



21 Fun Facts

by David Koutsoukis

1. The dot on top of the letter “i” is called a tittle.
2. You can’t fold a piece of paper in half more than seven times.
3. “The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog” was originally designed to test telegraph transmissions, and uses all the letters in the English language.
4. The title of the Don Mclean song “American Pie” comes from the name of the plane that crashed killing a number of musicians including Buddy Holly.
5. Did you know that it’s impossible to lick your elbow. (You tried to lick your elbow didn’t you!)
6. $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
7. The only words in the English language that have three consecutive double letters are "Bookkeeper" and "bookkeeping".
8. You can sing the Australian National Anthem, "Advance Australia Fair" to the tune of "Gilligan's Island".
9. If you spell Evian backwards it says “naïve”
10. The Hundred Year War actually lasted 116 years.
11. The shortest sentence in the English language is “I am”.
12. To tell if an egg is fresh or not you put it into a container of water. A stale egg will float to the top and a fresh egg will sink to the bottom.
13. The longest one syllable word in English is “screeched”.
14. A “crash” is the name for a group of rhinos.
15. Fortnight" comes from the shortening of "fourteen nights.”
16. The word “jiffy” is actually a unit of time. It is the speed at which light travels one centimetre in a vacuum.
17. A “spat” is the name for a baby oyster.
18. A bee flaps it’s wings at 250 times per second. This is what causes the buzz. 19.A cat has 32 muscles in each of it’s ears.
19. The tongue of a chameleon is twice as long as it’s body.
20. A cucumber is 96% water
21. There are only eleven hours in a day on Jupiter.

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