

# Trivia

The longest one-syllable words in the English language are "scaunched" and "strengthened." Some suggest that "squirreled" could be included, but squirrel is intended to be pronounced as two syllables (squir-rel) according to most dictionaries. "Screeched" and "strengths" are two other long one-syllable words, but they only have 9 letters.



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In late 2007, Netflix got very close to releasing their own streaming device called The Netflix Player. However, Netflix's CEO, Reed Hastings, realized that if he put out his own streaming device, he would likely lose out on Netflix being available on other devices — like AppleTV — because he would be a direct competitor. With just a few weeks before the product was set to launch, Hastings canceled it. However, he decided to spin off the product to Roku, which was the company that had helped develop the device.

Octopuses have three hearts and blue blood. Octopuses have a unique circulatory system with three hearts—two pump blood to the gills, while the third pumps it to the rest of the body. Their blood is blue due to hemocyanin, a copper-based molecule that helps transport oxygen, unlike hemoglobin in humans, which is iron-based and makes our blood red. Interestingly, when an octopus swims, the heart that supplies blood to the body actually stops beating, which is why they prefer crawling over swimming—it's less tiring!

Cleopatra lived closer in time to the moon landing than to the pyramids. Cleopatra VII, the last active ruler of ancient Egypt, lived from 69 BC to 30 BC. The Great Pyramid of Giza was completed around 2560 BC, meaning Cleopatra lived about 2,500 years after its construction. However, the Moon landing in AD 1969 happened just 2,000 years after Cleopatra's time, making her temporally closer to modern space travel than to the ancient pyramids!

The voice of Mickey Mouse (Wayne Allwine) was married to the voice of Minnie Mouse (Russi Taylor) in real life.



[census.gov](http://census.gov)



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## Dates in History

**1924** On April 6, eight American pilots departed Seattle's Sand Point Naval Air Station in four modified Navy torpedo bombers, in hopes of becoming the first people to travel around the entire globe by air—something attempted unsuccessfully by several European flyers in previous years. After 175 days (flying time: 371 hours 11 minutes), and a few hiccups along the way, they completed the mission.

**1970** On April 11, the third manned lunar landing mission was launched from Florida, carrying astronauts James A. Lovell, John L. Swigert, and Fred W. Haise. The mission was headed for a landing on the Fra Mauro highlands of the moon. However, two days into the mission, disaster struck 200,000 miles from Earth when oxygen tank No. 2 blew up in the spacecraft. Swigert reported to mission control on Earth, "Houston, we've had a problem here," and it was discovered that the normal supply of oxygen, electricity, light, and water had been disrupted.

The landing mission was aborted, and the astronauts and controllers on Earth scrambled to come up with emergency procedures. The crippled spacecraft continued to the moon, looped around it, and began a long, cold journey back to Earth.

The astronauts and mission control were faced with enormous logistical problems in stabilizing the spacecraft and its oxygen supply, as well as running on batteries due to the loss of the fuel cells to allow successful reentry into Earth's atmosphere. Navigation was another problem, and Apollo 13's course was repeatedly corrected with dramatic and untested maneuvers. On April 17, tragedy turned to triumph as the Apollo 13 astronauts touched down safely in the Pacific Ocean.

**1974** On April 25, the NFL adopts a new overtime rule for regular-season games to prevent tie games. The rule change came as part of sweeping effort to improve the action and tempo of games. The league also moved goal posts from the front to the back of the end zone and limited contact defensive players can make with receivers.

## On the Lighter Side



What's the difference between an outlaw and an in-law?  
Outlaws are wanted.

What do you call a bear with no teeth?

A gummy bear

My IQ test results came back. They were negative.

Why aren't dogs good dancers?

Because they have two left feet.

How can you tell you're getting old?

When you go to an antique auction and three people bid on you.

If athletes get athlete's foot, what do fighter pilots get?

Missile toe.

How many paranoid people does it take to change a light bulb? Who wants to know?

If you arrest a mime, do you have to tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why did the rooster cross the road?

To prove he wasn't a chicken.

What do you call a steak that's been knighted by the queen?

Sir Loin.

