

Food for Thought

Time to put your thinking caps on

1. **"I am."** is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
2. **No word** in the English language **rhymes with month, orange, silver, and purple.**
3. **'SWIMS'** upside down still looks like **'SWIMS'.**
4. The sentence **"The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog."** uses every letter in the alphabet.
5. **'Aloha'** is a Hawaiian word that means both **hello and goodbye.**
6. **'Dreamt'** is the only English word that ends in the letters **'mt'**
7. **Silent and Listen** are spelt with the same letters.
8. The Governor of Hunan Province in **China banned Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland** because he believed that animals should not be given the power to use the language of humans and to put animals and humans on the same level would be 'disastrous'.
9. The first ever book written on a typewriter is Mark Twain's, **"The Adventure of Tom Sawyer."**
10. The **longest sentence ever printed** in a novel is 823 words long, written by Victor Hugo in Les Misérables.

11.Shakespeare invented over 1,000 words, which he incorporated into his writing. Some of the words and phrases invented by this famous poet include:

Addiction — Being psychologically or physically dependent on something, usually a drug.

Bedazzled — Blinded by something incredibly wonderful.

Cold-blooded — Either an animal with cold blood (like a reptile) or a way to describe someone who's cruel and indifferent to emotion.

Swagger — To walk in a way that shows you're boasting or disrespectful.

Break the ice — To relieve the tension or silence in a conversation by talking.

12.Lockdown Coronavirus OED'S WORDS of the year

The revolution in working habits during the pandemic has affected language with both 'remote' and 'remotely' seeing more than 300 per cent growth in use since March. 'On mute' and 'unmute' have seen 500 per cent rise since March, while the portmanteaus 'workation' and 'staycation' also increased drastically.

13.**Acronym ASMR, coined in 2010**, means autonomous sensory meridian response that begins on the scalp and moves down the body. It is also known as 'brain massage', and can be triggered by placid sights and sounds such as whispers, accents and crackles.

14.**'Lockdown'** is Collin's dictionary WORD OF THE YEAR.

15.**November 11** is celebrated as the **National Education Day**. In 2008, it was chosen to commemorate the birth anniversary of Independent India's first education minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

16.What is your 'ikigai'?

The Japanese concept of 'ikigai' or the reason for being' combines purpose, passion, vocation and profession.

17.Words to avoid when writing-

Totally, definitely, probably, basically- These words don't add information to a sentence.

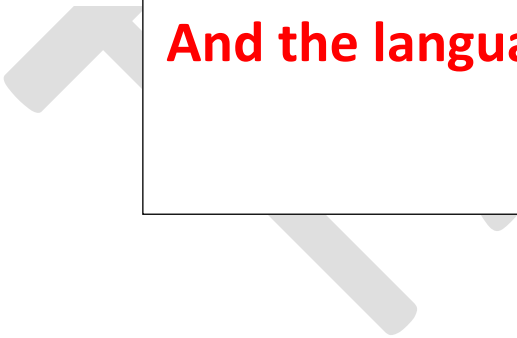
Very- accurate adjectives don't need qualifiers.

Amazing- instead use wonderful, incredible, startling, marvellous, astonishing

18.Posing a question and then immediately answering it yourself is called **sermocination**.

19.The **opposite of déjà vu is jamais vu-** the unnerving feeling that something very familiar is completely new.

20.**Hogwash** is literally kitchen scraps used to feed pigs. **The first writer to use it to mean 'nonsense' was Mark Twain.**



**Words are the whispering
breath of the mind
The sweet music of the heart
And the language of our soul**