

The Unbelievable Truth

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adapted from a Bonus Unit in *"Have I got a dragons' den for you?"* by Jason Anderson

Time	40-60 minutes
Interaction	Teams of 2-3 learners
Level	B1/B2 (Intermediate) to C1/C2 (Advanced)

Language areas practised

Sub-skills and Functions

- giving presentations
- coming to an agreement
- correcting a misconception

Grammar and Lexis

- passive forms (esp. present and past simple)

Learners will benefit from a teacher example to start with. Use the text 'Bananas' below (the 3 true facts are underlined).

Notes

This game is based on the BBC radio show of the same name. Play an extract from the show before students start playing to clarify the rules. Show for example the beginning of Season 1 Episode 1 (0" - 3'09"):

<https://youtu.be/b51RSvgk6mE>

Variations or follow-up

- **Invert the Rules** – Learners write texts that are all true except for 3 lies. The others must spot the lies.

Preparation

Give the Rules of the Game to each team. There is a set of topic cards for the whole class. The teams will need internet access during the lesson to research their topic

Bananas

Bananas grow in cold countries and produce fruit that can be purple, yellow or red. Bananas grow on trees, but they are actually a type of herb. Cultivated bananas were introduced in the UK in 1859 by Charles Darwin because he liked their taste so much. Cultivated banana trees cannot reproduce naturally because they are infertile, although recent scientific research has proven that wild banana flowers can be pollinated by bees. Today their skin can even be used to make recyclable glass, car brakes or guitar strings.

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Rules of the game

Preparation

Play in teams of 2-3. Your teacher will give you a topic card. You should begin by researching this topic and then write a short text about the topic. However, it will be a very strange text, because **the majority of the information in your text must be untrue**. Only 3 facts in your text will be true. You will then give a short presentation (1-2 min) on your topic. The other teams will listen and try to guess which 3 facts are true.

Presentations (1-2 min)

Teams take turns to read out the text they have prepared. The other teams should listen very carefully and take notes. They then have 2-3 minutes to choose 3 facts that they think are true. Each team then tells the class which facts they think are true, and the presenting team reveal the correct 3 facts.

How to win

Your team scores 1 point for each true fact that they guess. When you are presenting, you score 1 point for any true facts that none of the other teams guessed. The teacher will also award 3 bonus marks for the funniest text. The team with the highest score at the end of the game wins!