

# APRIL FOOLS' DAY

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

April Fools' Day is on the first of April every year. It is a day when people can play tricks, practical jokes and hoaxes on each other. No one really knows the exact origin of this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some countries, you have until noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday, you are the April Fool. In other countries, April Fools' Day lasts the whole day. On this day, you never know what or who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their readers and viewers. Sometimes people actually think the real news is an April Fools' joke.

Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes are quite amazing. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a documentary of people in Switzerland cutting spaghetti from spaghetti trees. Lots of people contacted the BBC asking how they could grow their own spaghetti trees! Another good one was the "left-handed burger" advertised by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the juice would drip out of the right hand side of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King staff for the traditional right-handed burger. Other classic jokes include the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-o-vision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to apply to be astronauts to live on the website's new base on Mars. If you believe that, you'll believe anything!

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. people can play tricks, practical    | a. play your jokes     |
| 2. No one really knows the exact origin | b. after midday        |
| 3. you have until noon to               | c. jokes and hoaxes    |
| 4. play a trick on someone              | d. readers and viewers |
| 5. you never know what or               | e. of this day         |
| 6. play April Fools' jokes on their     | f. who to believe      |

### Paragraph 2

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. the most famous April Fools' jokes    | a. of people in Switzerland |
| 2. The BBC showed a documentary          | b. "Smell-o-vision"         |
| 3. Another good one was the              | c. you'll believe anything  |
| 4. the juice would drip out of the right | d. "left-handed burger"     |
| 5. BBC's 1965 news of                    | e. are quite amazing        |
| 6. If you believe that,                  | f. hand side of the burger  |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

April Fools' Day \_\_\_\_\_ April every year. It is a day when people can play tricks, practical jokes and hoaxes on each other. No one really knows \_\_\_\_\_ this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is the day upon which we are reminded of \_\_\_\_\_ other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some countries, you have until noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday, you are the April Fool. In other countries, April Fools' Day \_\_\_\_\_. On this day, you never know what or who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their readers and viewers. Sometimes people actually \_\_\_\_\_ an April Fools' joke.

Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes \_\_\_\_\_. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a documentary of people in Switzerland cutting spaghetti from spaghetti trees. Lots of people contacted the BBC \_\_\_\_\_ grow their own spaghetti trees! Another \_\_\_\_\_ "left-handed burger" advertised by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the right hand side of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King staff for the traditional right-handed burger. Other \_\_\_\_\_ the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-o-vision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to apply to be astronauts to live on the website's new base on Mars. If you believe that, \_\_\_\_\_!

**WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL****Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

April Fools' Day is on the \_\_\_\_\_ of April every year. It is a day when people can play tricks, practical jokes and hoaxes on \_\_\_\_\_ other. No one really knows the \_\_\_\_\_ origin of this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some countries, you have \_\_\_\_\_ noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday, you are the April Fool. In other countries, April Fools' Day \_\_\_\_\_ the whole day. On this day, you never know \_\_\_\_\_ or who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their \_\_\_\_\_ and viewers. Sometimes people actually think the \_\_\_\_\_ news is an April Fools' joke.

*until*  
*each*  
*real*  
*readers*  
*first*  
*lasts*  
*exact*  
*what*

Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes are \_\_\_\_\_ amazing. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a documentary of people in Switzerland \_\_\_\_\_ spaghetti from spaghetti trees. Lots of people contacted the BBC asking how they could \_\_\_\_\_ their own spaghetti trees! Another \_\_\_\_\_ one was the "left-handed burger" advertised by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the \_\_\_\_\_ would drip out of the right hand side of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King staff for the traditional right-handed burger. Other \_\_\_\_\_ jokes include the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-o-vision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to \_\_\_\_\_ to be astronauts to live on the website's new base on Mars. If you believe that, you'll believe \_\_\_\_\_!

*juice*  
*cutting*  
*apply*  
*quite*  
*good*  
*anything*  
*grow*  
*classic*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

April Fools' Day is on the first of April every year. It is a day when people can play *tricky / tricks*, practical jokes and hoaxes on *each / one* other. No one really knows the exact *origin / original* of this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is the day upon which we are *reminds / reminded* of what we are on the other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some countries, you have *until / by* noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday, you are the *April Fool / Foolish*. In other countries, April Fools' Day lasts the whole day. On this day, you never *know / knowing* what or who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their readers and *viewing / viewers*. Sometimes people actually think the real news is an April Fools' joke.

Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes are quite *amazed / amazing*. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a documentary of people in Switzerland *cutting / cut* spaghetti from spaghetti trees. *Lots of / Loads* people contacted the BBC asking how they could grow their own spaghetti trees! Another good *won / one* was the "left-handed burger" advertised by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the *juicy / juice* would drip out of the right hand side of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King *staff / stuff* for the traditional right-handed burger. Other classic *jokes / joking* include the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-o-vision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to *apply / application* to be astronauts to live on the website's new base on Mars. If you believe that, you'll believe anything!

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

April Fools' Day is on the first of April every year. It is a day when people can play tricks, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ jokes and hoaxes on each other. No one really knows the exact (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some countries, you have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday, you are the April Fool. In other countries, April Fools' Day (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the whole day. On this day, you never know (5) \_\_\_\_\_ or who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their readers and viewers. Sometimes people actually (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the real news is an April Fools' joke.

Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes are quite (7) \_\_\_\_\_. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a documentary of people in Switzerland cutting spaghetti from spaghetti trees. Lots of people (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the BBC asking how they could grow their own spaghetti trees! Another good one was the "left-handed burger" advertised by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ would drip out of the right hand side of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King staff for the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ right-handed burger. Other classic jokes include the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-ovision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to be astronauts to live on the website's new (12) \_\_\_\_\_ on Mars. If you believe that, you'll believe anything!

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |                |               |                 |                  |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1.  | (a) practice   | (b) practices | (c) practical   | (d) practicality |
| 2.  | (a) original   | (b) origin    | (c) originality | (d) originals    |
| 3.  | (a) by         | (b) since     | (c) up          | (d) until        |
| 4.  | (a) lasts      | (b) last      | (c) lastly      | (d) lasted       |
| 5.  | (a) what       | (b) where     | (c) whoever     | (d) that         |
| 6.  | (a) thinks     | (b) think     | (c) thinking    | (d) thinker      |
| 7.  | (a) amazed     | (b) amazement | (c) amazing     | (d) amazes       |
| 8.  | (a) contracted | (b) compacted | (c) connected   | (d) contacted    |
| 9.  | (a) juicy      | (b) juicer    | (c) juiced      | (d) juice        |
| 10. | (a) traditions | (b) tradition | (c) traditional | (d) tradit.      |
| 11. | (a) applies    | (b) apply     | (c) applicable  | (d) applied      |
| 12. | (a) base       | (b) based     | (c) basing      | (d) baseline     |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. accpatilr jokes
2. the exact irngio of this day
3. after yddiam
4. altss the whole day
5. who to eielvbe
6. readers and virewse

### Paragraph 2

7. geiut amazing
8. people catdetocn the BBC
9. all of the ecuij would drip out
10. saliccs jokes
11. invitation for people to paply to be astronauts
12. you'll believe gaitnyhn

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) and viewers. Sometimes people actually think the real news is an April Fools' joke.
- ( ) documentary of people in Switzerland cutting spaghetti from spaghetti trees. Lots of people contacted the
- ( ) Some of the most famous April Fools' jokes are quite amazing. My favourite happened in 1957. The BBC showed a
- ( ) who to believe. Even newspapers and television stations play April Fools' jokes on their readers
- ( ) countries, you have until noon to play your jokes. If you play a trick on someone after midday,
- ( ) BBC asking how they could grow their own spaghetti trees! Another good one was the "left-handed burger" advertised
- ( ) jokes include the BBC's 1965 news of "Smell-o-vision" and Google's 2008 invitation for people to apply to
- ( ) be astronauts to live on the website's new base on Mars. If you believe that, you'll believe anything!
- ( **1** ) April Fools' Day is on the first of April every year. It is a day when people can play tricks, practical jokes and hoaxes
- ( ) you are the April Fool. In other countries, April Fools' Day lasts the whole day. On this day, you never know what or
- ( ) by Burger King on April 1st, 1998. They said all of the juice would drip out of the right hand side
- ( ) on each other. No one really knows the exact origin of this day. The writer Mark Twain famously said: "This is
- ( ) of the burger. Many customers asked the Burger King staff for the traditional right-handed burger. Other classic
- ( ) the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three-hundred and sixty-four days." In some

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. can a play day tricks when It people is

---

2. No really the origin one knows exact

---

3. tricks jokes on play practical hoaxes other , and each

---

4. have you jokes your play to noon until

---

5. or what know never you believe to who

---

6. Fools' the jokes most are famous quite April amazing

---

7. they grow own trees could their spaghetti

---

8. hand juice out right the drip the side would of

---

9. invitation astronauts be to apply to people for

---

10. anything that , If you'll you believe believe !

---

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE APRIL FOOLS' DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about April Fools' Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

|      | STUDENT 1<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.2. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.3. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.4. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.5. |                    |                    |                    |

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about April Fools' Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about April Fools' Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about April Fools' Day. Write about what will happen on this day around the world.