

Harbor Truth Check Answer Key

1. **Fact** - The attack began early morning on December 7, 1941.
2. **Fiction** - Many ships were damaged, but several were repaired and returned to service.
3. **Fact** - Early radar warnings were missed or misunderstood.
4. **Fiction** - The attack lasted about two hours, not several days.
5. **Fact** - The U.S. declared war on Japan the next day.
6. **Exaggeration** - Films often overemphasize the action and visuals for drama.
7. **Fact** - Japan wanted to weaken U.S. military strength in the Pacific.
8. **Fiction** - Hawaii became a state in 1959, long after the attack.
9. **Fact** - Americans united strongly in response to the tragedy.
10. **Fiction** - Some planes were destroyed, but not all of them.

Teacher's Guide:

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For Grades 4-5: Read each statement aloud and discuss key context clues together.
 - For Grades 6-8: Encourage students to provide short justifications citing evidence or reasoning.
- **Engagement Idea:** Let students act as "history detectives," marking each statement with color codes (green = fact, red = fiction, yellow = exaggeration).
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Have students research one common Pearl Harbor myth and write a short explanation correcting it.
 - Encourage reflection by asking, "Why is it important to tell history truthfully, even when it's emotional or painful?"