

# LISTEN A MINUTE.com

## Statistics

<http://www.listenAminute.com/s/statistics.html>



One minute a day is all you need to improve your listening skills.  
Focus on new words, grammar and pronunciation in this short text.  
Doing the online activities, discussion, survey and writing will help.  
Listen many times – enough for you to you understand everything.

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## THE LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/s/statistics.html>

There are lies, damned lies, and statistics. I like this saying. It means statistics lie even more than the biggest lies. It's true. Statistics can be used to dress up any numbers. Politicians always use statistics to let us know things are better than they really are. Or sometimes to show things are much worse. Most governments have departments that pump out statistics. I actually like statistics. It's interesting to look at the figures and make comparisons. I also like trying to find patterns in the numbers. My favourite statistics are about football. I can look at football stats for hours. The statistics I don't like so much are those about my finances. There's lots of red ink with these numbers and lots of minus signs.



## LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/s/statistics.html>

There are lies, \_\_\_\_\_ statistics. I like this saying. It means statistics lie even more than the biggest lies. It's true. Statistics can be \_\_\_\_\_ any numbers. Politicians always use statistics to let us know \_\_\_\_\_ than they really are. Or sometimes to show things \_\_\_\_\_. Most governments have departments \_\_\_\_\_ statistics. I actually like statistics. It's interesting to look at the figures and \_\_\_\_\_. I also like trying to find patterns in the numbers. My favourite statistics are about football. I can look at football \_\_\_\_\_. The statistics I don't like so much are those about my finances. There's \_\_\_\_\_ with these numbers and lots of minus signs.



## CORRECT THE SPELLING

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There are lies, dndeam lies, and statistics. I like this saying. It means statistics lie even more than the tiegsbg lies. It's true. Statistics can be used to dress up any numbers. aPisliotinc always use statistics to let us know things are better than they really are. Or sometimes to show things are much worse. Most governments have taetrnpmds that pump out statistics. I actually like statistics. It's strenietnig to look at the ifugesr and make comparisons. I also like trying to find rpeasttn in the numbers. My iaofuvret statistics are about football. I can look at football stats for hours. The statistics I don't like so much are those about my ecsinnaf. There's lots of red ink with these numbers and lots of inmsu signs.



## UNJUMBLE THE WORDS

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/s/statistics.html>

There are lies, damned lies, and statistics. I like this saying. It's the than more even lie statistics means biggest lies. It's true. be can Statistics any up dress to used numbers. let Politicians use to us always statistics know things are better than they really are. Or sometimes to show things are much worse. Most governments have that statistics pump departments out. I actually like statistics. It's and figures the at look to interesting make comparisons. like also I in patterns find to trying the numbers. are statistics favourite My football about. I can look at football stats for hours. The statistics I don't like much those my so are about finances. There's lots of red ink with these numbers and lots of minus signs.



 **DISCUSSION** (Write your own questions)

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS** (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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 **DISCUSSION** (Write your own questions)

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS** (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# STUDENT STATISTICS SURVEY

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/s/statistics.html>

Write five GOOD questions about statistics in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.  
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.





## **HOMEWORK**

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET INFO:** Search the Internet and find more information about statistics. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about statistics. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. STATISTICS POSTER** Make a poster about statistics. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

**5. MY STATISTICS LESSON:** Make your own English lesson on statistics. Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Teach the class / another group when you have finished.

**6. ONLINE SHARING:** Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, MySpace page, Twitter stream, Del-icio-us / StumbleUpon account, or any other social media tool to get opinions on statistics. Share your findings with the class.

