

True and False – references

<p>1. We've had a lot of hot summers in the past few years but none were as hot as the summer of 1976.</p>
<p>False: 15 of the UK's top 20 warmest years on record have all occurred this century - with the entire top 10 within the past two decades. Met Office Climate Information Centre. UK weather: 2022 was warmest year ever, Met Office confirms - BBC News https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-64173485 UK heatwave: How do temperatures compare with 1976? - BBC News https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/62212604</p>
<p>2. Living car-free reduces carbon emissions, on average, more than taking one fewer long-haul flight a year.</p>
<p>True: Living car free: 2.04 tCO₂ p.a. Electric car: 1.95 tCO₂ p.a. One less long-haul return flight: 1.68 tCO₂ p.a. Vegan diet: 0.8 tCO₂ p.a. Ivanova et al 2020 Quantifying the potential for climate change mitigation of consumption options - IOPscience https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ab8589</p>
<p>3. Eating fruit grown locally, and in season, can reduce its carbon footprint by as much as 750%.</p>
<p>True: Highly perishable veg and fruit, such as asparagus and berries, may be flown in when out of season, but you can buy UK produce when it's in season and freeze it. Compare strawberries bought in season locally at 490g CO₂e per 250g punnet with those grown locally in a hothouse out of season, or flown in from South Africa, at a whopping 3.65kg CO₂e for the same weight. The simple formula to cut your diet's carbon footprint - BBC Food https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/articles/carbon</p>
<p>4. Wild mammals make up only a quarter of the world's mammals, with three quarters being ourselves and our larder of livestock.</p>
<p>False In fact livestock makes up 62% of the world's mammal biomass and humans account for 34%, which leaves wild mammals at just 4% by this measure, far less than a quarter. (Biomass measures each animal in terms of tonnes of carbon, the building block of life. In 1900 the biomass of wild animals is estimated at 17% of the total, so humans have always affected their environment but we are doing so more and more.) Data from Our World in Data (and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences) https://ourworldindata.org/wild-mammals-birds-biomass Bar-On, Y. M., Phillips, R., & Milo, R. (2018). The biomass distribution on Earth. <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i>, 115(25), 6506-6511</p>

