What is the Difference Between a Fact and an Opinion?

A fact can be proven. An opinion is the way that someone feels about a subject and it cannot be proven. Being able to tell the difference between a fact and an opinion will improve your reading comprehension.

Examples

**Fact:** Asia is the largest continent.
Checking an on-line or printed encyclopedia can prove this statement.

**Opinion:** Asia is the prettiest continent.
This statement cannot be proven. One person may agree that Asia is the prettiest continent, while another may think Africa is the prettiest.

**Fact:** John F. Kennedy was a President of the United States.
Checking an on-line or printed encyclopedia can prove this statement.

**Opinion:** John F. Kennedy was the most handsome of all the Presidents.
This statement cannot be proven. One person may agree that John F. Kennedy was the most handsome of all the Presidents, while another may disagree, believing that Jimmy Carter was the most handsome.

Try This!

Choose the correct answer.

1] Four times four equals sixteen.
   a] fact  
   b] opinion

2] The school day lasts too long.
   a] fact  
   b] opinion

3] Florida is a peninsula.
   a] fact  
   b] opinion