

Unraveling Mysteries: Facts About Conspiracy Theories

Conspiracy Theories & Debunking · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. What is a conspiracy theory?

- A) A story about how something happened that has been proven true by many scientists.
- B) An idea that a small group of people secretly planned something bad, without much evidence.
- C) A fun story that everyone agrees is real, like a fairy tale.
- D) A scientific explanation for why things happen in nature.

2. When we hear a strange story about something important, what is the first thing a good detective does?

- A) Believe it immediately because it sounds exciting.
- B) Tell everyone they know about it without checking.
- C) Look for proof or evidence to see if it's true.
- D) Assume it is a made-up story and ignore it.

3. Which of these is an example of a verifiable fact that could be found in a science book?

- A) The moon is made of cheese.
- B) The Earth is flat and stays in one place.
- C) Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius at sea level.
- D) Birds can fly because they have invisible wings.

4. What does it mean to 'debunk' something?

- A) To make a story sound more believable.
- B) To show that a claim or theory is false or untrue.
- C) To create a new mystery.
- D) To agree with a conspiracy theory.

5. If someone says they have a secret map that proves a hidden treasure, but they won't show it and no one else has seen it, what should we be careful about?

- A) That it's a real treasure map.
- B) That they might be telling the truth.
- C) That it might be a story without proof.
- D) That it's easy to find the treasure.

6. Where can you usually find trustworthy information about science and history?

- A) On social media posts shared by strangers.
- B) In books written by experts and reviewed by other experts, and from reputable museums.
- C) In rumours whispered by friends.
- D) In cartoons that are not based on facts.

7. Why is it important to look for evidence when you hear a claim?

- A) Because evidence makes stories more confusing.
- B) Because evidence helps us know if something is true or false.
- C) Because evidence is only for grown-ups.
- D) Because evidence is always wrong.

8. What is a 'fact'?

- A) Something that someone makes up to be funny.
- B) Something that can be proven true by reliable evidence.
- C) A feeling that someone has about something.
- D) A prediction about what will happen in the future.

9. If a story sounds too amazing or too scary to be true, what is a good first step?

- A) Share it with everyone immediately.
- B) Assume it is true and act on it.
- C) Ask yourself if there is good proof for it.
- D) Ignore it completely.

10. Which of these is a commonly known scientific fact?

- A) The sun orbits the Earth.
- B) The Earth orbits the sun.
- C) All rocks are magnetic.
- D) Plants can live without sunlight.

11. When people say 'fake news', what do they usually mean?

- A) News that is true and important.
- B) Information that is made up or not true, often shared to trick people.
- C) Stories about real events that are very sad.
- D) News that is only for children.

12. What is a 'source' of information?

- A) A type of food.
- B) A place or person where you get information from.
- C) A game you play.
- D) A feeling of happiness.

13. If two different reliable sources give you the same information, does that make the information more trustworthy?

- A) No, it doesn't matter how many sources there are.
- B) Yes, it generally means the information is more likely to be true.
- C) Only if the sources are friends.
- D) No, it means they are copying each other and might be wrong.

14. Why might someone share a conspiracy theory?

- A) To help people understand the truth.
- B) To make people believe something that isn't true, sometimes for attention or to cause confusion.
- C) To discover new scientific facts.
- D) To get advice on how to solve problems.

15. What is the role of 'peer review' in science?

- A) It's a game scientists play.
- B) It's when other scientists check the work of a scientist to see if it's good and correct before it's shared.
- C) It's a way for scientists to disagree loudly.
- D) It's when scientists take a break from their work.

16. If a story claims that a famous historical event happened differently than what most history books say, what should you do?

- A) Believe the new story immediately.
- B) Ignore all history books from now on.
- C) Look for strong evidence from trusted historians that supports the new claim.
- D) Assume the new story is the only true one.

17. What is the difference between a 'claim' and a 'fact'?

- A) A claim is always true, and a fact is always made up.
- B) A claim is something someone says might be true, while a fact is something proven to be true.
- C) A claim is for children, and a fact is for adults.
- D) There is no difference between a claim and a fact.

18. Which of these is an example of a well-known scientific phenomenon?

- A) That if you dig deep enough, you will find a dragon's egg.
- B) That lightning is caused by angry sky giants.
- C) That rain falls because clouds are full of water that becomes too heavy.
- D) That the moon is a giant lamp lit by fairies.