

## Science (Or) Fiction : The Science Behind Fiction

### NUMBERS IN ENGLISH

#### Can you correct the following sentences?

We landed at Heathrow at six point fourty am.

I got fourteen on twenty on my test this morning.

I was born the two of february.

There was over two thousands people at the concert. It was fun seeing thousands people together.

Look at this number →  
three hundred and thirty-five  
If you write it with digital numbers...

335

...and then turn your  
worksheet upside down,  
you find an English word! →

SEE

Write the numbers below using digital numbers:

Number

Word

five hundred and seven thousand,  
seven hundred and thirty-four

three hundred and  
seventy-nine thousand, and nine

five million three hundred and eighteen thousand,  
eight hundred and four

## Science (Or) Fiction : The Science Behind Fiction

### NUMBERS IN ENGLISH

#### Can you correct the following sentences?

We landed at Heathrow at **six forty** am.

I got fourteen **out of** twenty on my test this morning.

I was born **on the second** of February.

There **were** over two **thousand** people at the concert. It was fun seeing **thousands of** people together.

Look at this number →  
three hundred and thirty-five  
If you write it with digital numbers...

335

...and then turn your  
worksheet upside down,  
you find an English word! →

SEE

Write the numbers below using digital numbers:

Number

Word

five hundred and seven thousand,  
seven hundred and thirty-four

507734

hellos

three hundred and  
seventy-nine thousand, and nine

379009

google

five million three hundred and eighteen thousand,  
eight hundred and four

5318804

hobbies

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

Bulls become angry when they see the color red. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Cracking your knuckles frequently increases your chance of developing arthritis in your hands. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	The largest piece of fossilised dinosaur poo discovered is over 30cm long and over two litres in volume. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>
A duck's quack does not echo. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	The north star is the brightest star in the night sky. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Toilets flush in opposite directions depending on which side of the equator you find yourself on. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	The Great Wall of China is the only man-made thing visible from space. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>
A cloud weighs around a million tonnes. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	If your dad is bald, you'll be bald too. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	All dinosaurs went extinct by an asteroid hitting earth. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Ostriches stick their heads into the ground when threatened. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>
Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get hit by lightning than people. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Earth's rotation is changing speed. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Animals can experience time differently from humans. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Chainsaws were first invented for childbirth. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>
Lightning Never Strikes the Same Place Twice <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Your brain is constantly eating itself. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Most maps of the world are wrong. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>	Mice love cheese. <a href="#">Right or Wrong ?</a>

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes



Choose a spokesperson in the group. The spokesperson will draw a card with a statement on it. They will have to make you guess what statement it is in a couple of sentences, without using the words already mentioned in the statement.

If they succeed, both the spokesperson and the guesser get a point for their teams.

If the person then correctly guesses whether it's right or false, they score one more point.

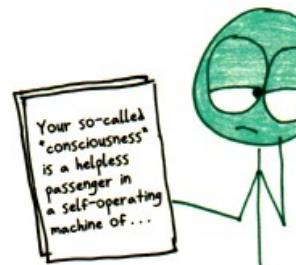
If they can justify, they earn a final point.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

<b>Bulls become angry when they see the color red.</b>	<b>Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints.</b>	<b>Cracking your knuckles frequently increases your chance of developing arthritis in your hands.</b>	<b>The largest piece of fossilised dinosaur poo discovered is over 30cm long and over two litres in volume.</b>
<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Right</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Right</b>
The popular myth is that bulls become angry when they see red, or are unusually violent animals, comes from the tradition of bullfighting. In reality, bulls are not a red cape, or a matador, and the bull charges the cape with fervor. However, it's not the color of the cape that angers the bull but it's the movement of the cape. We also know that bulls are actually red-green colorblind and would have a hard time distinguishing red from green, orange, and brown.	You can't blame your crimes on your twin, after all. This is because environmental factors during development in the womb (umbilical cord length, position in the womb, and the rate of finger growth) impact your fingerprint.	While cracking your knuckles may be annoying for those around you, it has no correlation to arthritis in these joints. This makes sense because knuckle cracking is a bubble being formed and popped by the fluid that surrounds your knuckle joints. It causes no trauma to these areas that would accelerate the onset of inflammation to these joints, which is what arthritis is.	Believed to be a Tyrannosaurus Rex turd, the fossilised dung (also named a 'coprolite') is helping scientists better understand what the dinosaur ate.
<b>A duck's quack does not echo.</b>	<b>The north star is the brightest star in the night sky.</b>	<b>Toilets flush in opposite directions depending on which side of the equator you find yourself on.</b>	<b>The Great Wall of China is the only man-made thing visible from space.</b>
<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Wrong</b>
A duck's quack not echoing is a myth that stems from the fact it is simply very difficult to hear the echo. Using a reverberation chamber is all you need to prove that a duck's quack does indeed echo. But why is it so hard to hear a duck's quack echo without this claim? Many reasons can contribute to creating an echo in the wild. A duck needs to have a large surface for enough way to reflect off of and the strength behind its quack to reach said surface and make it back to your ears at a volume that is loud enough.	The north star, or Polaris, is the star that is positioned right above the celestial pole. The celestial pole is the axis that the celestial sky rotates around, the point in the night sky that doesn't move as the earth rotates, therefore showing true north. Polaris is not the brightest in the night sky - not even close! Polaris is about 50th in terms of brightness. The brightest is the star, Sirius.	The Coriolis Effect is a pattern of deflection that things that are not firmly connected to the earth but travel long distances across the planet. Since the earth rotates faster at the equator than at the polar poles, objects that appear to rotate to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere. However, the Coriolis Effect only influences things moving great distances of long periods of time on earth, not a 5 second toilet flush.	The Great Wall of China is certainly large, at 13,171 miles long ! However, it is unable to be seen from space with just the unaided eye. Some low earth orbit astronauts have said they can see cities, major roadways, dams, and even airports. So why can't they see the Great Wall? It's all about color. The Great Wall of China is nearly the same color as the area surrounding it, so it's difficult to distinguish the wall from its surroundings.
<b>A cloud weighs around a million tonnes.</b>	<b>If your dad is bald, you'll be bald too.</b>	<b>All dinosaurs went extinct by an asteroid hitting earth.</b>	<b>Ostriches stick their heads into the ground when threatened.</b>
<b>Right</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Wrong</b>
A cloud typically has a volume of around 1km <sup>3</sup> and a density of around 1.003kg per m <sup>3</sup> – that's a density that's around 0.4 percent lower than the air surrounding it (this is how they are able to float).	Male pattern baldness is a trait on the X chromosome, meaning it skips a generation and comes from your mother's side. So, yes, if your dad is bald, there is a chance you might become bald. However, it is only a possibility, and there are other causes of baldness.	The asteroid, or the K-T extinction event, that happened 65 million years ago wiped out about 80 percent of all plant and animal life on the planet. Since the earth rotates faster at the equator than at the polar poles, objects that appear to rotate to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere. However, the Coriolis Effect only influences things moving great distances of long periods of time on earth, not a 5 second toilet flush.	These first instinct is to run, and they are fast! Ostriches can outrun most predators. If they can't run, they aren't afraid to fight. An ostrich can kick with their clawed feet so hard they can easily take out a full-grown lion.
<b>Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get hit by lightning than people.</b>	<b>Earth's rotation is changing speed.</b>	<b>Animals can experience time differently from humans.</b>	<b>Chainsaws were first invented for childbirth.</b>
<b>Right</b>	<b>Right</b>	<b>Right</b>	<b>Right</b>
True, there are only five well-documented fatal lightning strikes on giraffes between 1986 and 2010. But due to the population of the species being just 140,000 during this time, it makes for about 0.003 lightning deaths per thousand giraffes each year. This is 30 times the equivalent fatality rate for humans.	It's actually slowing. This means that, on average, the length of a day increases by around 1.8 seconds per century. 600 million years ago a day lasted just 21 hours.	To smaller animals, the world around them moves more slowly compared to humans. Snakes and lizards, for example, experience time more slowly than cats and dogs. This is because the perception of time depends on how quickly the brain can process incoming information.	It was developed in Scotland in the late 18th Century to help aid and speed up the process of synostomy (widening the pubic cartilage) and removal of disease-laden bone during childbirth. It wasn't until the start of the 20th Century that we started using chainsaws for woodchopping.
<b>Lightning Never Strikes The Same Place Twice</b>	<b>Your brain is constantly eating itself.</b>	<b>Most maps of the world are wrong.</b>	<b>Mice love cheese.</b>
<b>Wrong</b>	<b>Right</b>	<b>Right</b>	<b>Wrong</b>
If you have watched a thunderstorm any length of time, you know this is not true. Lightning can strike one place multiple times. The Empire State Building gets struck around 25 times each year. Actually, any tall object is at increased risk of a lightning strike. Some people have been struck by lightning more than once.	This process is called phagocytosis, where cells envelop and consume smaller cells or molecules to remove them from the system. Don't worry! Phagocytosis isn't harmful, but actually helps preserve your grey matter.	On most maps, the Mercator projection – first developed in 1569 – is still used. This method is wildly inaccurate and makes Alaska appear as large as Brazil and Greenland 14 times larger than it actually is. For a map to be completely accurate, it would need to be life-size and round, not flat.	Mice will eat anything that has some sort of nutritional value. However, given a choice, a mouse would pick a sweeter food choice like fruit, seeds, and nuts. The reason mice are so small is because they are, or other small animals, have been relegated in medieval times when families didn't have refrigerators. They hung meat from the ceiling and stored grain in silos, but cheese was simply wrapped in a thin layer of wax or cloth, making it much easier for rodents to find and eat the cheese.

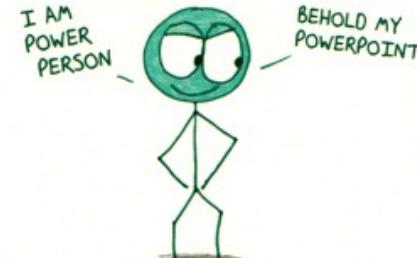
## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

Can you guess what the scientific studies and their conclusions were?

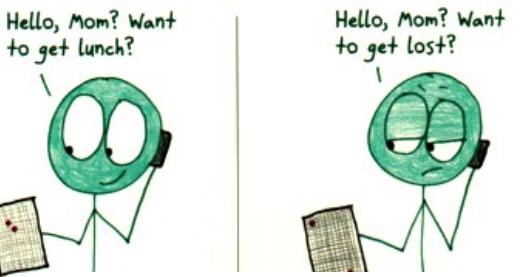
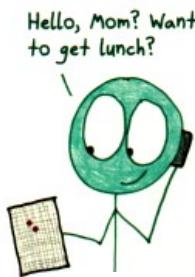


Well, in that case, no one can blame me...

You're more likely to cheat on a test after reading a passage that argues there's no such thing as free will.

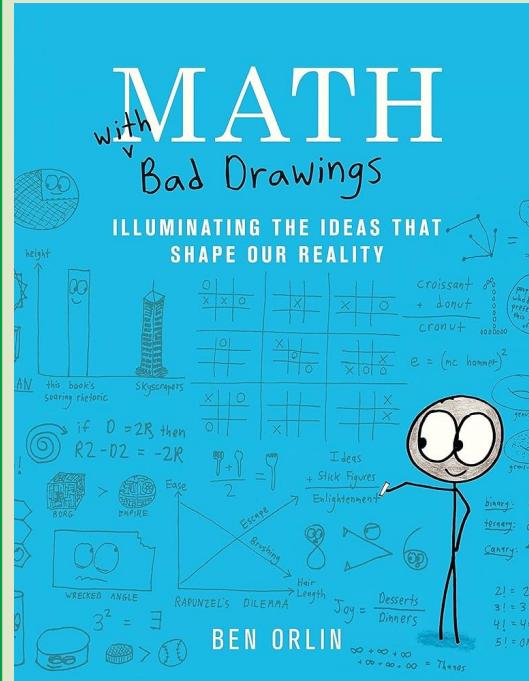


Adopting certain "power poses" can inhibit stress hormones while boosting testosterone, prompting others to judge you as more confident and impressive.



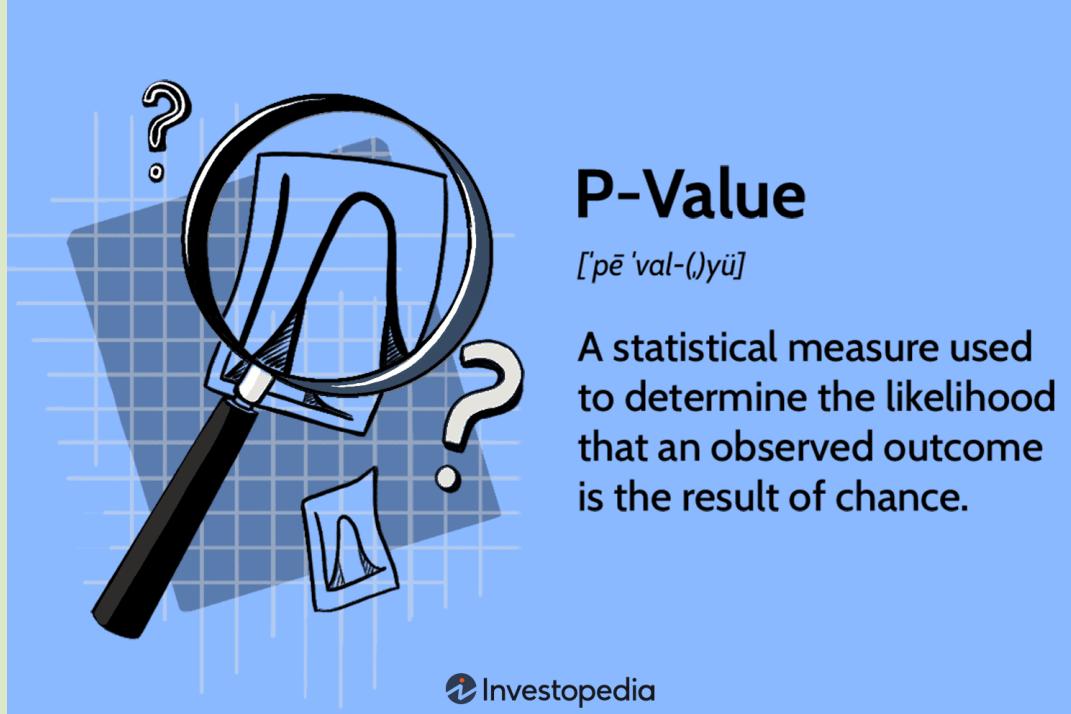
After plotting two close-together points on graph paper, you feel emotionally closer to your family members than after plotting two far-apart points.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes



Across the sciences, we are living through an epoch of crisis. After decades of the best science they could muster, many scholars now find their life's work hanging in the balance. The culprit isn't dishonesty, or a lack of integrity, or too many passages arguing against free will. The illness runs deeper, all the way down to a single statistic at the heart of the research process. It's a figure that made modern science possible – and that now threatens its stability.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

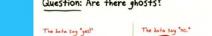


## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

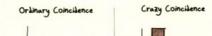
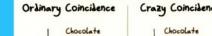


**MATH**  
Bad Drawings BEN ORLIN

**1. How would you call these four categories of experimental results?**

Question: Are there ghosts?  
  
  
  


**2. Look at the following drawings: what are the three fundamental factors the p-value incorporates to avoid flukes and random chance?**

Ordinary Coincidence      Crazy Coincidence  
  
  
  
  
  

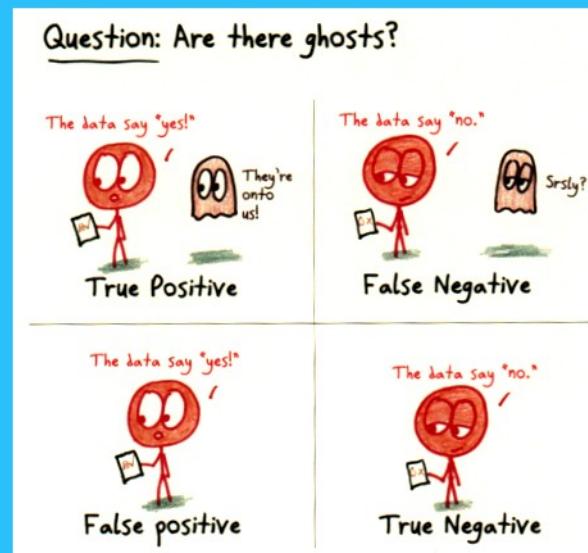

**3. Try and use all the drawings to prepare a presentation about the "p-value crisis."**

- In what order would you put the drawings to create a logical progression?
- How can you explain the ins and outs of the problem in simple terms, resorting to the drawings?
- If need be, you will find clues on Céline to get you started.


## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

### 1. How would you call these four categories of experimental results?

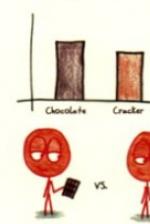


## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

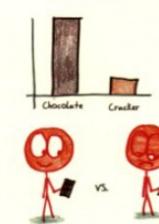
2. Look at the following drawings: what are the three fundamental factors the p-value incorporates to avoid flukes and random chance?

The size of the difference

Ordinary Coincidence

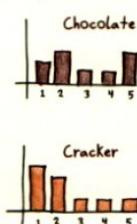


Crazy Coincidence

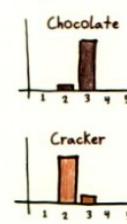


The variance within each group

Ordinary Coincidence



Crazy Coincidence



How big the data set is

Ordinary Coincidence



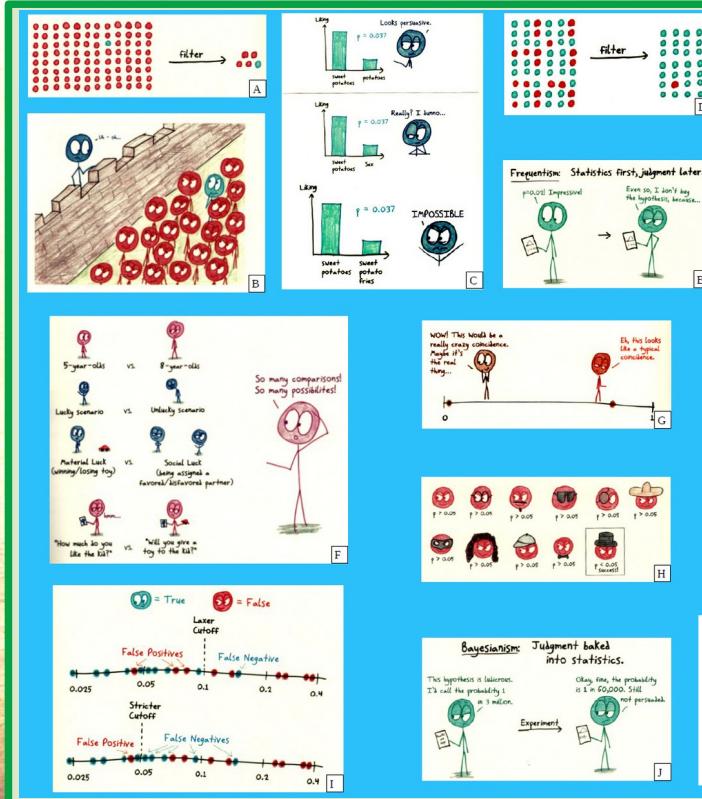
"Chocolate makes us happier."

Crazy Coincidence



"Chocolate makes us happier."

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes



## BARBARIANS AT THE GATE OF SCIENCE

### THE P-VALUE CRISIS

#### 1. TO CATCH A FLUKE

#### 2. CALIBRATING THE FLUKE FILTER

#### 3. HOW FLUKES BREED

#### 4. THE WAR ON FLUKES

**G – I – C – D – B – A – F – H – E – J**

#### 3. Try and use all the drawings to prepare a presentation about the “p-value crisis.”

- In what order would you put the drawings to create a logical progression?
- How can you explain the ins and outs of the problem in simple terms, resorting to the drawings?
- If need be, you will find clues on Céline to get you started.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

**1. TO CATCH A FLUKE**

Every science experiment asks a question. Are gravitational waves real? Do millennials hate solvency? Can this new drug cure antivax paranoia? No matter the question, there are two possible truths ("yes" and "no") and, given the inherent unreliability of evidence, two possible outcomes ("you get it right" and "you get it wrong"). Thus, experimental results can fall into four categories:

Question: Are there ghosts?

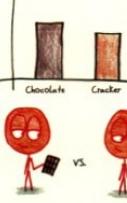
 <b>True Positive</b>	 <b>False Negative</b>
 <b>False Positive</b>	 <b>True Negative</b>

Scientists want **true positives**. They are known as "discoveries" and can win you things like Nobel Prizes, smooches from your romantic partner, and continued funding.

To weed out flukes, the p-value incorporates three fundamental factors:

1. **The size of the difference.** A razor-thin margin (say, 3.3 vs. 3.2) is much likelier to occur by coincidence than a substantial gap is (say, 4.9 vs. 1.2).

**Ordinary Coincidence**

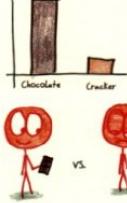


Chocolate      Cracker

vs.



**Crazy Coincidence**



Chocolate      Cracker

vs.



2. **How big the data set is.** A two-person sample inspires little confidence. Maybe I happened to give the chocolate to an enthusiastic lover of life, and the graham cracker to an ungrateful nihilist. But in a randomly divided sample of two thousand people, individual differences should wash out. Even a smallish gap (3.08 vs. 3.01) is unlikely to happen by fluke.

**Ordinary Coincidence**



"Chocolate makes us happier."

**Crazy Coincidence**



"Chocolate makes us happier."

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

**NASA genuinely faked part of the Moon landing.**



**True.** While Neil Armstrong's first steps on the lunar surface were categorically not faked, the astronaut quarantine protocol when the astronauts arrived back on Earth was largely just one big show.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

The Apollo moon landing was real, but NASA's quarantine procedure was not



President Richard Nixon welcomes the Apollo 11 astronauts back to Earth after their historic voyage to the moon. The astronauts were confined within one of NASA's Mobile Quarantine Facilities for 21 days to ensure they would not contaminate Earth with any potential lunar bacteria after their short lunar sojourn. (Image credit: NASA)

In a small desert town, dozens of unsuspecting people suddenly drop dead from a mysterious plague. The infectious agent has come from outer space; it has no known cure, and the U.S. government must scramble to contain it before it destroys the world.

This is the plot of "The Andromeda Strain," a 1969 novel by author Michael Crichton. The book was published just two months before humans first set foot on the moon, and it sparked widespread panic about what the Apollo 11 astronauts might bring back. Luckily, NASA had a quarantine protocol in place for the mission. But those measures might have been largely for show, according to new research published in the science history journal *Iets*. [...]

NASA set up a quarantine facility in Houston known as the Lunar Receiving Laboratory in order to counteract the possibility of any hitchhiking alien germs escaping onto Earth. When the Apollo 11 crew returned from their mission, they were immediately ushered into this state-of-the-art, multimillion-dollar facility, where they spent three weeks. Twenty-four NASA employees who were exposed to lunar material as they worked on the equipment descended into quarantine. The *New York Times* reported:

On its face, the quarantine protocol looked sensible. But the new research suggests that despite the money and resources invested in it, NASA's "planetary protection" efforts were merely for show. "The quarantine protocol looked like a success only because it was not needed," study author Dagonoir Degroot, a historian at Georgetown University, wrote in the new paper.

What's more, Degroot's work shows that NASA knew that its quarantine protocol was probably inadequate. For example, the Apollo spacecraft hadn't been designed to prevent potential lunar contaminants from being exposed to Earth's environment; once it splashed down in the Pacific Ocean, the capsule's cabin had to be fully opened in order to let astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins out. The air inside the module was also vented into Earth's atmosphere as the craft reentered, ensuring that the crew wouldn't suffer carbon dioxide poisoning.

But NASA also knew that the risk of the Apollo 11 astronauts bringing home a space plague was extremely low. They played up their ability to contain a microbial threat so as not to panic the public. [...]

Ultimately, the probable failure of Apollo 11's quarantine protocol could be a valuable lesson for future missions, which aim to return samples (and humans) from Mars and beyond. Given its atmosphere and geochemistry, Mars is far more likely to harbor microbial life than the moon.

In 2020, NASA issued an updated procedure for containing alien microbes, though the document hasn't been used yet. But even with these standards in place, it may prove impossible to fully contain a runaway space microorganism. We'll just have to hope that they come in peace — or are vulnerable to Lysol.

By Joanna Thompson, June 15, 2023.  
<https://www.space.com/apollo-11-moon-landing-nasa-quarantine-procedures>

The Apollo moon landing was real, but NASA's quarantine procedure was not



### 1. Right or Wrong?

- a. Citizens mysteriously died when Apollo 11 astronauts landed back on earth. ....
- b. The astronauts' return inspired a sci-fi novel about the probable consequences of the moonlanding ....
- c. The design of the spacecraft entailed security issues. ....
- d. The protocol was designed this particular way exclusively to avoid public panic. ....

### 2. Rephrase in your own words:

"On its face, the quarantine protocol looked sensible". ....

### 3. Find in the text, and in that particular order, the words corresponding to the following definitions.

A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes:

Act in a hurried, disorderly or unmethodical manner:

To provide the stimulus for:

To travel by getting free lifts in passing vehicles:

### 4. Do you know about other similar hoaxes in science?

#### 5. Grammar.

- a. Names.

Pay attention to the particular way people's names are used in combination with their jobs and draw conclusions.

#### b. Preterit vs. Present perfect

Look at the following excerpt from the text and draw conclusions about when to use the present perfect and when to use the preterit.

In 2020, NASA issued an updated procedure for containing alien microbes, though the document hasn't been used yet.

#### Conclusions:

#### Now fill in the text with the verb in the right tense.

I suppose they ... by now. It is not only the first time I (feel) ..... that way. Indeed, since the very first tourists (come) ..... I can say I (have) ..... this pang inside me. Actually, it (grow) ..... bigger over the past few years. I remember 1988. In those days, I (have) ..... the beach all to myself. Once, I even (spend) ..... one full day alone, gazing at the horizon line. Then the invaders (take) over) .....

Sylvie Perse, Jean-Claude Bugat, Grammaire révisée 2.

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

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#### Conclusions:

.....  
.....  
.....

#### Now fill in the text with the verb in the right tense.

I suppose they (arrive) ..... by now. It is not really the first time I (feel) ..... that way. Indeed, since the very first tourists (come) ..... , I can say I (feel) ..... this pang inside me. Actually it (grow) ..... bigger over the past few years. I remember 1986. In those days, I (have) ..... the beach all to myself. Once, I even (spend) ..... one full day alone, gazing at the horizon line. Then the invaders (take over) .....

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes



### 1. Right or Wrong?

- a. Citizens mysteriously died when Apollo 11 astronauts landed back on earth. ....
- b. The astronauts' return inspired a sci-fi novel about the probable consequences of the moonlanding. ....
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### 2. Rephrase in your own words:

"On its face, the quarantine protocol looked sensible":  
.....

### 3. Find in the text, and in that particular order, the words corresponding to the following definitions.

A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes:  
.....

Act in a hurried, disorderly or undignified manner:  
.....

To provide the stimulus for:  
.....

To travel by getting free lifts in passing vehicles:  
.....

### 4. Do you know about other similar hoaxes in science?

## Science Turns Out To Be A Fiction : Myths, Misconceptions, Hoaxes

The Apollo moon landing was real, but NASA's quarantine procedure was not



### 1. Right or Wrong?

- a. Citizens mysteriously died when Apollo 11 astronauts landed back on earth. **Wrong**
- b. The astronauts' return inspired a sci-fi novel about the probable consequences of the moonlanding. **Wrong**
- c. The design of the spacecraft entailed security issues. **Right**
- d. The protocol was designed this particular way exclusively to avoid public panic. **Wrong**

### 2. Rephrase in your own words:

"On its face, the quarantine protocol looked sensible". At first glance, the quarantine protocol seemed reasonable/wise and prudent/practical and functional rather than decorative.

### 3. Find in the text, and in that particular order, the words corresponding to the following definitions.

A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes:  
**plague**

Act in a hurried, disorderly or undignified manner: **to scramble**  
To provide the stimulus for: **to spark**  
To travel by getting free lifts in passing vehicles: **to hitchhike**

### 4. Do you know about other similar hoaxes in science?

#### 5. Grammar.

##### a. Names.

Pay attention to the particular way people's names are used in combination with their jobs and draw conclusions.

"President Richard Nixon", "Author Michael Crichton", "Astronauts Neil Armstrong etc"

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In 2020, NASA issued an updated procedure for containing alien microbes, though the document hasn't been used yet.

##### Conclusion:

Le présent perfect se forme avec l'auxiliaire Have et le participe passé du verbe. L'auxiliaire Have est au présent : le présent perfect n'est pas un temps du passé, c'est un temps du présent. En effet, le procès est vu comme accompli par rapport au présent. C'est le résultat du procès qui est mis en évidence, dans le présent. Le présent perfect permet de faire le « bilan » d'une situation dans le présent.

On emploie le présent perfect avec les adverbes exprimant un lien temporel avec le présent (now, by now, up to now), so far (jusqu'à présent) (depuis maintenant), a few months/years (depuis ces derniers mois/ces dernières années) et avec les adverbes exprimant le bilan sur le présent (always, never, ever, before, already, yet, still, just (passé immédiat), recently, it's the first time).

Le préterit simple est un temps du passé : il est utilisé pour des actions passées qui n'ont aucun lien avec le présent. La présence d'adverbes de temps précis (once, ago, when) entraîne le préterit. On emploie le préterit

avec des expressions situant l'action dans le passé (once, ago, when, in those days, last week, on Sunday, etc.) et avec les termes exprimant la succession dans le temps (first, and then, later, next).

Pour plus de détails, se référer à : Sylvie Persec, Jean-Claude Burgué, *Grammaire raisonnée 2*.

Now fill in the text with the verb in the right tense.  
I suppose they (arrive) have arrived by now. It is not really the first time I (feel) have felt that way. Indeed, since the very first tourists (come) came, I can say I (feel) have felt this pang inside me. Actually it (grow) has grown bigger over the past few years. I remember 1986. In those days, I (have) had the beach all to myself. Once, I even (spend) spent one full day alone, gazing at the horizon line. Then the invaders (take over) took over.

Sylvie Persec, Jean-Claude Burgué, *Grammaire raisonnée 2*.