

# Functional Skills English: Fact vs Opinion

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# Training Overview

1. Facts
2. Opinions
3. Practice



**Facts**

# What is a fact?

Facts are things that are backed up with evidence that can be checked. Facts are objective. The following are facts:

- Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius (we can do an experiment to check)
- Leeds United are the most popular football team in West Yorkshire (we can research the average crowds at their games and compare to other teams)
- The blue whale is the largest animal on the planet (we can compare it to other animals)

# The language of facts

Names, dates, places and events are all associated with facts, e.g. London is the capital of the U.K.

The following are a list of words associated with facts:

- demonstrated
- confirm
- discovered
- according
- have to

**Opinions**

# What is an opinion?

An opinion is a point of view or belief. It is something that is not based on evidence that can be checked. Opinions are subjective. The following are opinions:

- Water is delicious (not everybody might agree with this)
- Leeds United are the best football team in England (many, many people might disagree with this)
- Whales should not be hunted (again, many people may disagree with this)

# The language of opinions

The following is a list of words associated with opinions:

## Personal Feeling Words

- think
- believe
- suggest
- perhaps
- probably
- usually
- typically
- should
- must

## Judgement Words

- good
- bad
- best
- worst
- most
- least
- terrible
- fantastic
- awful

Often these words are used in a text to show opinions. Other examples include: claim, argues, suspect and view



**Practice**

# Practice

Read the following text and decide whether the following are facts or opinions:

Sentence	Fact	Opinion
1. Great River Theme Park is one of the most popular theme parks in Britain.		
2. There is a first aid room near the Hot Dog Shack.		
3. There is a wonderful display of nature photographs.		
4. The café will heat up babies' bottles.		
5. Choose from lots of thrilling rides.		

# Great River Theme Park

## Why visit ?

Great River Theme Park is one of the most popular theme parks in Britain. It is set in beautiful countryside and has paths for both walking and cycling. With more than 35 amazing rides, it has something for everyone, and if it rains there are indoor attractions, like the luxury cinema. There are also plenty of cafés including the Pizza Palace, making it the perfect place to go for a fantastic family day out.



## Thrills and spills

Do you want excitement? Choose from lots of thrilling rides. The most well-known is the Millennium Dream, which cost £12 million to build; also popular is Dragon's Descent which reaches an incredible speed of 80 miles per hour. Other amazing rides include the Great River Splash (don't forget your waterproof coat) and the Minotaur, which has been voted the coolest ride ever.

## Fur and feathers

Do you love wildlife? Visit the zoo, with its range of animals from meerkats to peacocks. There is also a wonderful display of nature photographs in the Visitors' Centre, which is located near the Tea Room. Twice a day, you can help feed llamas and there are pony rides for older children.

## Tots and tinies

There are special rides for younger visitors, like the Timmy the Train ride. There is a soft play area with a ball pool, aimed at children under three. The Central Café provides nutritious meals to suit all budgets and will heat up babies' bottles.



## Just to reassure you

Safety is a priority at Great River Theme Park. State-of-the-art technology is used to ensure all rides are completely safe. There is an experienced team of maintenance engineers, and ride operators undergo many hours of training. There is a First Aid room near the Hot Dog Snack Bar. Bring sun cream if it is hot.

**Come and visit soon. You won't be disappointed.**

# Answers

1. Fact
2. Fact
3. Opinion
4. Fact
5. Opinion

**There's so much  
more to learn**

ALWAYS LEARNING