

NAME: _____

DATE: _____



1. What is April Fools' day also sometimes known as?

Hilaria Day

Jokers' Festival

The Foolish Feast

All Fools' Day

2. April Fools' Day is called "April Fish" in which countries?

Japan and Korea

France and Italy

Venezuela and Mexico

United States and Canada

3. What do some people do as an April 1st prank in the US and Canada?

Switch salt and sugar.

Talk like a dog.

Tell their boss they will quit.

Act like a hamster.

4. When did Google announce its communication collar for animals?

2020

2010

2012

2022

5. What was the (fake) voice communication collar called?

Animal Speak

Google Animal Talk

Talking Pets by Google

Google Voice for Pets

6. What is the lecturer's opinion about April Fools' Day?

It's expensive but it's fun.

It's fun but don't hurt others.

It should be a national holiday.

Try to avoid other people.

Discuss these questions with a friend or classmate.

1. What information in the lecture did you find the most interesting? Why?
2. Have you ever played a prank on someone? If yes, what did you do?
3. Has anyone ever played a prank on you? If yes, what did they do?
4. Do you think April Fools' Day is a good idea? Why? / Why not?
5. What other interesting jokes or pranks do you know about?
6. What prank would you like to play on someone?

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Audio Script

Good morning, everyone. I'm sure that most of you are aware that the month of April is fast approaching, so, today, I'd like to talk to you a little about April Fools' Day. April Fools' Day, also known as All Fools' Day, is a day of pranks, hoaxes, and practical jokes. It is celebrated on the 1st of April every year, and it is a day where people play tricks on each other and try to fool their friends and family.

The origins of April Fools' Day are somewhat unclear. Some historians believe that it dates back to the Roman festival of Hilaria, which was celebrated at the end of March. Others believe that it has its roots in the medieval Feast of Fools, which was celebrated in Europe during the Middle Ages.

Regardless of its origins, April Fools' Day has become a popular day around the world. In some countries, such as France and Italy, it is known as "Poisson d'Avril" and "Pesce d'Aprile," respectively, which translates to "April Fish." In these countries, it is common to attach paper fish to someone's back without them knowing, as a prank!

In other countries, such as the United States and Canada, April Fools' Day is a day for playing practical jokes on friends and family. These pranks can range from harmless jokes, such as switching salt and sugar containers, to more elaborate hoaxes such as creating fake news stories or fake job postings.

One particularly funny April Fools' prank was in 2012, when Google announced that it had invented "Google Voice for Pets", a voice communication collar for animals! Supposedly, once you placed it around the neck of your pet cat or dog, it would translate their sounds into English, allowing you to communicate with it. Hmm, I wonder if I could get a really tiny collar for my pet hamster. I wonder, what kind of conversation would we have?

Anyway, despite the lighthearted nature of April Fools' Day, it is important to remember that some pranks can go too far and cause harm or hurt feelings. Therefore, it is important to always consider the feelings of others when planning a prank and to avoid anything that could be dangerous or damaging. Remember that it's all in good fun and to enjoy the laughter and silliness of the day.

ANSWER KEY

1. All Fools' Day
2. France and Italy
3. Switch salt and sugar.
4. 2012
5. Google Voice for Pets
6. It's fun but don't hurt others.