

## April Fool's Day Quiz

***Many pranks have been played by the media on April 1st. Newspapers, radio and TV stations report stories that are invented to trick the audience.***

***Work in teams and say if you think these tricks were actually played on the public or not.***

***Decide true or false.***

- 1 In 1957 many people were fooled when a British TV programme showed spaghetti being picked from trees in Italy.
- 2 A website hoax in 2005 made some people think that water had been found on Mars. Actually it was a glass of water on a chocolate bar.
- 3 Many listeners believed a 1964 radio report that The Tower of London was planning to have an extra tower built. It was a trick that made a number of listeners quite angry.
- 4 In 2008 the BBC reported that a colony of flying penguins had been found. Many viewers were taken in by the footage showing a celebrity walking with them and following their flight to the Amazon.
- 5 A Dutch TV station caught out some gullible viewers in 2003 with a story about an alien spaceship landing in Amsterdam. Reports showed some friendly aliens sightseeing around the city.
- 6 In 1962 a Swedish TV station broadcast a story explaining in some detail how it was possible to get colour TV by placing a stocking over the TV screen. It is not known how many people tried to do it.
- 7 A 1985 Australian radio broadcast claimed that a number of koala bears, wallabies and kangaroos were having a picnic together with some of the general public in a Sydney park. A number of local people went to the park to investigate.
- 8 In 1965 a British company made up a story saying smells could be transmitted through the TV set. It was obviously a successful prank because in 2007 an online version of the story was repeated.
- 9 In 1996 the company Taco Bell told the public they had bought the country's Liberty Bell to help reduce the national debt. They said they had renamed it the Taco Liberty Bell.
- 10 In the 1950s a Dutch broadcaster played a trick on the public indicating that the Leaning Tower of Pisa had fallen over. Many telephone calls were received from shocked viewers.

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### *Answers*

True: 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10

False: 3, 5, 7