

# Answers

1. What is an alternative name for 'April Fools' Day'?

**An alternative name for April Fools' Day is 'All Fools' Day'.**

2. What is the name of the calendar system we use in the UK?

**The name of the calendar system we use in the UK is the Gregorian calendar.**

3. Why were people celebrating New Year on the 1st April?

**People were celebrating New Year on 1st April because before the calendar change, this is where New Year used to be.**

4. Name one other possible origins of April Fools' Day are earlier than the 1500s?

**One possible origin of April Fools' Day is:**

**(either from)**

- **the book 'The Canterbury Tales'**
- **the Roman festivals of 'Hilaria'.**

5. What does the Scottish word 'Gowk' mean?

**A 'Gowk' is a cuckoo or a foolish person.**

6. The author uses the phrase: "**sprig** of spaghetti"

Which word most closely matches the word **sprig**?



**offshoot**

7. Who usually has fish stuck to their backs on April Fools' Day in France and who will have put them there?

**Adults will have fish stuck to their backs on April Fools' Day in France. They will have been stuck there by children.**

8. Can you really buy left-handed burgers? Give a reason for your answer.

**No, you cannot buy left-handed burgers because it is in the text as an April Fool prank and that means that it is a trick and therefore not real.**

9. What might someone say to you if you tried to play a trick on them in the afternoon of the 1st of April?

**In the afternoon on the 1st of April, if you play a trick on someone they might say, "April Fools' has passed and gone, you are the fool and I am none."**

10. Give two reasons why you think the BBC spoof documentary on spaghetti trees was such a successful prank?

**An open-ended question and a good opportunity to watch the video on the Internet and discuss why it was so successful.**

**Reasons can include:**

- **Made by the trusted BBC**
- **People weren't as used to pranks at that time.**
- **Looked and sounded like a serious documentary**
- **Spaghetti was still quite new to people in the UK in the 1950s so people knew less about how it was made.**
- **Showed footage of people actually picking spaghetti and it hanging on trees.**
- **In the 1950s fewer people in the UK will have visited Italy.**