



How to spot a liar

How can we tell if someone is lying or telling the truth? Whether you're a viewer watching a politician talking to a journalist or you're talking to someone you know, there are certain tell-tale signs that can help you decide if someone is telling the truth or lying. Here we explain some of them.

First of all, there are the non-verbal signs of communication. 1_____. But when someone is lying, they may do this too much or for too long. If someone is staring at you too intensely while they say something, this may be because they're lying and trying too hard to convince you they're telling the truth. 2_____.

3_____. Someone who is lying may look hot and you'll be able to see sweat on their face. They will also touch their face a lot, and even cover their mouth without thinking. Other types of 'closed' gestures, such as folding their arms or crossing their legs, can be another sign of lying.

Gestures have a lot to do with lying, and especially important is when people make hand gestures. If someone makes hand gestures after they've finished speaking, it's because their mind is busy thinking about what to say next. 4_____. Using both hands in gestures or even hiding their hands in their pockets or under the table is another sure sign.

There are also verbal signs which can help viewers tell if someone they're watching is lying. If the speaker suddenly raises their voice or speaks in a higher voice, they're probably lying. The same is true if they use a lot of phrases like 'honestly' or 'to tell you the truth'. 5_____.

So whether verbal or non-verbal, there are a lot of ways people give the truth away, even when they're trying hard not to.

2. Read the article quickly and put these things in the order they are mentioned.

The face	Verbal signs
Eye contact	Gestures

3 Read the article again. For each gap (1-5), choose the correct sentence (a-g). There are two extra sentences. Listen and check.

- a They're not really focusing on what they're doing with their hands.
- b This is one of the hardest things to do when lying.
- c For example, in some cultures, making eye contact is important for people to trust you.
- d It may also be a sign that they're thinking hard about what to say next.
- e In fact, the face may display several signs of dishonesty.
- f Excessive use of fillers like 'uh', 'um' and 'like' is another verbal sign.
- g Pay attention to what they do next.