

Activity Type

Reading, writing and speaking activity, group work

Language Focus

Past simple regular and irregular verbs

Aim

To complete statements with past simple regular and irregular verbs.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for every three students and cut as indicated.

Level

Intermediate

Time

45 minutes

Introduction

Here is an engaging past simple worksheet activity for intermediate students. In the activity, students complete statements with past simple regular and irregular verbs. The students then guess which statements are historical facts and which are myths.

Procedure

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

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

Tell the students to work together with the people in their group and complete the statements by writing the regular and irregular verbs from the box into the sentences in their past simple form.

When they have finished, go around to each group and check their answers using the answer key below.

Next, rearrange the class into teams of three, comprising of a Student A, B and C.

Tell the teams that each student's worksheet 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.

When everyone has finished, read each statement and then 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.