

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking
 Activity: gap-fill,
 changing word forms,
 guided discussion,
 guessing (group work)

Focus

Past simple regular and
 irregular verbs

Aim

To complete statements
 with past simple regular
 and irregular verbs and
 then guess which ones
 are historical facts and
 which are myths.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
 cards for each group
 of three and cut as
 indicated.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

45 minutes

Introduction

In this past simple activity, students complete statements with past simple regular and irregular verbs and then guess which ones are historical facts and which are myths.

Procedure

Divide the class into three groups (Group A, B, and C).

Give each student a corresponding A, B or C card.

First, students work together in their groups and complete the statements by writing the regular and irregular verbs from the box into the sentences in their past simple form.

When the students have finished, check each group's answers using the answer key below.

Next, rearrange the students into teams of three, comprising of a Student A, B and C. Give each group a true or false card.

Tell the teams that each student's card contains six historical facts and four myths.

Their task is to read the statements together, discuss them, and decide which are historical facts and which are myths, noting their answers on the card

When everyone has finished, read each statement and elicit each team's answer. If possible, ask students to justify their response. Then, give the class the correct answer.

Teams score one point for each correct guess.

The team with the highest score at the end of the game wins.

Answer Key

Student A	Student B	Student C
1. had (false)	1. requested (true)	1. was (true)
2. were (true)	2. originated (false)	2. decided (true)
3. slept (true)	3. painted (true)	3. built (false)
4. failed (false)	4. wore (false)	4. snowed (true)
5. wore (true)	5. discovered (true)	5. proposed false)
6. discovered (false)	6. broke (true)	6. made (true)
7. faked (true)	7. created (false)	7. wore (false)
8. considered (true)	8. issued (true)	8. persuaded (true)
9. powered (false)	9. won (true)	9. invented (false)
10. called (true)	10. sliced (false)	10. sold (true)

Student A

power sleep have fake consider fail call wear are discover
--

1. George Washington wooden teeth.
2. A sheep, a duck and a rooster the first passengers in a hot air balloon.
3. King Henry VIII with a gigantic axe beside him.
4. Albert Einstein math.
5. Pirates earrings because they believed it improved their eyesight.
6. Christopher Columbus America.
7. In 2007, Corey Taylor his own death in order to get out of his cell phone contract without paying a fee.
8. In England, in the 1880's, people "Pants" as a dirty word.
9. Sails the first Egyptian chariots.
10. There is a glacier "Blood Falls" in Antarctica that regularly pours out red liquid.

**Student B**

create issue break originate discover slice request paint win wear
--

1. Samuel L. Jackson to have a purple light saber in Star Wars in order for him to accept the part as Mace Windu.
2. Spanish Influenza in Spain.
3. The White House was grey before they it white.
4. Ninjas all black costumes.
5. In 2008, scientists a new species of bacteria that lives in hairspray.
6. An epidemic of laughing that lasted almost a year out in Tanganyika in 1962.
7. Shakespeare the story "Hamlet."
8. The State of California 6 driving licenses to people named Jesus Christ.
9. In 1923, jockey Frank Hayes a race at Belmont Park in New York despite being dead.
10. Vincent Van Gogh off his ear.

Student C

decide is snow sell propose make wear build invent persuade

1. The Titanic the first ship to use the SOS signal.
2. A coin toss Hewlett-Packard's name.
3. Jewish slaves the pyramids.
4. It in the Sahara desert for 30 minutes in 1979.
5. Benjamin Franklin the turkey as the national bird of the United States.
6. The person who invented the Frisbee was cremated and into Frisbees after he died.
7. Vikings horned-helmets.
8. Hitler's mother considered abortion but the doctor her to keep the baby.
9. Isaac Newton the game Hopscotch.
10. In 1998, Sony accidentally 700,000 camcorders that had the technology to see through people's clothes.


True or False?

Student A	Student B	Student C
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7.	7.	7.
8.	8.	8.
9.	9.	9.
10.	10.	10.