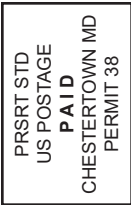
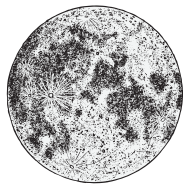


# Trivia

The "dark side of the moon" isn't always dark. The term refers to the side of the Moon that faces away from Earth, but it gets sunlight as much as the side we can see. The Moon orbits Earth, so all sides get illuminated by the Sun at different times.



Tardigrades, or water bears, can survive in the vacuum of space. These microscopic creatures are resilient enough to withstand extreme conditions, including freezing, drying out, radiation, making them one of the most durable life forms on Earth.

The first modern computer mouse was made of wood. Invented by Douglas Engelbart in 1964, it was a simple wooden box with two wheels. It revolutionized human-computer interaction and set the stage for today's sleek designs.

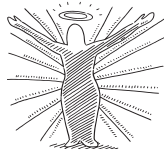
The origin of the hot dog is debated, but one theory is that it was introduced at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. German immigrants served sausages in a bun, making them portable for fairgoers. The name "hot dog" was coined as a joke about the sausages resembling dachshund dogs.

The first email was sent in 1971 by Ray Tomlinson. He sent a message to himself over a network and used the "@" symbol to separate the username from the computer name, setting the stage for the modern email system.

If someone tells you they're "sweating like a pig" you might want to point out to them that if they were being biologically accurate, that would mean they were not sweating at all. Swine are born without sweat glands, so when they need to cool off, their only option tends to be to find a cool puddle of mud they can roll around in.

The word "alphabet" comes from the first two letters of the Greek alphabet: alpha and beta. The ancient Greeks merged their syllabary with a new writing system that eventually evolved into the modern alphabet we use today. The word alphabet serves as a simple yet lasting reminder of these origins.

The "halo effect" is a cognitive bias where we assume someone's overall character based on one trait. For instance, if someone is physically attractive, we might assume they are also smart, friendly, and capable, even without any supporting evidence.



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# Dates in History

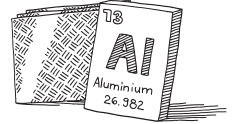
**1787** On September 17, The U.S. Constitution was signed by 39 delegates at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787, replacing the ineffective Articles of Confederation. The Articles had created a weak central government, prompting states to call for a new system. Delegates from all but one state convened and, led by George Washington, crafted a federal government with checks and balances. The Great Compromise established a bicameral legislature. The Constitution required ratification by nine states to take effect; despite opposition over lack of individual rights, it was ratified after promises of amendments. The Bill of Rights was added in 1791, and all 13 original colonies eventually ratified the Constitution, making it the oldest written constitution still in use.

**1964** On September 1, pitcher Masanori Murakami became the first Japanese man to play in U.S. baseball's major leagues. Murakami pitched a scoreless eighth inning for the San Francisco Giants in a 4-1 loss to the New York Mets in front of 39,379 fans at Shea Stadium.

**1972** On September 4, Mark Spitz, a U.S. swimmer born in 1950, made history at the 1972 Munich Olympics by winning seven gold medals—each in world-record time—a feat unmatched until Michael Phelps in 2008. Starting competitive swimming at age six, Spitz quickly rose through the ranks, earning national and world records in his youth. Though he underperformed at the 1968 Olympics, he trained hard at Indiana University and returned stronger. In Munich, he dominated in multiple freestyle and butterfly events, setting seven world records. His triumph was followed by tragedy when Palestinian terrorists attacked the Israeli team. As a Jewish athlete, Spitz was evacuated for his safety. He returned home a national hero, gained fame and endorsements, but retired from competition soon after. He was later honored with inductions into both the International and U.S. Olympic Halls of Fame.

# On the Lighter Side

Why can't you trust chemists?  
Periodically, they're wrong.



What do you call a cow missing a leg?  
Lean beef.

Sometimes I tuck my knees into my chest and lean forward.  
That's just how I roll.

Uncle Ben has died. No more Mr. Rice Guy.

How do you get two whales in a car?  
Start in England and drive west.

My friend asked me to help him round up his 37 sheep.  
I said "40".

I've found a job helping a one armed typist do capital letters.  
It's shift work.

What does Charles Dickens keep in his spice rack?  
The best of thymes, the worst of thymes.

Have you heard about those new corduroy pillows?  
They're making headlines.

I used to be addicted to soap, but I'm clean now.

I went on a once-in-a-lifetime holiday. Never again.

It takes a lot of balls to golf like me.

What does a nosy pepper do?  
Gets jalapeño business!

