


Lead-in

- 1 Are there any circumstances when it is justifiable to tell a lie? Think of some examples.
- 2 Match the expressions related to truth and lies (1–10) to the definitions (a–j).
 - 1 a home truth
 - 2 a white lie
 - 3 a tall story
 - 4 the honest truth
 - 5 a fib
 - 6 a blatant lie
 - 7 a pack of lies
 - 8 to fool someone
 - 9 to make something up
 - 10 to mislead someone
 - a be dishonest by not telling the whole truth
 - b to invent a story or an excuse
 - c an unpleasant fact about someone, which is difficult for them to hear
 - d a series of untruths
 - e an exciting, but unbelievable story
 - f an obvious lie
 - g a small, childish lie
 - h something that is completely true
 - i to make someone believe something that is actually untrue, often as a joke
 - j a lie with good intentions
- 3 Your teacher will give you some examples of types of truth and lies. Work in groups and use the expressions in 2 to describe each one.
- 4 Tell your partner about a personal experience with one of the lies or truths from 2.

Input

- 1  Listen to a radio show called *Truth and lies* and answer the questions.
 - What does the contestant tell us?
 - Do the other contestant and the presenter believe it?
 - Is it true?

2 ▶ Listen to excerpts from the radio show and complete the audio script.

1

A Yes, hello. My first statement is this: 'The tennis player Roger Federer stole my pen!'

P Well,¹. When did that happen?

2

A It was like this. I was on a business trip to Switzerland and while I was there, I went to a local tennis club for a game.

P²! You played in the same tennis club as Roger Federer? Surely he plays in some special club just for professional players.

A I know³, but it just happened to be his local club and remember, he wasn't well known at that time.

3

S You chatted with him? You chatted with Roger Federer? No, I'm beginning to think⁴!

A No.⁵ I happened to have a tennis magazine with me, so he signed the front cover, but forgot to give me the pen back ...

4

P OK. So, is it a truth or a lie? What do you think?

S Do you know,⁶.

5

P Hmm ... I thought it was a lie at first, but now⁷. I'll go along with you and say it's the truth.

Language focus

1 Complete the table with the phrases you used to complete the excerpts in Input 3.

It's true/probably true	It's a lie/probably a lie	Neutral/Unsure

2 Add these expressions to the table in 1.

I really have no idea.

It has to be true.

I have my doubts.

It's difficult to tell one way or the other.

I think it could be true.

It sounds possible.

If you ask me, it's a complete lie.

3 Your teacher will tell you some 'facts'. Use the expressions from the table to give your opinions.

Task

- 1 You are going to play 'Truth or lie'. Work in pairs and write sentences about yourselves (they can be true or false).
- 2 Work with another pair. Take it in turns to read one of your statements. The other pair can ask questions and comment as you tell the story and then guess if it is the truth or a lie. You get one point for a correct guess or for fooling the other team.
- 3 Which pair won the most points? Were there any good lies? Were there any surprising truths?

Review