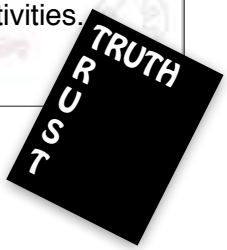
IN TRUTH WE TRUST

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Practice giving your opinion. Learn new proverbs and idioms. Comprehension activities. Learn expressions for stating facts.



Activity One: Ask and answer with your partner or teacher.

1. Where do you look for information when you want to know the truth?
2. Who do you trust to tell you the truth?
3. Do you always tell the truth?
4. In what circumstances do you feel it would be acceptable to tell only part of the truth, or a version of the truth..
5. Is it ever acceptable to lie?

Activity Two: Read the article paying attention to your intonation and stress. Then answer the question at the end. First though - some words, try to use them in a sentence:

- shifting
- to hold onto something
- to get to grips with something
- fake
- to disprove
- to swirl
- to avoid
- to sieve through
- to mollycoddle

In a world of shifting horizons, surrounded by filters, fake news and spin, it's hard to hold onto something true. It's hard to get to grips with reality. It's all relative, it's all a question of perspective. The truth then, is more important than ever in today's world. But never has it been so hard to distinguish fakery from reality. News is not only instantaneous, but it's published by everyone, from an eight year old on snapchat to a fake Russian Facebook bot. The unembellished truth is all relative anyway. So much fact is subjective. Science proves and disproves its own theories almost hourly. In this globally interconnected world of ours, truths, half truths, hypothesis, theories, unsubstantiated fact and undeniable realities all swirl around from server to server, from switch to router, through kilometers of cable capable of carrying millions of megabytes and kilometers of kilobytes of data in seconds. To be politically correct and avoid hurting anyone's feelings, the truth has to be sieved through and sorted out. To mollycoddle our millennials the facts have to be presented fairly. Young people in today's world are presented with more versions of the truth than any previous generation. **So what and who do we trust?**

Activity Three: **True of False.**
With your partner or teacher, make a series of statements and see if your teacher or other students can distinguish the truth from the lie…

Activity Four: **Proverbs and Idioms.**

Read the proverbs and idioms and their definitions. Then give an example from your own personal experience which corresponds to one, or several of these expressions.



A moment of truth - a certain moment in which the truth becomes evident.
Truth is stranger than fiction - true facts can be surprisingly odd or random.
To be economical with the truth - to omit certain facts.
The truth will out - the truth will at some point always be found out.

Activity Five - **Truth on a sliding scale.**

Here's a list from truth to lies… where would you draw the line?

- ☐ Tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth
- ☐ Give the unadorned truth - just the facts
- ☐ Give the bare facts
- ☐ Tell an inconvenient truth
- ☐ Tell a convenient truth
- ☐ Give a diplomatic take on the truth
- ☐ Make a slight exaggeration
- ☐ Exaggerate the truth
- ☐ Give an embellished version of the truth to support someone
- ☐ Leave something out to help someone
- ☐ Give an angle, one version of the truth that subtly suits you
- ☐ Lie by omission in your own interests
- ☐ Minimize or Maximise facts (to avoid hurting someone's feelings)
- ☐ Tell a version of the truth (to avoid hurting feelings or to protect someone)
- ☐ Distort the truth
- ☐ Put a positive or negative spin on things to turn them to your advantage
- ☐ Tell a white lie
- ☐ Fake it until you make it
- ☐ Manipulate the facts unethically
- ☐ Make up facts
- ☐ Tell a partial truth
- ☐ Tell a lie
- ☐ Use false information to ones advantage
- ☐ Spread fake news
- ☐ Report false facts
- ☐ Slander
- ☐ Give false rating or comments
- ☐ Invent falsehoods

Truth
Trust
Reliable
Trustworthy
Honest
Fact
Ethical
Credible

Manipulative
Shady
Unreliable

Untrustworthy
Dishonest

Unethical
Imoral

Illegal
Lies

Activity Six - **Expressions for stating your opinion or giving the facts.**

Of course one reason why it's hard sometimes to distinguish fact from fiction, is that people sound so authoritative! In any court case, or TV court drama, it's astonishing to see those two versions of the truth served up to a judge or jury, with equal authority and seeming sincerity. In order for people to trust your statements or opinions it can help to use some of the following expressions:



…… has demonstrated that…
according the results we can see that..
the latest findings confirm that
it has been proved that
… claims that..
… argues that..
… shows that…
we can see that

it seems obvious that
it seems clear that
clearly
obviously
ultimately
in fact
as a matter of fact
basically

Activity Seven: **Two opposing versions:**
With your partner or teacher, argue the following points, don't be afraid to twist the facts or stretch the truth a little… to be convincing (It's just a game..). Use the expressions from activity six.

A. The use of diesel fuel is actually not that bad for the environment.
B. Fast food is in fact good for your health all things considered.
C. Drinking wine is very good for the health.
D. Smoking Cannabis is better for you than drinking wine.



Activity Eight: **Sing along. True - Spandau Ballet**

Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
So true, funny how it seems
Always in time, but never in line for dreams
Head over heels when toe to toe
This is the sound of my soul
This is the sound
I bought a ticket to the world
But now I've come back again
Why do I find it hard to write the next line?
Oh I want the truth to be said
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
With a thrill in my head and a pill on my tongue
Dissolve the nerves that have just begun
Listening to Marvin (all night long)
This is the sound of my soul
This is the sound
Always slipping from my hands
Sand's a time of its own
Take your seaside arms and write the next line

Oh I want the truth to be known
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
I bought a ticket to the world
But now I've come back again
Why do I find it hard to write the next line?
Oh I want the truth to be said
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
Huh huh huh hu-uh huh
I know this much is true
This much is true

This much is true
This much is true
I know, I know, I know this much is true
etc..



Songwriters: Gary James Kemp

- *Final activity just for fun - Truth or Dare…*

