

FACT OR FICTION GAME





INSTRUCTIONS

Fact or Fiction is a simple game to get everyone talking and thinking about refugees before you begin a deeper conversation.

Divide your space in half with an imaginary line. One side represents "Fact" and one side represents "Fiction." Everyone starts the game standing on the imaginary line. The group leader or a group member reads a statement. Each guest decides whether they think the statement is fact or fiction by stepping across the imaginary line. Once everyone has chosen a side, the person reading the statement reveals the correct answer. After each statement, everyone begins again on the imaginary line.

You can also play Fact or Fiction by having participants fill out answers on a sheet, or reading aloud and having participants raise their hands to indicate fact or fiction.

You can keep track of correct responses to find a winner, or see how you did as a group and discuss anything participants were surprised to learn.

	Statement	Answer	Fact or Fiction
1	Refugees have smartphones.	Many refugees do have smartphones. Smartphones are a useful tool for refugees to track their locations, find safe routes to new places, and communicate with their families back home and abroad.	
2	There are more male refugees than female refugees.	This is a common misconception. Approximately 50% of refugees are women and children.	
3	More than 12 million Syrians have been forced to flee their homes.	The war in Syria is the worst humanitarian crisis of our time. More than 12 million Syrians - half of Syria's pre-war population - have been forced to flee.	
4	Refugees are illegal immigrants.	Immigrants leave their homes by choice. Refugees are forced to flee their homes due to persecution and fear for their safety. Initially considered asylum-seekers, each person's story and documentation are reviewed by a host country governments and/or international aid organization, such as UNHCR. Once a person's story is verified, he or she receives designation as a refugee.	

	Statement	Answer	Fact or Fiction
5	Refugees spend an average of 17 years living in exile.	Refugees spend an average of 17 years in limbo, without a permanent home, moving between refugee camps and host communities.	FACT
6	In 2014, a record number of refugees were able to return to their countries of origin.	In 2014, only 126,800 (0.06%) refugees were able to return to their home countries. This is the lowest number in more than 30 years.	fiction
7	Refugees are only from the Middle East.	Refugees come from all over the world: including Colombia, Guatemala, Mali, South Sudan, Ukraine and many other countries in Africa, Asia, South, and Central America - not just from Syria or other Middle Eastern countries, as many people think.	fiction
8	There are 20.2 million refugees in the world.	Globally, there are more forcibly displaced people today than at any point in history. In 2014, there were 20.2 million refugees, and a 78% increase in people applying for asylum in comparison to 2013.	FACT
9	All forcibly displaced people are refugees.	Forcibly displaced people are those who have to leave their homes due to war, conflict, or persecution. There are three commonly referred to categories of forcibly displaced people: Refugees cross a border into a new country to find safety. Internally displaced people are forced to flee to a safer place within their home country. Many refugees are initially considered asylum-seekers, and must apply to receive refugee designation.	fiction
10	Currently, more people are forcibly displaced worldwide than ever before recorded.	Today, there are more than 60 million people worldwide displaced by war, conflict, and persecution. 8.3 million more people were displaced in 2014 than in 2013, the highest annual increase in a single year.	FACT
11	42,500 people are forced to flee every day.	42,500 people - the same number of people it would take to fill a major league ballpark - flee every single day. There has been a sharp increase in the last few years. In 2010, 10,900 (75% fewer) people were fleeing each day.	FACT
12	Refugees are nothing like you and me.	This is far from true. Refugees are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, teachers, lawyers, doctors, small business owners, entrepreneurs, artists, writers, and students. Refugees are people whose lives have been put at risk and who want the chance to return home to their lives without the threat of violence or persecution.	fiction