

Re: How do extraterrestrial languages work ? ? ? ?

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A bit absurd but a common type of joke among mathematicians (and maybe others). In a similar way, I once had this conversation with a colleague at about 6 in the evening.

Colleague: There are very few people still working, in the old days the office would be busy at this time.

Me: Maybe they are just eating and will come back later. Any time that I have been here at midnight, the office was very busy.

I would claim that my last sentence was true. To disprove it, my colleague would need an example of an occasion that I was in the office at midnight and it was not busy. No such example exists hence the statement is true.

In a similar way, I have never made a mistake while speaking a native American language.

Another thing along these lines is the famous question: Have you stopped beating your wife? If you never have, how should you answer?
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