



## True or False Answers

*Below are some interesting facts. Some of them are just myths and some of them are true. Read each phrase out loud (focusing on the correct pronunciation of the past simple) and debate whether you think it is true or false. Remember to support your opinion.*

1. Waving your phone around improved its signal.

***FALSE: Waving your phone around actually makes the signal worse. You should walk around to try and improve your signal.***

Carman. A. (2018). *Does raising your arm to the sky improve your cell reception?*. Available:

<https://www.theverge.com/circuitbreaker/2017/12/24/16812250/cellphone-reception-iphone-improve-tricks-hacks-raising-arms>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

2. Bulls hated the colour red, which is why it's used in bull fighting.

***FALSE: Bulls are actually colour blind to red. They charge at a person because of their aggressive movement with a cape, not because of the colour.***

Borel. B. (2012). *Why Do Bulls Charge When they See Red?*. Available:

<https://www.livescience.com/33700-bulls-charge-red.html>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

3. Bats were blind.

***FALSE: Bats actually have eyesight that is up to three times better than the eyesight of humans.***

Langley. Y. (2012). *6 Bat Myths Busted: Are They Really Blind?*. Available:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/11/141031-bats-myths-vampires-animals-science-halloween/>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

4. Pirates believed that wearing an earring would improve their eyesight.

**TRUE: As well as improved eyesight, pirates believed an earring could prevent seasickness and prevent them from drowning.**

Melina. R. (2011). *Why Did Pirates Wear Earrings?*. Available: <https://www.livescience.com/33099-why-did-pirates-wear-earrings-.html>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

5. There was an area in Antarctica called *Blood Falls* which pours out red liquid.

**TRUE: Oxidised iron in brine saltwater causes the water to appear red/orange.**

Nace. T. (2017). *Mystery Of Antarctica's Blood Falls Is Finally Solved*. Available: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/trevornace/2017/04/28/mystery-of-antarcticas-blood-falls-is-finally-solved/>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

6. Goldfish had a memory of 3 seconds.

**FALSE: Research suggests goldfish can actually remember things for 12 days.**

Akkoc. R. (2014). *Memory of a goldfish? Actually fish can recall events 12 days ago*. Available: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/science-news/10937888/Memory-of-a-goldfish-Actually-fish-can-recall-events-12-days-ago.html>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

7. Sugar lead to hyperactivity.

**FALSE: Sugar does not cause hyperactivity. There are numerous children with sugar in their diet (including sugar from sweets and chocolate) who don't have hyperactivity as a result.**

Vreeman, R. C & Carroll, A. E. (2008). *Festive Medical Myths*. Available: <https://www.bmj.com/content/337/bmj.a2769.full>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

8. You could hear a blue whale's heartbeat from 2 miles away.

**TRUE: A blue whale's heart beats at between 8 and 10bpm and can be heard from over 2 miles away.**

WhaleFacts. (2019). *THE BLUE WHALES HEART*. Available: <https://www.whalefacts.org/blue-whale-heart/>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

9. The national animal of Scotland was a unicorn.

*TRUE: In the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, the unicorn was used on the Scottish royal coat of arms and has since been recognised as the national animal of Scotland.*

Visit Scotland. (2012). *WHY IS THE UNICORN SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL ANIMAL?*. Available: <https://www.visitscotland.com/about/uniquely-scottish/national-animal-unicorn/>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.

10. Ikea's catalogue was more popular than the bible.

*TRUE: In 2018, 203 million copies of the Ikea catalogue were distributed. Approximately 100 million bibles are printed and sold each year.*

Wallop. H. (2012). *Ikea: 25 facts*. Available: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/retailandconsumer/9643122/Ikea-25-facts.html>. Last accessed 1st October 2019.