



Fluentlicious
Materials for language learning

Liar, liar pants on fire!

vocabulary lesson, B1+

Warm-up: The Truth About Lying

- How often do you tell lies? (Once a day? Once a week? Never?)
- In your opinion, is it ever okay to lie? If so, in what situations?
- Do you think you are a good liar? Why or why not?
- What are the physical "telltale signs" that someone is lying to you?



Idioms!



Read the sentences and try to guess the meaning of the idioms.

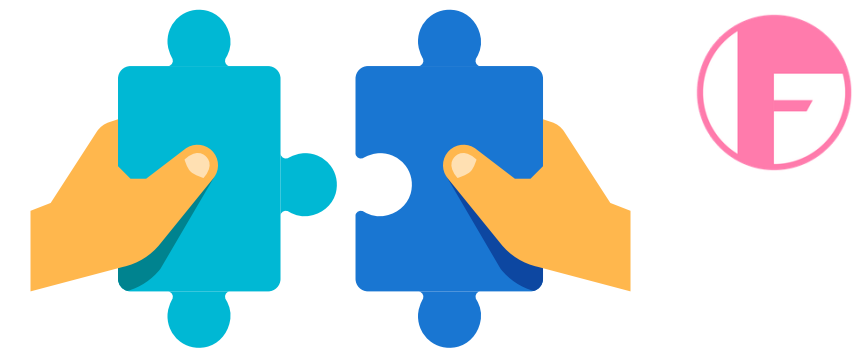
- I thought he was a doctor, but he was **pulling the wool over my eyes**; he doesn't even have a degree!
- "I didn't eat the cookie!" "Oh, **Liar, liar, pants on fire!** There are crumbs all over your shirt!"
- I didn't want to say I hated the gift, so I **bent the truth** and said it was "very unique."
- Don't believe a word he says; his whole story is just **a pack of lies**.
- The thief was **caught red-handed** while he was putting the jewelry into his bag.
- Stop **beating around the bush** and just tell me—did you lose my car keys or not?
- I told **a white lie** and said I had a headache so I wouldn't have to go to the boring party.
- She's trying to **butter up** the boss by complimenting his tie so she can ask for a holiday.
- The hacker tried to **cover his tracks** by deleting the history, but the IT team found him.
- I know he's **lying through his teeth** because I saw him at the cinema when he said he was sick.
- He told us **a tall tale** about wrestling a shark, but we knew it wasn't true.
- Don't get angry! I'm just **pulling your leg**—I didn't actually break your phone.



English Idiom	Polish Version
Pull the wool over someone's eyes	nabić kogoś w butelkę / zamydlić komuś oczy
Liar, liar, pants on fire!	Kłamczuch!
Bend the truth	naginać prawdę
A pack of lies	stek kłamstw
Caught red-handed	złapany na gorącym uczynku
To beat around the bush	owijać w bawełnę
A white lie	niewinne kłamstwo
To butter someone up	podlizywać się komuś / słodzić komuś
To cover one's tracks	zacierać ślady
To lie through one's teeth	kłamać jak z nut / kłamać prosto w oczy
A tall tale	bujda / niestworzone historie
To pull someone's leg	nabierać kogoś / robić sobie z kogoś żarty

Match the Idioms

Match the beginnings with the endings.



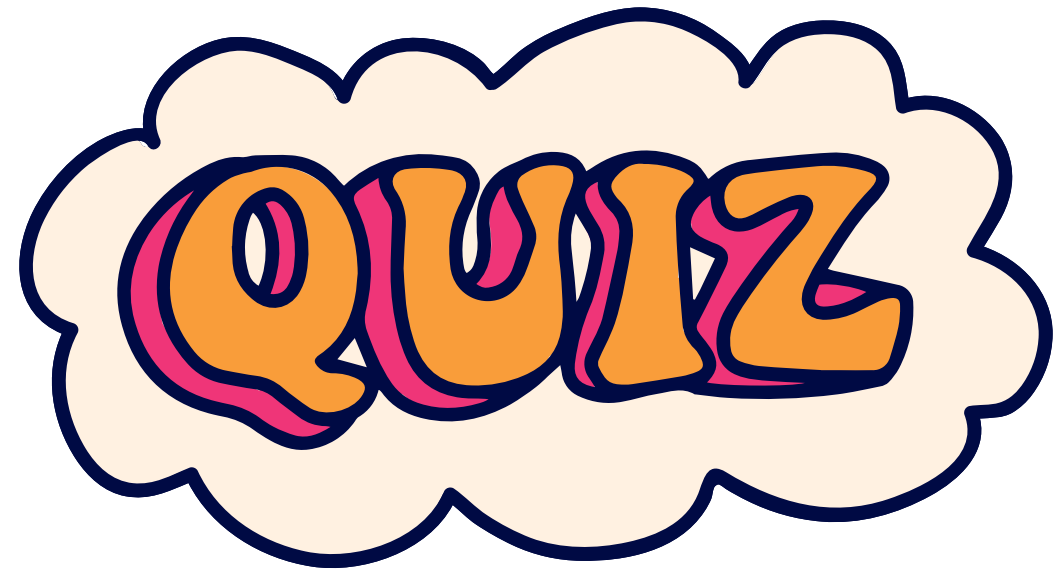
A	B
1. Pull the wool	a. the truth
2. Beat	b. someone up
3. Lie through	c. someone's leg
4. Butter	d. over someone's eyes
5. Pull	e. red-handed
6. Cover	f. one's teeth
7. To bend	g. around the bush
8. Caught	h. of lies
9. A pack	i. one's tracks

Reorder the Sentences

Put the words in the correct order to form a logical sentence.

- 1.told / He / a / tale / tall / about / gold / finding.
- 2.wool / Stop / pulling / eyes / the / my / over!
- 3.tracks / The / criminal / to / tried / his / cover.
- 4.up / She / is / him / buttering / a / for / favor.
- 5.white / She / a / told / lie / his / feelings / save / to.
- 6.red-handed / stealing / was / cookies / He / caught / the.
- 7.around / Stop / and / beating / the / bush / answer / me!





Truth or Lie Quiz

Decide if the statement is TRUE or FALSE.

1

Truth or Lie?

The Great Wall of China is visible from space with the naked eye.



1

Truth or Lie?

The Great Wall of China is visible from space with the naked eye.

Answer: Fiction. It is too narrow and matches the color of the surroundings.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?



2

Truth or Lie?

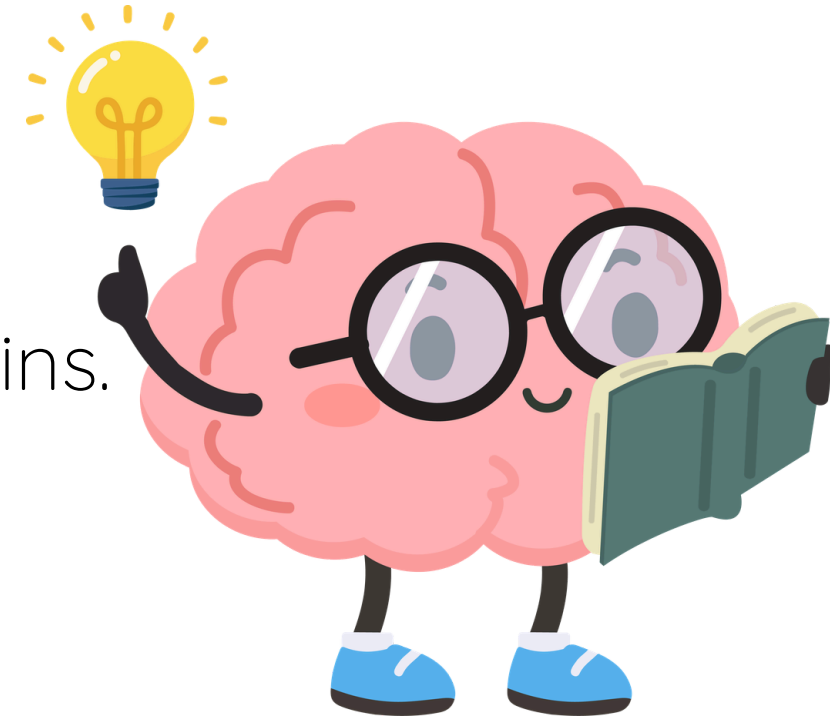
Humans only use 10% of their brains.



2

Truth or Lie?

Humans only use 10% of their brains.



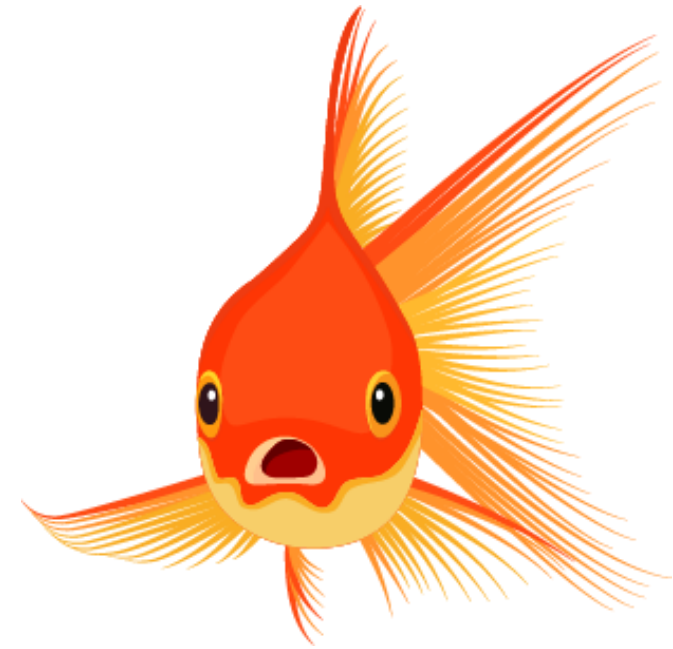
Answer: Fiction. We use almost every part of our brain over 24 hours.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?

3

Truth or Lie?

Goldfish have a three-second memory.



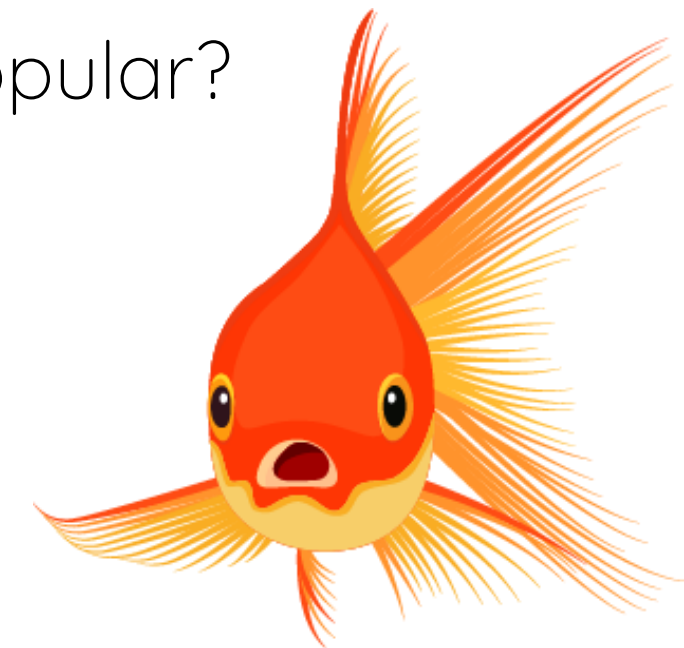
3

Truth or Lie?

Goldfish have a three-second memory.

Answer: Fiction. They can actually remember things for months.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?





4

Truth or Lie?

A penny dropped from a skyscraper can kill someone.



4

Truth or Lie?

A penny dropped from a skyscraper can kill someone.

Answer: Fiction. It's too light; air resistance slows it down.

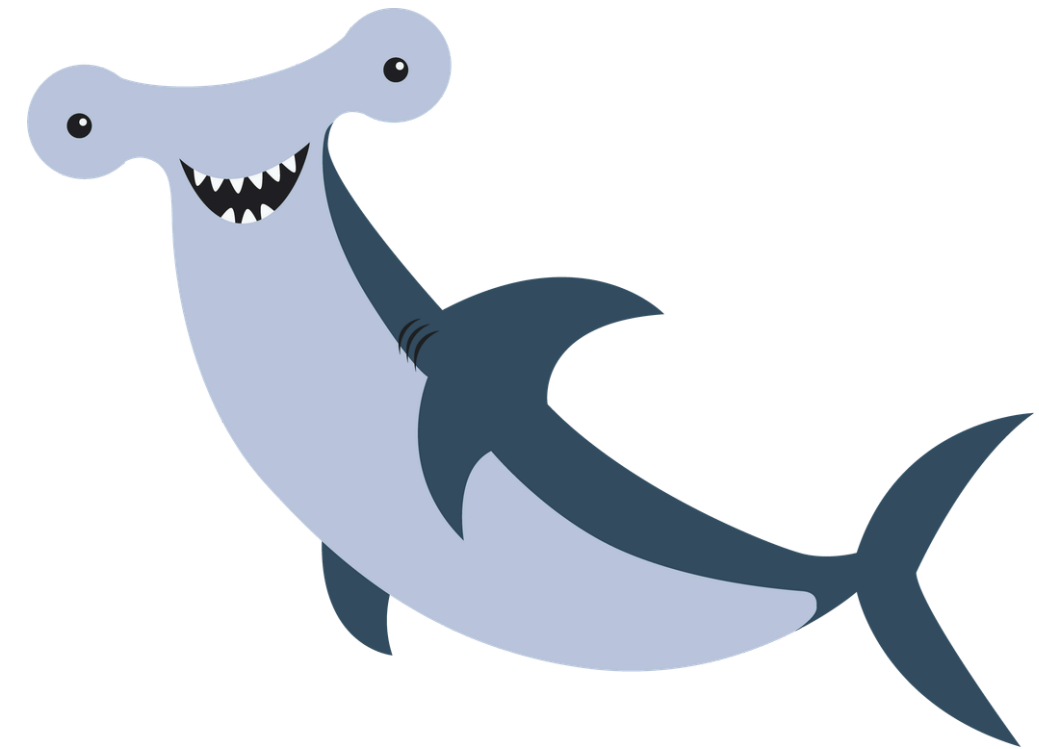
Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?



5

Truth or Lie?

Sharks are older than trees.



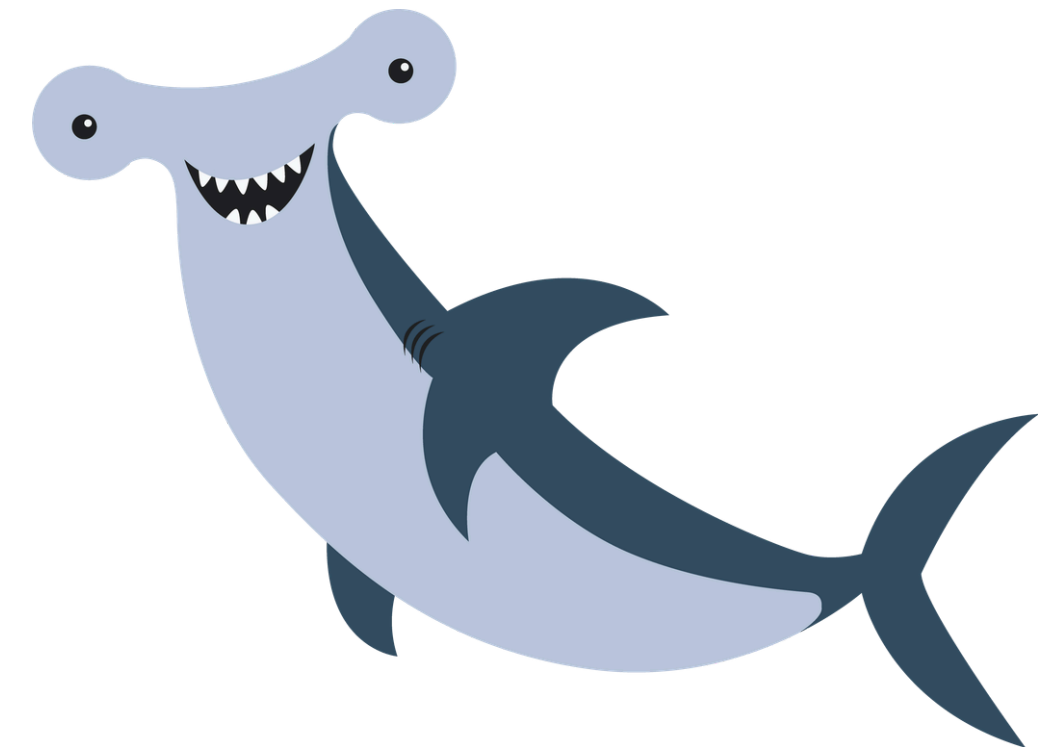
5

Truth or Lie?

Sharks are older than trees.

True

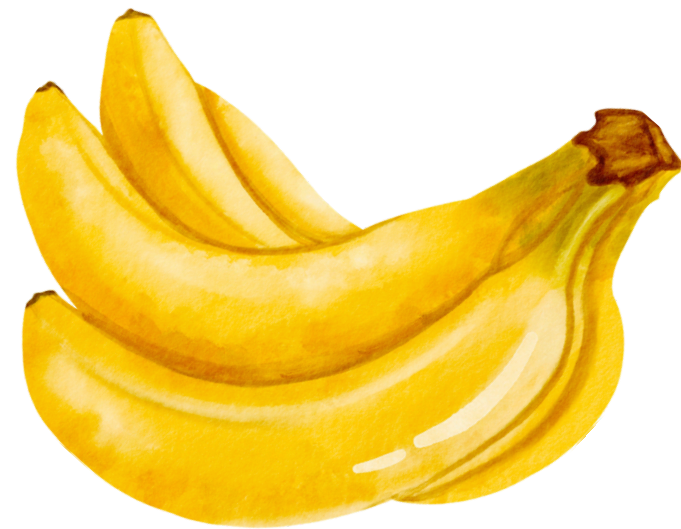
Sharks existed millions of years before trees appeared.



6

Truth or Lie?

Bananas grow on trees.



6

Truth or Lie?



Bananas grow on trees.

Answer: Fiction. They grow on giant herbs that look like trees.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?

7

Truth or Lie?

Bulls get angry when they see the color red.



7

Truth or Lie?

Bulls get angry when they see the color red.

Answer: Fiction. Bulls are color-blind to red; they react to the movement of the cape.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?



8

Truth or Lie?

Chameleons change color only to blend in with their environment.



8

Truth or Lie?

Chameleons change color only to blend in with their environment.

Answer: Fiction. They mostly change color to regulate temperature or communicate.

Discussion: Why do you think this myth is so popular?



9

Truth or Lie?

Smoking was once advertised as healthy.



Truth or Lie?

Smoking was once advertised as healthy.

True: Old advertisements even recommended cigarettes.

Discussion: Why do companies sometimes hide the truth?



10

Truth or Lie?



Napoleon was extremely short.

10

Truth or Lie?

Napoleon was extremely short.

False: He was actually average height for his time.

Discussion: How can history change someone's image?



Let's talk!

1. Have you ever been economical with the truth? Why?
2. Is telling a white lie sometimes kinder than telling the truth?
3. Have you ever caught somebody red-handed?
4. Why do people try to cover their tracks?
5. Have you ever pulled someone's leg successfully?
6. What kinds of people try to pull the wool over others' eyes?
7. Is it easy to trust someone again after they tell a pack of lies?
8. Why do some people beat around the bush instead of speaking honestly?
9. Why do people tell tall tales? Is it for attention or just for fun?



Answer key

Story:

1. trustworthy
2. honesty
3. dishonest
4. untrustworthy
5. responsibility
6. sincerity
7. reliability

Idiom match

1. d
2. g
3. f
4. b
5. c
6. i
7. a
8. e
9. h

Reorder the sentences:

1. He told a tall tale about finding gold.
2. Stop pulling the wool over my eyes!
3. The criminal tried to cover his tracks.
4. She is buttering him up for a favor.
5. She told a white lie to save his feelings.
6. He was caught red-handed stealing the cookies.
7. Stop beating around the bush and answer me!

Thank you!
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