

Complete the essay with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

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 13th (12) _____ (not always be) an unlucky date. People only (13) _____ (start) being superstitious about it in the 20th century, but no one really knows why.

