well?

19. What else happens in the infundibulum?
20. How long is the magnum? And how long will the egg stay in this section?

21. What happens to the egg in the magnum?

22. How long is the isthmus? How long does the egg stay in this section?

23. What happens in the isthmus section?

24. How long is the shell gland or the uterus of the oviduct? How long will the egg remain in this section?

25. What happens in the shell gland section?

26. How much calcium does the hen give to the shell from her body?

27. The final part is the vagina. How long is that?

28. The vagina is one big muscle. What is its function?

29. Explain the sperm host glands and how long sperm can stay in the hen's reproductive system.

30. What is the total time it takes to lay an egg and when does ovulation usually occur?

31. Is it impossible for a double yolked egg to hatch? Explain.

32. Explain a yolkless egg. Can that hatch if it is fertilized?

33. Can an egg be laid with another egg inside? Do we know why this happens? Why or why not?

34. What is the difference between blood spots and meat spots?

35. What nutrients is the hen missing if she lays an egg with no shell, but just an outer membrane?

36. What usually happens to abnormally shaped eggs?

37. What was the most interesting fact about a hen's reproductive tract?

38. Write 5 facts about the male reproductive system.