

Are you an April Fool?

“The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year.”

Mark Twain

On April Fool’s Day we love to play tricks and jokes on each other. The recipient of the trick is then declared to be an ‘April fool’. There are many quotes about fools and their behaviour, like the one from Mark Twain above.

Match the one half of the quote on the left with the other half on the right. Look out for key words which connect the two halves:

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| 1. You’ve got the brain of a four-year-old boy, | a. Then quit. There’s no use being a damn fool about it. (W. C. Fields) |
| 2. Young men think old men are fools; | b. but you can’t fool all of the people all of the time. (Abraham Lincoln) |
| 3. A generous man is | c. if the advertising is right and the budget is big enough. (Joseph E. Levine) |
| 4. He that teaches himself | d. you must first break your mirror. (François Rabelais) |
| 5. If you wish to avoid seeing a fool | e. and I bet he was glad to get rid of it. (Groucho Marx) |
| 6. If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again. | f. merely a fool in the eyes of a thief. (Henry Fielding) |
| 7. You can fool all the people all the time | g. but old men know young men are fools. (George Chapman) |
| 8. You can fool all of the people some of the time, some of the people all of the time, | h. has a fool for a master. (Benjamin Franklin) |

Over to you

Discuss the following questions:

1. Do you play tricks on each other on April 1st?
2. Do you have the same tradition, but on another day in the year?
3. What sort of tricks do you play on each other?
4. Has anyone ever played a trick on you?
5. Have you ever played a trick on someone else?