

Student A



Barack Obama Most people recognize the name of this famous politician but not many people know that he suffers from bathophobia which means he is afraid of going up stairs. He's had the phobia for about 40 years because that is when he fell down the stairs in his grandmother's house. The White House is a building which has two floors but the president and his family live on the ground floor. Curiously, bathophobics don't have a problem going down the stairs, only up!

True or false?



Jennifer Aniston This actress has a very common phobia called aviophobia. This means that she's afraid of flying. She's been afraid of flying since 2000, when she was on a small plane which was flying from Toronto to New York City. The plane flew into an electric storm and experienced a lot of turbulence. Since then, she's never caught a plane unless it's been absolutely necessary.

True or false?



Justin Timberlake This singer and actor is from the USA. He has to travel a lot because of his job and sometimes the arachnophobia he suffers from is a problem for him. He's been afraid of spiders for a long time. He thinks his phobia started at the age of seven or eight when he found a spider in his bed. Last year he was staying in a hotel and saw a spider in the bathroom. He couldn't kill it so he asked the receptionist to come and kill it for him!

True or false?

Student B



Nicole Kidman This Australian actress suffers from an unusual phobia called lepidopterophobia. This means that she's a person who doesn't like butterflies. She's had this phobia since she was a child but she can't remember exactly why or how the phobia started. When a butterfly comes near her, she sometimes has a panic attack. This phobia is, of course, a problem when she is making a film, especially if the director is filming outside!

True or false?



Orlando Bloom Have you seen *Pirates of the Caribbean*? If you have, then you'll probably remember this actor who appears in the film. But this 'brave' actor has a serious phobia which is swinophobia. This means that he is afraid of pigs and has been afraid of them since he was a teenager. Although this phobia isn't very common, it's had a direct effect on his career. Recently, a director asked him to be in the film *Animal Farm* but Orlando said no because it meant that he had to work with a pig!

True or false?



Madonna A person who has ataxophobia likes everything in his / her life to be tidy and clean. Madonna has had this phobia for a long time. In her biography, it says she's had it since she was born. For example, in her kitchen, the food and drinks in her fridge are all in a specific order. Her dresses and shoes also have to be separated into colours - black skirts with black jackets, red shoes with red dresses. She hates it when they're not in the right order.

True or false?