

No Pain, No Gain

True or False Quiz

Read out the following statements to your friends or family and ask them whether they think the statements are true or false.

1. **Brazil has won more world cup championships than any other country?** True (five). Germany and Italy are the next most successful with four wins each.
2. **Leprosy is a Biblical disease and doesn't exist anymore.** False: Each year, over 215,000 people around the world are diagnosed with leprosy, with the majority of new cases in India. And around four million people in the world live with leprosy-related disabilities.
3. **You can catch leprosy from touching someone.** False: Contrary to popular belief, leprosy is not very contagious. About 95% of the world's population are naturally immune to it. Leprosy is most likely passed on through droplets from the nose. To catch it, people would need to be in regular contact with someone who has it over a sustained period of time.
4. **People who own pet armadillos are more likely to catch leprosy.** True! Armadillos are one of only two animals known to contract leprosy and they can also pass it on to humans.
5. **People's fingers or toes fall off if they have leprosy.** False: People's hands and feet can become very damaged but they don't 'fall off'. The damage occurs because the bacteria attacks nerve endings meaning that parts of the person's body may become insensitive to pain. They can touch a hot pan or step on a nail and not realise they have hurt themselves which can lead to infection and in severe cases amputation of limbs.
6. **Centipedes always have 100 feet.** False: Adult centipedes can have between 15 and 177 pairs of legs.
7. **If a child or teenager has leprosy, they may be asked to leave school.** True: In some countries/regions, people are very fearful of the disease and many myths or superstitions abound. This can lead to discrimination. There are cases of children and teenagers not being able to go to school because they have leprosy, or even just because a parent or grandparent had it.

8. **A slug's blood is green.** True: They do not have iron in their blood like humans and other animals do.

9. **It is acceptable to term someone who has leprosy a 'leper'.** False: it breeds a sense of stigma and isolation. The word leper has been used over the years, not just in relation to a leprosy- affected person, but also in relation to social exclusion.