

True or False?

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.

— Albert Einstein

1. You shouldn't throw rice at weddings because birds will explode if they eat it.
2. The elephant is the only mammal that cannot jump.
3. If you squirt a saltwater solution into the coin slot of a soda machine it will give you free soda.
4. Artificial sweeteners like Equal contain Aspartame, a known cancer-causing chemical.
5. The average person only uses 10% of their brain.
6. Gasoline prices are more expensive in the United States than in most other countries.
7. Interstate highways are designed to be used as emergency runways in time of war.
8. Very few people lived in North America before Christopher Columbus arrived.
9. You should always buy the same brand of gas for your car—it's better for the engine.
10. Taste buds diminish with age.
11. Life Savers candies have that name because if you choke on them you can still breathe through the hole.
12. Shampoo contains a chemical called sodium laurel sulfate that is very dangerous to humans.
13. Elephants are afraid of mice.
14. Products sold with a money back guarantee are always high quality products that work as advertised.
15. You can't be drafted by the military if you move to Canada, if you're an only child or if you are in college.
16. Hair grows back darker and thicker after it's been shaved the first time.
17. It is dangerous to go swimming within an hour after eating.
18. Radar and laser "jamming" devices can keep you from getting a speeding ticket.
19. It is dangerous to stare into a microwave oven while it is cooking food.
20. Christopher Columbus landed on mainland North America on the coast of what is now the United States.
21. HIV is only transmitted between homosexual people.
22. If your college roommate dies your college will give you straight As for the semester.
23. Thomas Crapper invented the flush toilet.
24. If you feed alka seltzer to a bird they will blow up.
25. Alligators live in the sewers of New York City.
26. The Titanic was the first ship to use the "SOS" (Save Our Ship) Morse Code distress signal.
27. You should always drink 8 glasses of water each day.
28. If you drink only a few drops of Visene you'll get diarrhea.
29. A penny dropped off the Empire State Building will kill a person.
30. If you put a banana in a car's tailpipe it will destroy the engine when started.
31. Participating in a one day "gas out" where you don't buy gas on a certain day will bring the price of gas down.
32. Gravity does not affect the motion of astronauts in space.
33. Aluminum is a really flimsy metal that isn't suitable for cars – more people would be killed that way.
34. Prostitutes always ask "are you a cop?" because cops have to answer truthfully and the prostitute can't be arrested if the cop lies to her.
35. There are particular parts of your tongue that can only taste certain flavors like sweet, salty, bitter, etc.
36. If an object accelerates it has to be moving.
37. German Chocolate Cake was invented in Germany.
38. Nostradamus successfully predicted the 9/11/2001 attacks.
39. PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) never euthanasia (kills) stray dogs and cats.
40. Ice cannot be colder than 0°C (32°F).
41. Water always freezes at 0°C (32°F) and boils at 100°C (212°F).
42. Organic foods are not allowed to be sprayed with dangerous chemicals in the U.S.
43. The Bible says that three wise men traveled from afar to visit the infant Jesus in the manger.
44. The Peter, Paul & Mary song "Puff the Magic Dragon" refers to smoking marijuana.
45. A tooth left in Coca-Cola overnight will dissolve.
46. Most oil comes from fossilized dinosaurs.
47. Men are better drivers than women.
48. Vans that hold 11 to 15 passengers are good for schools who need to transport a few students to a sporting event.
49. Lemmings often fall off cliffs into the sea to commit suicide.

50. If a car falls off a cliff and hits the rocks below it will most likely explode.
51. Putting larger wheels and tires on a truck increases its performance in many ways.
52. Although people have died at Disneyworld, no one is allowed to be declared dead there – they take the body out of the park to do that.
53. Copper bracelets and magnetic insoles help reduce pain.
54. If you eat pop rocks and drink a can of soda at the same time your stomach will explode.
55. M-16 rifles used by soldiers during the Vietnam War were made by the toy company Mattel.
56. The term “immaculate conception” refers to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary.
57. Casinos pump pure oxygen into their gaming areas so people stay and spend more money.
58. John Hancock signed his name to the Declaration of Independence so it was much larger than the other delegates’ signatures. He did so in defiance of King George and English rule.
59. In March 2005 a woman eating at a Wendy’s found a human finger in her chili.
60. Microwaving food in plastic containers releases cancer-causing chemicals into the food.
61. Magnetic bracelets improve circulation because it attracts the iron in your blood.
62. Military rifle bullets tumble through the air to maximize damage done to enemy soldiers.
63. Glass is actually a liquid that flows very slowly – that’s why old windows are wavy.
64. The best kinds of bike locks have always been Kryptonite brand U-Locks.
65. Jell-O contains no animal product.
66. Adding mothballs to the gas tank of a car will increase the car’s power.
67. Porcupines can shoot quills at attackers.
68. You automatically get a bunch of points on the SAT for spelling your name correctly. If you spell it incorrectly then you don’t get the points.
69. French Fries are the only kind of fast food invented in France.
70. Ouija boards work.
71. The sky is blue because light reflects off lakes, rivers and the oceans.
72. You can’t get sunburn in the winter.
73. Opossums can hang from their tails in trees.
74. It is always dangerous to put metal into a microwave oven.
75. Be careful not to get drunk at a college party because if you pass out someone might remove your liver to transplant in another person and you’ll wake up in a bathtub full of ice. There is a black market on human organs these days (a liver is worth \$20000) and college students make excellent targets.
76. The Internet and the World Wide Web is the same thing.
77. The World Wide Web was invented mostly for e-mail and so people can buy things online.
78. A duck’s quack doesn’t echo.
79. Buttered toast usually lands with the butter side down if it falls to the floor.
80. AA, C and D cells have a different voltage.
81. The phone number 911 was invented after the 9/11/2001 attacks on the World Trade Center.
82. If you add a bottle of acetone (nail polish remover) to a tank of gas you will get better gas mileage.
83. Federal income tax returns must always be filed by April 15th.
84. Coca-Cola’s formula is so secret that only two people know it and they each only know half the formula!
85. Heat lightning is when lightning jumps from one cloud to another but doesn’t hit the ground.
86. The Chevy Nova (a car in the 1970s) sold poorly in Spanish speaking countries since “no va” means “doesn’t go.”
87. In order to avoid cavities you should eat crackers and potato chips instead of chocolate and other candy.
88. Hot water actually freezes faster than cold water.
89. Some brands of gasoline are better than others. Usually the “name brands” like Sunoco are better.
90. The war in Iraq was started because that’s where the 9/11 hijackers were from.
91. Toilets and sinks drain clockwise in the northern hemisphere and counterclockwise in the southern hemisphere.
92. You will get sucked out of an airplane if a hole is shot in the fuselage.
93. Red cars get pulled over for speeding more often than any other color because the red color makes the radar gun read a higher speed than it should.
94. A person will fly backward when shot in the chest with a bullet.
95. Kids should never play in discarded refrigerators – if they get caught inside there is no way to push the door open.
96. Most money that is used by schools comes right out of your paycheck in the taxes.
97. Most people that make products for the U.S. in China have the country’s most horrible jobs that pay the least.
98. Cars can’t be struck by lightning because they have rubber tires that insulate them from the ground.

99. The shape of an airplane's wing provides the primary source of lift for an airplane.
100. Sheetz puts water in their gasoline to make more profit.
101. Some examples of American automobiles include the Dodge HEMI Ram pickup truck, Chrysler PT Cruiser and Chrysler 300c.
102. Red, blue, and yellow are the primary colors.
103. Hundreds of witches were hung, stoned and otherwise tortured during the Salem witch trials.
104. The Earth is closest to the sun in the summer. That's why it's so hot then.
105. Eggs will stand on their ends only on the vernal equinox.
106. If you put sugar in a car's gas tank it will destroy the car's engine.
107. Most Toyota, Nissan and Honda automobiles have to be shipped to the United States from Japan on huge ships.
108. Don't move if you're stuck in quicksand or you'll be sucked under.
109. Sitting too close to the television will damage your vision.
110. Old covered bridges are covered so that snow won't get on the bridge deck.
111. Most of the energy stored in gasoline goes to make the car move.
112. A potato will bake fastest when the shiny side of the aluminum foil is "in."
113. The new millennium started on January 1, 2000.
114. Your hair and nails continue to grow after you die.
115. Daddy longleg spiders are the most poisonous of all spiders—their fangs just can't penetrate thick human skin.
116. If you put pennies in your mouth during an alcohol breathalyzer test it will show that you're not drunk.
117. A tractor-trailer that is going around a curve is more likely to slide off the road when full than when empty.
118. Heat rises.
119. There is no gravity in outer space.
120. Osama bin Laden first bombed the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001.
121. You can beat police radar and laser speed detectors with special plastic covers for your license plate.
122. Precision and accuracy mean the same thing.
123. You can get out of a speeding ticket if you go to court and say the cop lied, if there is a mistake on your ticket, if you have a police sticker on your license plate or if you cancel your traffic court hearing date.
124. A kicked football will travel the furthest distance when kicked at a 30° angle above the horizontal.
125. A gallon of gasoline weighs about the same as a gallon of H₂O.
126. If you are out in the woods and you hear a gunshot you should duck to avoid being shot.
127. Sailboats move the fastest when they are traveling in the exact same direction as the wind.
128. All liquids expand when they freeze.
129. You can't get sunburn on a cloudy day.
130. Melanoma is not as bad as skin cancer.
131. Carbon Dioxide causes ozone depletion.
132. CFCs are the main cause of the greenhouse effect.
133. Most of the money you spend on electricity for a stereo is for when it is on.
134. A compass points to the North Pole.
135. The smallest particles are the electron, proton and neutron.
136. You would receive a higher dose of radiation from living near a nuclear power plant than by living near a coal power plant.
137. The first controlled nuclear reaction took place in a specially built laboratory building.
138. If a car could travel at the speed of light then its headlights would be useless.
139. The peak of Mount Everest is the farthest point from the center of the Earth.
140. It is better to hit a brick wall at 50 mph with a car than hitting an identical car head on at 50 mph.
141. If you are in an elevator when the cable breaks you should jump when the elevator is about to hit the bottom of the elevator shaft so that you won't be injured.
142. Animal parents will reject animal babies that have been touched by humans.
143. Bulls hate the color red.
144. Columbus proved the world was round.
145. Darwin claimed that man evolved from apes.
146. Thomas Edison invented the light bulb.
147. James Watt invented the steam engine.
148. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

149. Henry Ford invented the car and the concepts of the production line and interchangeable parts.
150. Einstein was a poor student.
151. A leg or arm "falls asleep" because blood flow is interrupted.
152. Mice like cheese.
153. Moths like to eat wool clothes.
154. Carbohydrates and fat are made up of chemicals called calories.
155. Muscle turns to fat as you age and stop exercising.
156. Steam is the cloudy mist that comes off boiling water.
157. Water boils faster when you add salt.
158. A cold left to get worse will turn into pneumonia.
159. Osama bin Laden is not very well educated and has never actually been seen by an American.
160. More people voted for George W. Bush than Al Gore in the 2000 election.
161. You can catch a cold if you go outside without a jacket in the winter.
162. Cell phones cause brain tumors.
163. Living near power lines makes you more likely to get cancer.
164. Walking on hot coals and lying on a bed of nails requires special training.
165. The scientific method is a definite series of steps that scientists use to make discoveries.
166. Ice skates work by melting a very thin layer of ice under the blade.
167. The most common deaths at the Grand Canyon occur when children fall over the edge into the canyon.
168. Benjamin Franklin discovered electricity by flying a kite that was struck by lightning.
169. Flying in an airplane is very dangerous – lots of people die in plane crashes.
170. Clouds, fog, and mist are forms of water vapor.
171. Raindrops are teardrop-shaped.
172. You can weigh air by filling up a balloon and putting it on a balance.
173. There are seven colors in the rainbow.
174. The sun is always directly south at 12:00 noon.
175. The sun is always directly overhead at 12:00 noon.
176. The moon can only be seen during the night.
177. The phases of the moon are caused when it moves into earth's shadow.
178. The solar system is very crowded.
179. The earth is flat.
180. The earth is a sphere.
181. Acids are always dangerous.
182. The typical television uses no power when it is off.
183. The North Star is the brightest star in the northern sky.
184. School buses are very dangerous vehicles to ride in because there aren't any seatbelts.
185. When things dissolve they disappear.
186. Metals are always cold and nonmetals are always warm.
187. Helium balloons float because they are lighter than air.
188. Acid rain is caused by the pollution of factories and cars.
189. You can get the flu by getting a flu shot.
190. When the wind blows it makes cold air even colder. This is called wind chill.
191. Thermometers don't work well on hot days so we add a few degrees to get the "heat index."
192. Centrifugal force is the force that you feel when you go around a corner in a car.
193. All radiation causes cancer.
194. Air has no weight – that's why it doesn't all fall to the floor.
195. The brightness of a star depends on how far it is from the earth.
196. The constellations form patterns that resemble people, animals, and other objects.
197. All rivers run from north to south and end up closer to the center of the earth.
198. Winter weather can be predicted by studying the fur of certain caterpillars.
199. The terms "energy" and "force" are interchangeable.
200. Friction always hinders motion. It is best to get rid of all friction to make things work better.
201. Acceleration means an object is speeding up.
202. You should always put two spaces after a period when typing.
203. Objects float because they are lighter than water.

204. Mirrors are made of a special kind of glass that reflects light.
205. All radioactivity is manmade and is dangerous.
206. The twelve signs of the zodiac are the twelve constellations.
207. The big dipper is a constellation.
208. The sky is blue because that is what color air is.
209. The earth is larger than the sun.
210. Greenland is larger than Mexico.
211. Phases of the moon are caused by shadows from the earth.
212. Different countries see different phases of the moon on the same day.
213. Leap years occur every four years.
214. We are in a period of global warming caused solely by industrialization and lots of cars.
215. Salt is spread on the roads in the winter to melt snow and ice by heating it up.
216. If you buy a “vortex generator” for the air intake of your car then you’ll get better mileage.
217. The Great Wall of China is the only manmade object visible from space.
218. Dinosaurs and cavemen lived at the same time.
219. Clouds don’t really move; the earth rotates under them.
220. Most organisms live on land or within a few hundred feet under water.
221. A 400°F oven is twice as hot as a 200°F oven.
222. The power of a computer is measured in megahertz or gigahertz.
223. Technology is anything that has to do with computers.
224. Smokers don’t die earlier than nonsmokers; they just die from different things.
225. A 3 GHz Pentium IV can do more calculations per second than a 2.5 GHz G5 processor.
226. The Palm Pilot was the first PDA.
227. IBM made the first PC that had a mouse and a graphical user interface (Windows).
228. Body kits and spoilers for cars make them go faster.
229. It requires more energy for a fluorescent light bulb to turn on than it uses in 10 seconds.
230. You should always warm your car up for a few minutes in the winter before driving anywhere.
231. Lots of other countries don’t use the metric system – they still use pounds and feet.
232. Loud cars are always faster than quiet cars.
233. It is hard to get into college but once you get in it’s not too hard.
234. Most people who go to college graduate from college.
235. College athletes don’t graduate too often – their non-athletic classmates do better in school.
236. Pluto is the farthest planet from the sun all the time.
237. Most of the energy a regular light bulb uses goes to making light.
238. Laser pointers will make a person go blind if they get shined in the eye with it.
239. You can take iron out of drinking water by putting magnets on your water pipes.
240. Williamsport used to be colder and received more snow in the winter when your parents were young.
241. The human brain has gotten much larger since our ancestor species started walking on two feet.
242. A very healthy person has no cholesterol in their body.
243. If a person completely cuts all fat and meat from their diet they won’t get any fatter.
244. The United States is thousands of miles from Russia.
245. Name brand prescription drugs usually work better than generic alternative drugs.
246. Penn State University is one of Pennsylvania’s public, state owned universities.
247. Inflammable means that something won’t burn.
248. Replacing a car’s metal hood with a carbon fiber hood will dramatically increase the car’s performance.
249. Water is blue.
250. The average professional athlete makes significantly more money than the average teacher.
251. Electrical energy demand has risen dramatically in the last decade because computers use so much energy.
252. Hawaii is the westernmost state, Texas is the southernmost state, and Maine is the easternmost state.
253. SUVs and pickup trucks are safer vehicles than cars.
254. Native Americans never saw a feast so great as the one the Pilgrims cooked them at the first Thanksgiving.
255. Seat belts aren’t very useful when you’re just driving around town – they’re only important on the highway.
256. Reading in dim light can cause your vision to go bad.
257. If you put magnets around the fuel line in your car you will get better gas mileage.
258. Jesus was born on December 25, year 1 AD

259. Gasoline is more expensive now than ever.
260. Bicycles should only be ridden in driveways and on sidewalks because too many people are killed when they're riding in the road.
261. If you run the length of a football field in the rain you won't get as wet as if you just walk.
262. Scientists know what color each species of dinosaur probably was.
263. Motorcycle helmets don't help prevent injury and death – that's why you don't have to wear them in PA anymore.
264. Pop top tabs on soda cans are used to support kidney dialysis treatment for people who can't afford it.
265. The "Hemi" engine available in Chrysler vehicles is the only "Hemi" engine available today.
266. Laser printers will get cheaper when the cost for the lasers goes down
267. Using a cell phone while pumping gas is very dangerous.
268. We would save a lot of gas if people just drove instead of flying when they go on vacation.
269. Pickup trucks get better gas mileage with their tailgates down.

How about these?

- How many days are there between January 1, 2000 and January 1, 3000?
- If a car could travel at the speed of light and turns its lights on then will it help the driver see the road ahead any better?
- All four sides of your house face south. You look outside and see a bear. What color is the bear? What kind of house do you live in? Is the sun shining?
- Would you weigh more on Mount Everest or in Williamsport?
- Would you weigh more in a mine 1 mile below sea level or in Williamsport?
- What weighs more... a pound of bricks or a pound of feathers?
- Which has more mass... a pound of bricks or a pound of feathers?
- Which direction does a compass point at the North Pole?

How many people died as a result of the first wartime nuclear bomb detonation at Hiroshima, Japan?

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| A. 205 | B. 2050 |
| C. 20,500 | D. 205,000 |

This company supplied Theodore Roosevelt's trips to Africa and the Amazon and Robert Peary's expedition to the North Pole. Ernest Hemingway bought his guns there (and committed suicide with one of them). Presidents Hoover and Eisenhower relied on them for the best fishing equipment. Other famous clients included Amelia Earhart, Presidents Taft, Harding and Kennedy, Bing Crosby, Howard Hughes, and Clark Gable. Katherine Hepburn bought many evening gowns and Cole Porter ordered his tuxedos from them. They went bankrupt in 1977 and later sold mediocre quality items at huge profit margins in the 1990s.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| A. American Eagle Outfitters | B. Abercrombie & Fitch |
| C. Gander Mountain | D. L.L. Bean |
| E. American Outfitters | F. Hot Topic |

The Pony Express was designed to carry mail from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California in just 10 days. It cost \$96.22 in today's money to send one ounce of mail. Riders would carry 20 lbs of mail 100 miles at a time, exchanging horses every 10 miles. How much money (in today's dollars) did investors spend to get the Pony Express operating and how long did the service last?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| A. \$219,000, 52 years | B. \$872,000, 38 years |
| C. \$1.84 Million, 14 years | D. \$13.5 Billion, 18 months |

How many people died in motor vehicle crashes between 2002 and 2004 in the U.S.?

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| A. 600 | B. 7200 |
| C. 13800 | D. 127,700 |

How many people died in commercial plane crashes in between 2002 and 2004 in the U.S.?

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| A. 0 | B. 38 |
| C. 197 | D. 489 |