

April Fool's Day

Task 4 – Top ten tricks

In 1998 Burger King published an advert in the magazine USA Today offering new 'Left-handed Whoppas' for the 32 million left-handed Americans! Thousands of customers ordered the new burger in the restaurants!

A zoo in Japan said that they had a giant penguin that was 165cm tall and weighed 80 kilograms! In fact it was a man dressed up in a penguin suit.

In the night of March 31st 1989 hundreds of Londoners phoned the police to report an alien space craft they had seen in the sky. In fact it was a hoax and it was a hot air balloon that looked like a space craft.

Last year in the UK a children's news programme said that scientists had invented a 'Brain Band'. It was a coloured head band that you put on your head and it helped to make you more intelligent! On an on-line poll, 47% of the children who heard the news wanted to buy a 'brain band'!

In 1949 a radio presenter in New Zealand told listeners that there were millions of wasps coming to invade. He told viewers to wear their socks over their trousers and to put honey on their doors. Millions of listeners believed him

In 1957 a very serious documentary programme on the BBC reported on the spaghetti trees in Switzerland. They said it was an excellent place to grow spaghetti! Hundreds of viewers phoned the BBC to ask where they could buy spaghetti trees.

In 1999 a music website claimed that Britney Spears had lied about her age. They said she was 28, not 17. Hundreds of people phoned her music label to ask how old Britney really was.

In Sweden in 1962 they have one television channel and all TV was in black and white. A scientist told viewers that they would see the TV in colour if they put a nylon stocking over the screen.

In 1976 a very famous British astronomer told radio listeners that at 9.47am the earth was going to experience a feeling of less gravity. He said that Jupiter and Pluto would cross and if listeners jumped in the air at exactly 9.47am they would feel the sensation of having no gravity! Hundreds of listeners phoned the radio to say they had jumped and floated in the air!

A British newspaper printed an article saying that the European Union had decided to ban April Fool's Day! It was only a hoax.