

4-H Panhandle Poultry Project

Test Study Guide for Intermediates & Seniors

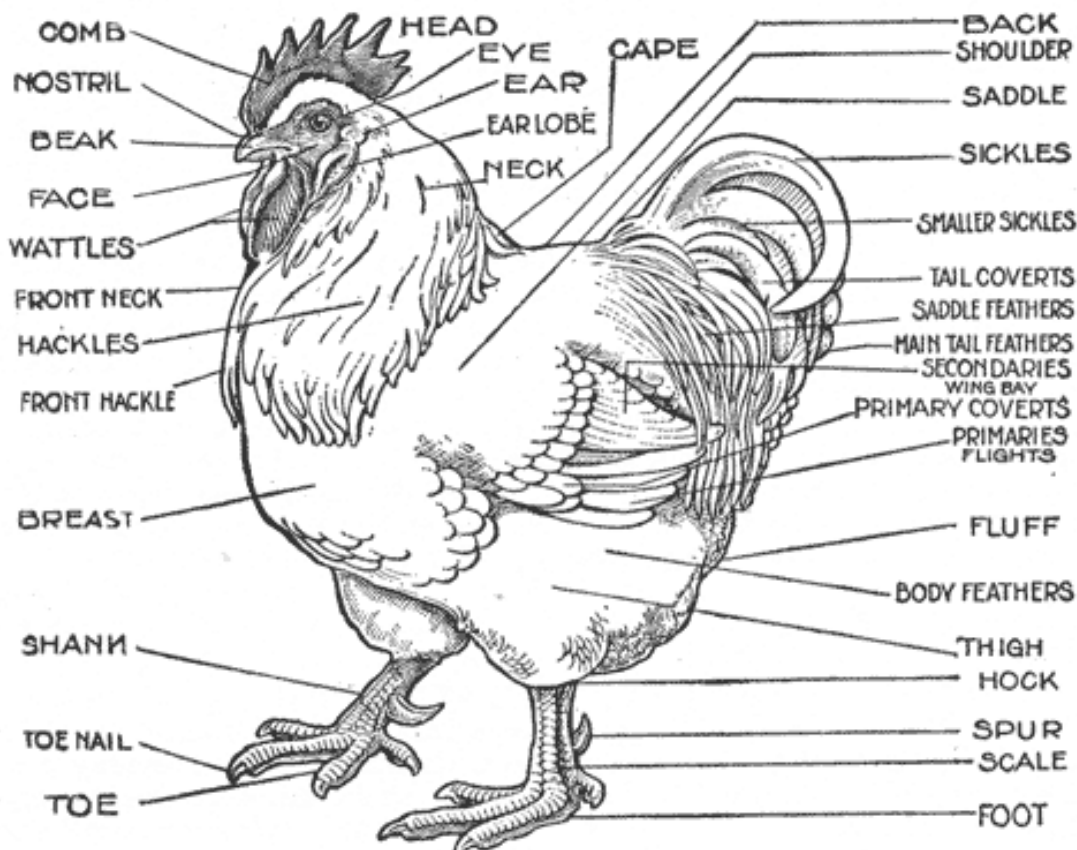
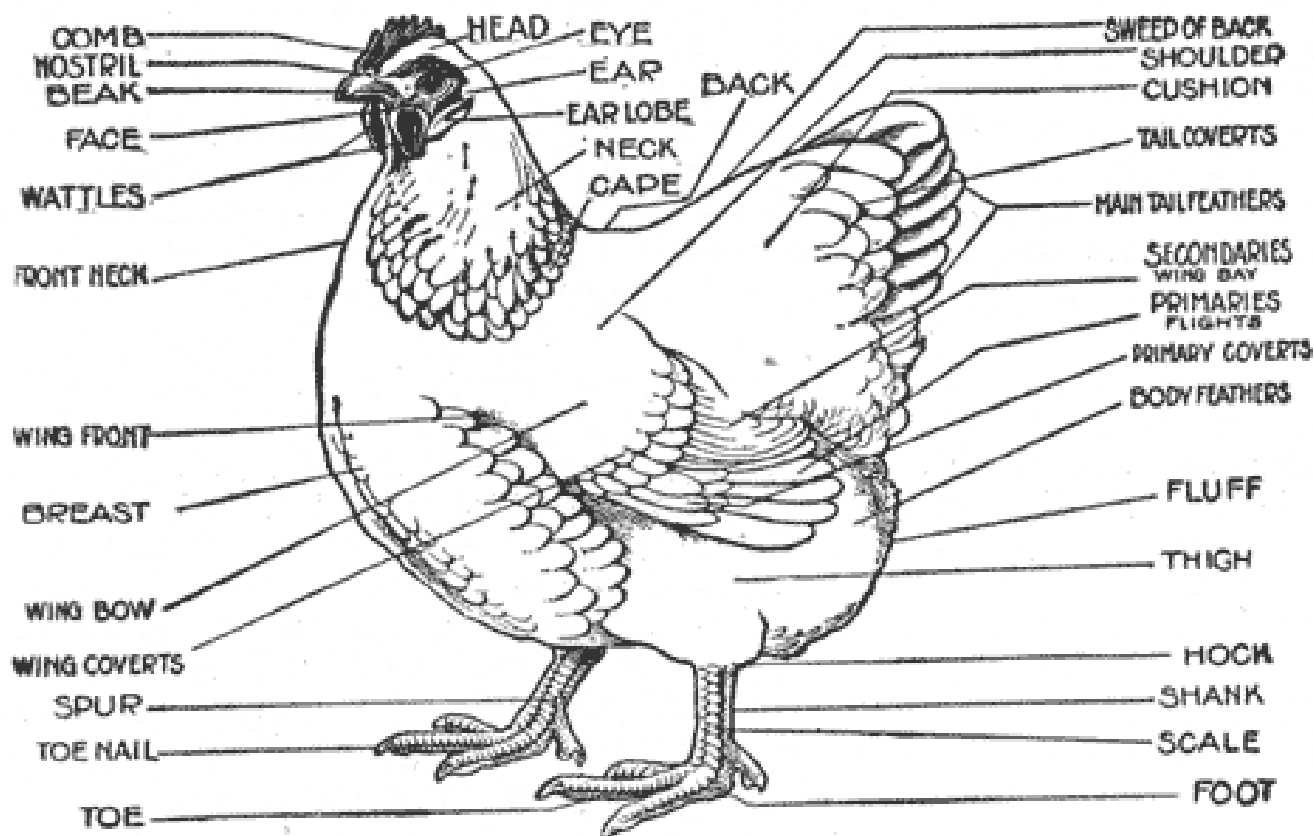
Use this guide to prepare for the 50-question test.

Section 1: Poultry Breeds

- Identify poultry breeds by their appearance and purpose:
meat, eggs, or dual-purpose.
Examples: Leghorn - egg production; Rhode Island Red – dual-purpose; Cornish – meat; Silkie – ornamental, black skin, extra toes; Plymouth Rock – dual-purpose
- Identify which breeds lay colored eggs
Examples: Ameraucana - blue eggs; Wyandotte – brown eggs
- Identify physical traits
Examples: Feather crest – Polish; Feathered legs and feet - Cochin
- Visually identify common breeds
Ameraucana, Australorp, Cochin, Cornish, Delaware, Leghorn, Orpington, Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, Silkie, Sussex, and Wyandotte.
- Identify the varieties (color patterns) of common breeds
Ameraucana, Australorp, Cochin, Cornish, Delaware, Leghorn, Orpington, Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, Silkie, Sussex, and Wyandotte.

Section 2: Poultry Anatomy

- Identify external parts of the chicken.
- Match the internal organ to its function
 - Crop – temporary food storage
 - Gizzard – grinds food
 - Cloaca – exit for waste and egg laying
- Describe how body parts help regulate temperature and digestion.



Section 3: General Poultry Knowledge

- Chickens are birds (not mammals).
- Most chickens have 4 toes.
- Chickens are omnivores – they eat plants and insects.
- Incubation for chicken eggs takes 21 days.
- Candling is used to check the development inside an egg.
- A pullet is a young female chicken under one year old.
- A cockerel is a young male chicken under one year old.

Section 4: Nutrition & Feeding

- Match the feed type to the chicken's age:
Starter – Chicks; Grower or Layer - Hens
- Calcium is essential for strong eggshells.
- Grit helps chickens grind food in the gizzard.
- Proper nutrition affects health, behavior, and egg quality.
- Fresh, clean water must always be available.
- Yolk color is influenced by the diet of the hen.

Section 5: Management, Biosecurity & Health

- Biosecurity means protecting your flock from disease.
- Quarantine new birds before adding them to your flock.
- Clean tools, use footbaths, and avoid contact with wild birds.
- NPIP: National Poultry Improvement Plan – a voluntary program that seeks to improve poultry and poultry products.
- Chickens need good ventilation to prevent respiratory issues.
- Watch for signs of illness: ruffled feathers, lethargy, discharge.
- Secure your coop from predators like raccoons, hawks, and foxes.