

1. Which of the following do you believe in? Why (not)?



2. Look at the results of a 2005 study into the beliefs of U.S. citizens.

Do you believe in?	yes	not sure	no
ghosts	32%	19%	48%
spiritual healing	55%	17%	26%
demonic possession	42%	13%	44%
clairvoyance	26%	24%	50%
telepathy	31%	27%	42%
witches	21%	12%	66%
haunted houses	37%	16%	46%
astrology	25%	19%	55%
communicating with the dead	21%	23%	55%
reincarnation	20%	20%	59%

following www.gallup.com

Identify:

- 3 supernatural phenomena that are most often believed to be true
- 4 supernatural phenomena that are mostly disbelieved
- 1 supernatural phenomenon that people are mostly unsure about

Student's Worksheet 2 Do you believe...?



3. Why do people believe in supernatural phenomena? Below are some possible reasons. How much do you agree with each one?

Some of the beliefs can be very comforting. If you're ill and traditional medicine fails, you want to believe that spiritual healing can help you.

> It's because of the paranormal industry. The books, the horror films, the television shows, the psychic hotlines are all interested in getting people to believe in order to earn money from them.

When you're afraid, you become more observant, so you notice things you normally wouldn't and you start believing that they're connected to paranormal activity.

> Such beliefs appear when people experience something they cannot find a scientific explanation for.