

Warm Up to Paradox!

Remember:
a paradox is a
statement that appears
to contradict itself, but
may still be true.

I. Which Is a Paradox?

Write Y in the blank of each paradox. Write N in the blank if it is not a paradox.

_____ I know that I know nothing.

_____ He was too tired to go to sleep.

_____ I always lie.

_____ Call me if you find my phone.

_____ She'll be your friend through thick and thin.

II. True or False?

Write a T for the paradoxes that can be true.
Write an F for those that cannot be true.

_____ You have to spend money to save money.

_____ Deep down inside, he's a very shallow person.

_____ Sometimes you must be cruel to be kind.

_____ No one goes to that movie theater; it's too crowded.

_____ "I can resist anything but temptation." - Oscar Wilde

III. Explain the Paradox

Briefly explain why each statement below is a paradox.

1. Don't go into the water until you know how to swim.

2. Rule #10: Ignore all rules.

3. If you do not have an Internet connection, go to this website for help.

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Y Call me if you find my phone.

N She'll be your friend through thick and thin.

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Write an F for those that cannot be true.

Student's choice; examples of correct answers:

T You have to spend money to save money.

T Deep down inside, he's a very shallow person.

T Sometimes you must be cruel to be kind.

F No one goes to that movie theater; it's too crowded.

F "I can resist anything but temptation." - Oscar Wilde

III. Explain the Paradox

Briefly explain why each statement below is a paradox.

Student's answers will vary examples of correct answers:

1. Don't go into the water until you know how to swim.

You have to go into water to learn to swim.

2. Rule #10: Ignore all rules.

If you follow Rule #10, you must also ignore all the rules, including #10.

3. If you do not have an Internet connection, go to this website for help.

You cannot go to a website if you do not have connection to the Internet.