

Fact

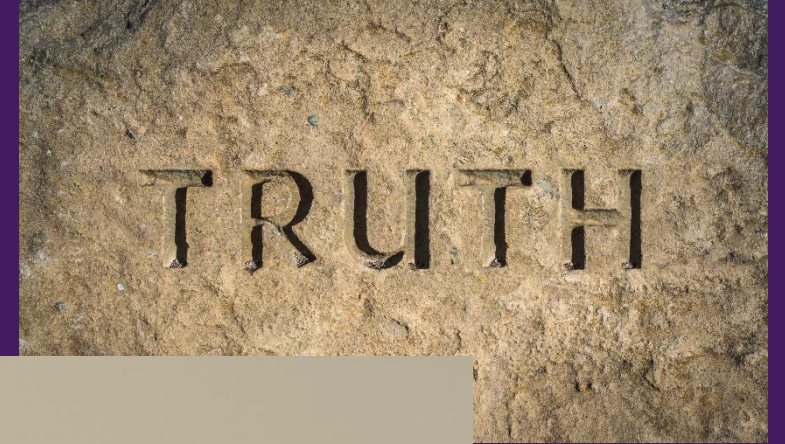
Common Misconceptions and Opinions



Share an interesting fact about yourself with the class.

Today, you will....

- Discuss the difference between facts and opinions
- Learn some interesting new facts and common misconceptions
- Learn how to form compound phrases and sentences



Warm-up

Discuss the statements below, are they fact, opinion or fiction? (You may need to look up the answers for some of them.)

1. North Korea and Cuba are the only places you cannot buy Coca-Cola.
2. Michael Jackson was the greatest musician that ever lived.
3. On Saturn and Jupiter, it often rains diamonds.
4. Scientists believe that killer whales are more emotional than humans.
5. The Queen of England is actually a lizard person.
6. If you wish upon a star, your dreams will come true.





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Speaking-LET'S CHAT..

Practice the dialogue with a partner.



Julia: Did you know that you can see the Great Wall of China from outer space?

Julia: So you're saying that's a lie? Why do so many people believe that it's true?

Julia: What? **My mind has been blown!** Next you will tell me that the dinosaurs were killed by aliens!

Discuss the words and phrases in bold.

Rachel: Actually, that is a **common misconception**. Nothing man-made has ever been reported as being seen from space by any camera or Astronaut.

Rachel: It's not a lie, it's just **fiction**. Enough people have **perpetuated** the idea that it has become a part of our society or a **myth**. It's the same as people thinking that bulls don't like the colour red. The truth is, they're angry during bull fights because they've been **provoked** before the fight.

Rachel: Well, they weren't killed by aliens, but there are many **theories** and **opinions** as to how they died, one of the most recent being that a giant volcano in India erupted and changed the climate of the planet. Most of the dinosaurs also didn't die straight away, they starved to death, but this is still up for **debate**!



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Reading : Common misconceptions

In pairs, read the statements and discuss whether they are common misconceptions or facts. **If you are correct your team gets a point!** Your teacher will reveal the answers one by one.

1. Cats domesticated themselves during the Ancient Egyptian period.

This is a FACT! Cat's domesticated themselves thousands of years ago, although research suggests that they took as long as 10,000 years to do this and just lived alongside humans during that time.

2. Human blood in the body is actually blue.

This is a COMMON MISCONCEPTION! People believe that our blood is blue before it comes out of our body because we can see blue veins no our skin, but it is actually deep or cherry red when it is inside the body.

3. Mount Everest is the tallest mountain on earth.

This is a COMMON MISCONCEPTION. Mount Everest has the highest peak on earth, but it's base is higher above sea level than most mountains. Technically, Mauna Kea in Hawaii is the tallest mountain in the world.

4. In 2020, we take more pictures in two minutes than were taken in the 19th century.

This is a FACT! Before the year 2000 we didn't carry around cameras in our pockets, now that almost everyone has access to a camera we are taking more pictures than ever!



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Listening: Fact or Fiction?



Play Audio File: Facts1.mp3

Listen to the woman speak and answer the questions.

1. What did she say was a common misconception?
2. What did she say was a lie?
3. What did she say was a fact?
4. What is her opinion?



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Let's play a game!

Would I lie to you?

Every person in the class writes an interesting fact about themselves on a piece of paper. Give your paper back to the teacher and they will hand them back out to the class. Read out the statement on your piece of paper and then as a class discuss to decide who the fact is about.

The person whose fact it is can lie to make the others think it isn't about them.

Everyone who guesses right will get a point for their time, and if nobody guesses correctly then the person who the fact was about gets a point.



Let's check grammar!

Compound phrases

Take the punctuation out of the sentences and change them into compound sentences (sentences that flow better, are easier to read and say).

1. I like pasta. Giuliano likes fish.
I like pasta, and Giuliano likes fish.
2. My brother is a great footballer. I cannot play at all.
3. I love to cook. I love to eat.
4. My Dad went to the party. I came home. My Mam came home.
5. The boy had blonde hair. He had blue eyes.
6. She loves reading. She thinks it's very relaxing.



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Speaking: 2 Truths, 1 Lie

Work with a partner. **ROLEPLAY:** Each write down two truths about yourself and one lie. You must then ask each other questions to guess which one is the lie. Either of you can answer the questions honestly or truthfully if you like.

Example; *I have a brother*
I am from the UK
I was born in France

Do you speak
French?

Oui, je parle
Francais!





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Reading and Writing

Read the statement below and answer the questions.

Have you heard the phrase “an Elephant never forgets”? Well, to say this is an understatement. Elephants have one of the best memories in all of the animal kingdom. Studies have shown that Elephants remember migration routes that they have taken for years and this information is passed down through generations. Studies also suggest that they recognize each others scent and appearance. Two elephants reunited after 20 years immediately embraced and shared a jovial attitude after seeing each other for the first time. It is also believed that Elephants mourn, after scientists discovered strange behaviours that Elephants exhibit after the death of a relative. Elephants will stand by the remains of their dead for hours and although they may not comprehend death in the same way as humans do, they exhibit very similar behaviours towards it.

What are the facts?

What are the opinions?

Writing: Rewrite

Rewrite the paragraph with compound phrases.

Sharks are known as apex predators.

They attack their prey with great speed and precision. Sharks don't tend to attack people. It is a common misconception that they attack people because they think they are seals. Sharks attack seals in a very different way. They attack seals by moving quickly. They attack from a place that they cannot see.

They attack humans at a much slower pace. They only bite people because they are curious as to what they are. The bite is not usually fatal.

Sharks are known as apex
predators who attack their prey
with great speed and precision...

Now I can...

- Discuss the difference between facts and opinions
- Use some interesting new facts and common misconceptions
- Form compound phrases and sentences



Thank you and see you next time!