

c **Checker** Listen and repeat.

- 1 A pencil is cheaper than a pen.
- 2 China is bigger than Japan.
- 3 The kitchen is dirtier than the living room.
- 4 An apple is healthier than a cookie.
- 5 Canada is colder than Mexico.
- 6 Everest is higher than Kilimanjaro.

d **Checker** Listen again and repeat the sentences. Copy the rhythm.

## 4 READING

a Read the sentences. Do you think they are T (true) or F (false)? Then read the article and check.

- 1 There are fewer car accidents on Tax Day.
- 2 Elephants remember more than other animals.
- 3 South America is bigger than North America.
- 4 Margarine is healthier than butter.

b Guess the meaning of the **highlighted** words. Check the meaning and pronunciation in your dictionary.

## 5 LISTENING

**Checker** Listen to a conversation between a couple talking about two cities with the same name. Write T (true) or F (false).

- 1 More people live in Birmingham, UK than Birmingham, US.
- 2 Birmingham, US is bigger than Birmingham, UK.
- 3 Birmingham, US is greener than Birmingham, UK.
- 4 Birmingham, US is older than Birmingham, UK.
- 5 Birmingham, US is wetter than Birmingham, UK.
- 6 Birmingham, US is hotter than Birmingham, UK.

### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

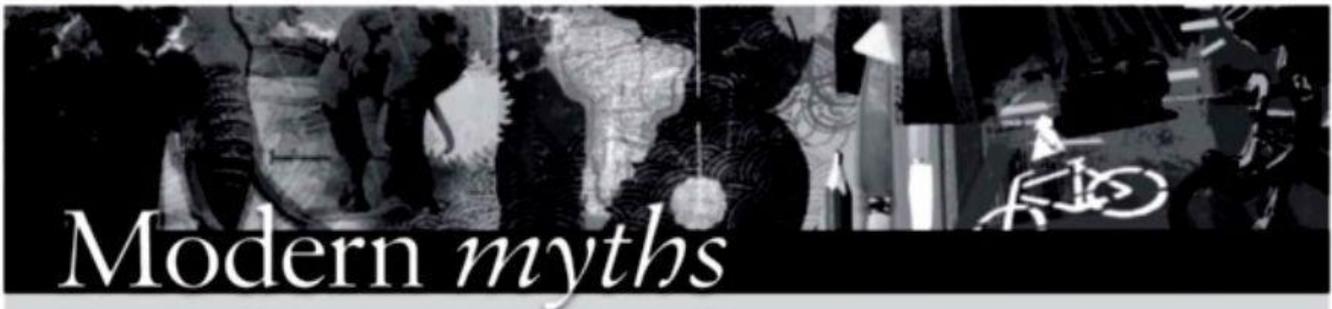
contestants /kən'testənts/

population /pə'pju:ləʃn/

prize /praɪz/

approximately /ə'prɒksəmətli/

win a competition /wɪn ə kəm'pi:tʃən/



# Modern myths

**1** Elephants have brains that are bigger than any other land mammal. The expression "an elephant never forgets" suggests that the bigger an animal's brain is, the better that animal can remember things. Animal researchers discovered that this is actually true for elephants! These animals can remember details about areas of land as big as 1,200 square miles!

**2** There are 12 countries in South America including Argentina and Brazil. It has an **area** of 6,888,062 square miles and its population is over 371,090,000. North America includes Canada and the US, but it also contains the countries of Central America. It covers an area of about 95,401,198 square miles, and its population is almost 529 million. This makes it bigger than South America.

**3** When the *American Medical Association* studied the number of people **injured** in traffic accidents in the US, they got a surprise. They discovered that there were more dangerous car accidents on **Tax Day**. Tax Day is every year around April 15. People in the US are busy around this time!

**4** Experts have different opinions about margarine and butter, and there is a big **argument** about which one is better for you. The truth is that margarine today is better than it was in the past because producers use a different type of vegetable oil. Butter still contains a lot of animal fat. Margarine today contains less fat which makes it healthier than butter.

Source: *American English File*