

# Time Will Tell ~ excerpt



# Trivia quiz: It's Time You Knew

1. Although its origins are more complicated, today a blue moon refers to a second full moon in a single solar calendar month. It's unusual enough to make "once in a blue moon" mean a long time, but not really *that* rare. How often does it happen on average?

- a. About once a year \_\_\_\_
- b. About once every two or three years \_\_\_\_



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2. Stopwatches first became popular about 1855 when there was keen interest in what sport?

- a. Boxing \_\_\_\_
- b. Horseracing \_\_\_\_





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3. The term “moveable feast” means

- a. A holiday that is not fixed by a specific, unchanging date (like Easter or Yom Kippur) \_\_\_\_
- b. A festival that generally takes place outdoors. (It's related to “al fresco, i.e., dining outdoors) \_\_\_\_





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4. Clocks run in the direction we consider clockwise because

They mimic the pattern of sun on a sundial (If sundials had first developed in the Southern Hemisphere today's clocks might be programmed counter-clockwise.) \_\_\_\_

They follow the same direction that right-handed people (i.e., most people) use in drawing a circle. \_\_\_\_





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- a. After a popular song from the late 1800s \_\_\_\_
  - b. After the founder of a popular clock manufacturing firm (“We call that style a ‘grandfather clock’ after Grandpa Waterbury.”) \_\_\_\_



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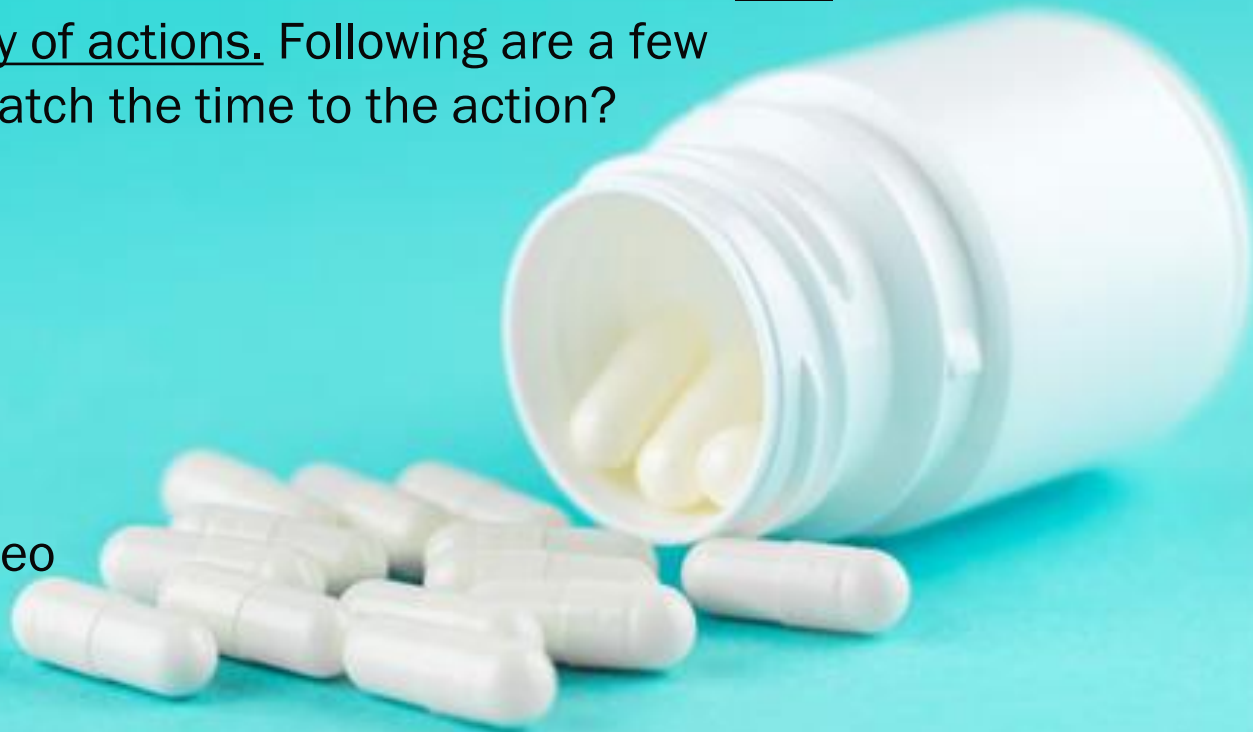
The magazine Mental Floss created a timeline of the best time to take a variety of actions. Following are a few excerpts. Can you match the time to the action?

8. 8:30 a.m. \_\_\_\_

9. 10:00 a.m. \_\_\_\_

10. 1:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_

- a. Take an aspirin
- b. Watch a funny video
- c. Make a decision



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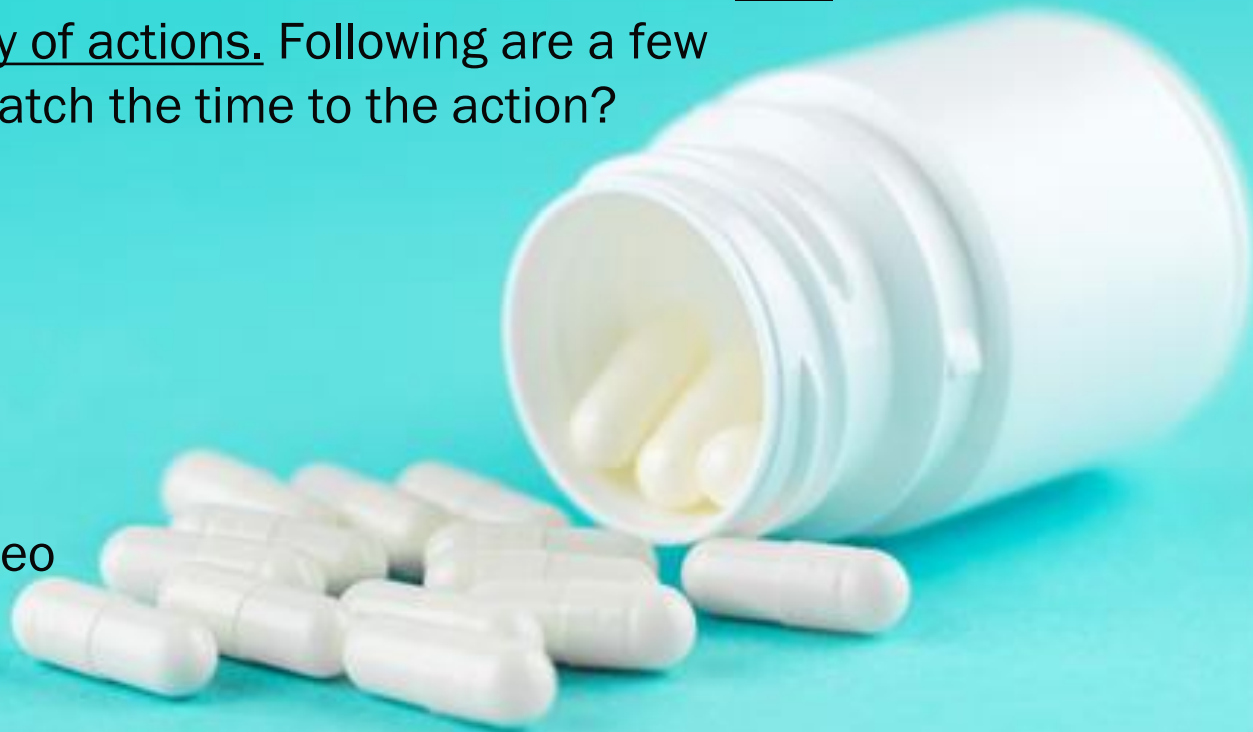
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Here is the reasoning behind the times cited in the article:

- 8:30 a.m. (or right after we wake up) is the best time to make a decision
- 10:00 a.m., being the most common time for both heart attacks and migraines, is the best time to take an aspirin
- 1:00 p.m. is the time when the national mood is at its lowest, so perk yourself up with something funny



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a bright yellow sponge, cleaning a dark brown wooden surface. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the sponge is being used to wipe the wood grain. The background is a blurred wooden floor.

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Here are a few more excerpts from the Mental Floss timeline of the best time to take a variety of actions. Can you match the time to the action?

11. 4:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_

12. 5:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_


13. 10:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_

a. Exercise

b. Solve the world's problems

c. Clean house



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Here is the reasoning behind the times

- 4:30 p.m. is when our hand-eye coordination is highest, so clean the house (or shoot some hoops?)
- 5:00 p.m. is the best time for exercise because the next hour is when our body temperature is highest, increasing our stamina and strength.
- 10:00 p.m. is good for creative thinking because we do our best abstract thinking when we are tired and just let our minds wander.





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The URL for the Mental Floss article is no longer active, and when you look up “best time for various activities,” other articles aren't in agreement with the ones listed here. So, what do you think?

***Do you agree with the suggested times? Why or Why not?***



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14. Although H.G. Wells' 1895 novel *The Time Machine* began the popularization of the idea of traveling forward or backward through time, the idea had existed in myths for thousands of years.

True \_\_\_ False \_\_\_



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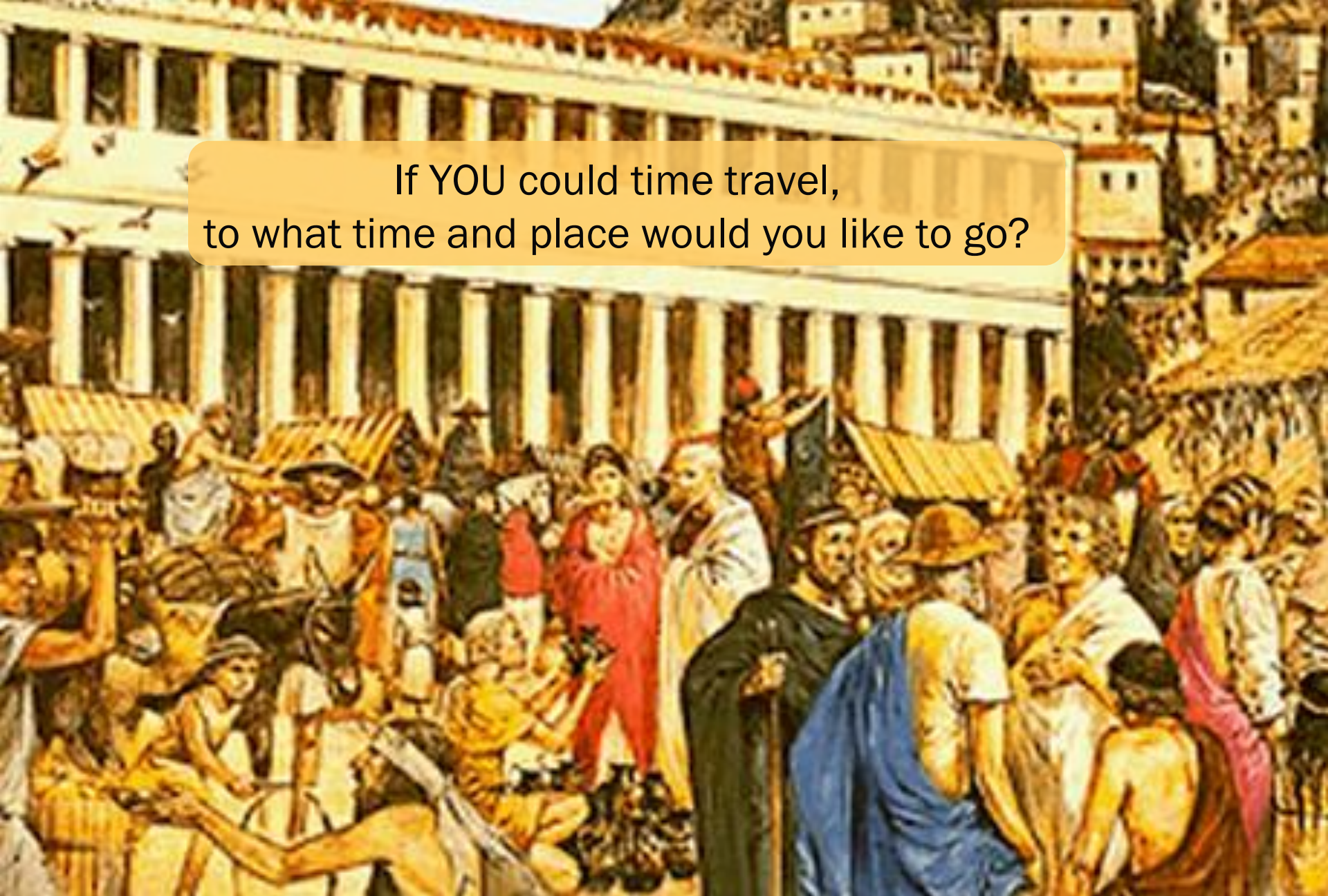


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True X False



If YOU could time travel,  
to what time and place would you like to go?



## A final thought:

How long a minute is,  
depends on which side  
of the bathroom door  
you're on.

~ Zall's Second Law



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