April Fools' Day

Reading exercise

Instructions: Read the text, the read the sentences. Decide if they are true or false. Write T for True and F for false.

April Fools Day is sometimes called All Fools'Day and it's one of the most light-hearted day of the year. Its origins are uncertain. Some see it as a celebration related to the turn of the seasons, while others believe it stems from the adoption of a new calendar. The day is not a national holiday in any country, but it is widely recognized throughout most European cultures and celebrated as a day when people play practical jokes and hoaxes on each other, both the jokes and their victims being known as "April fools". Hoax stories may be reported by the press and other media on this day and explained on subsequent days. A popular theory for the origin of the holiday holds that those who continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April 1st after the 1582 implementation of the Gregorian Christian calendar were mocked as "fools" or "fish". In several countries, the fish is a common symbol of the tradition.

April Fools' Day is observed throughout the Western world. Practices include sending someone on a "fool's errand," looking for things that don't exist; playing pranks; and trying to get people to believe ridiculous things.

The French call April 1 *Poisson d'Avril*, or "April Fish." French children sometimes tape a picture of a fish on the back of their schoolmates, crying "Poisson d'Avril" when the prank is discovered.

1. April Fools' Day is also known as All Fools Day.
2. It was originated in 1582.
3. This day is a national holiday.
4. It's a day when people play practical jokes and hoaxes on each other
5. In several countries, the turtle is a common symbol of the tradition.
6. Some examples of practical jokes are "fools errands", looking for things that don't exist, etc.
7. In France, April 1st is called "April Fish".