

Instruction: Complete the essay with the correct form verbs in brackets. (Past simple/present perfect)

### THE HISTORY OF SUPERSTITIONS

How long (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people \_\_\_\_\_ (have) superstitions? Probably since the world (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (begin)! For thousands of years, people (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (look) for ways to explain why certain things happen.

#### THE EVIL EYE



The superstition of the evil eye (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (exist) in Greece since ancient times. The ancient Greeks (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (believe) that some people could have a bad effect on others just by looking at them. Since then, Greek people (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (wear) special bracelets with a blue “eye” on them to protect them from evil.

#### Cats



For centuries, people (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) that cats have magical powers. For this reason, the ancient Egyptians (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (keep) cats in their homes and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (not allow) anyone to treat them badly.

#### THE NUMBER 13



Why (10) \_\_\_\_\_ this number \_\_\_\_\_ (become) an unlucky number? Some people say it is because there (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) 13 people at Christ's last meal. Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (not always be) an unlucky date. People only (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (start) being superstitious about it in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but no one really knows why.