

## Man fined \$560 for farting at police

20th June, 2020



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A man in Austria has been fined for a very unusual act. His "crime" was "farting loudly in front of police officers". The unnamed man was sitting on a bench in Austria's capital Vienna. The Vienna Police Department tweeted earlier this

week about the man's actions. It described what happened after police officers approached the man. It wrote: "He rose slightly from the park bench, looked at the officers, and apparently intentionally released a massive fart in the immediate vicinity of the officers." The police immediately gave the man a fine. The offence was for "violating public decency by loudly blowing a bowel in front of police officers". It was also for making, "an unduly disturbing noise".

The fine issued to the man is for 500 euro – about \$560. If the man does not pay the fine within five days, he could go to prison for five days. The Austrian police have defended their actions and say the officers were right to issue the fine. A spokesperson said the man had been doing other annoying things before he farted. The police officers who issued the fine said the man was misbehaving. They said that he had been behaving in a way that would upset other people. The spokesperson said the man only had one thing on his mind when he stood up in front of police officers, and that was to fart at them. The officers said he, "let go a massive intestinal wind apparently with full intent".

Sources: [newsweek.com](http://newsweek.com) / [ladbible.com](http://ladbible.com) / [globalnews.ca](http://globalnews.ca)

### Writing

Farting in public should be illegal in all countries. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

unusual / crime / farting / capital / police / officers / park / bench / fine / noise / five days / prison / actions / annoying / misbehaving / spokesperson / mind / wind

### True / False

- a) The article said a man was fined for doing something unusual. T / F
- b) A man farted at police officers after getting off a park bench. T / F
- c) The police officers were from the Austrian city of Salzburg. T / F
- d) Police officers said the man was fined for making a disturbing noise. T / F
- e) The man could go to prison if he does not pay the fine. T / F
- f) Many police officers said it was wrong to fine the man. T / F
- g) A police officer said the man was behaving well before he farted. T / F
- h) Police officers said the man farted by accident. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>unusual</b>    | a. irritating   |
| 2. <b>approached</b> | b. worrying     |
| 3. <b>apparently</b> | c. gave         |
| 4. <b>violating</b>  | d. huge         |
| 5. <b>disturbing</b> | e. moved toward |
| 6. <b>issued</b>     | f. brain        |
| 7. <b>annoying</b>   | g. strange      |
| 8. <b>behaving</b>   | h. breaching    |
| 9. <b>mind</b>       | i. acting       |
| 10. <b>massive</b>   | j. seemingly    |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What are the do's and don'ts of farting?
- c) How do you feel when people fart in front of you?
- d) Should scientists create medicine to stop people farting?
- e) What do you think of the word 'fart'?
- f) Why does the body make us fart?
- g) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the man who was fined?

## Phrase Match

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. fined for a very                     | a. the man a fine           |
| 2. what happened after police officers  | b. front of police officers |
| 3. The police immediately gave          | c. disturbing noise         |
| 4. The offence was for violating public | d. is for 500 euro          |
| 5. making an unduly                     | e. to issue the fine        |
| 6. The fine issued to the man           | f. decency                  |
| 7. he could go to                       | g. misbehaving              |
| 8. the officers were right              | h. unusual act              |
| 9. the man was                          | i. prison for five days     |
| 10. he stood up in                      | j. approached the man       |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of the police fining the man?
- What do you think of farting?
- Why do people fart?
- What do people in your country think about farting?
- Do you think farting in public should be a crime?
- Why do many people say they never fart?
- What kind of food makes people fart?
- Have you ever embarrassed yourself by farting?

## Spelling

- fined for a very Inausuu act
- farting loudly in front of police ieforcsf
- sitting on a bench in Austria's tailpca Vienna
- police cpherpadao the man
- released a msasvei fart
- making an unduly rutbisdnji noise
- The fine diseus to the man
- he could go to nrsoip for five days
- doing other nngoainy things
- the man was siaevgnmhib
- The spseroskopne said the man only...
- papenyrtal with full intent

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. e	3. j	4. h	5. b
6. c	7. a	8. i	9. f	10. d

## Role Play

### Role A – Farting

You think farting in public is the thing deserves the biggest fine. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things do not deserve a fine. Also, tell the others which one of these should not be subject to a fine (and why): littering, swearing or showing anger.

### Role B – Littering

You think littering is the thing deserves the biggest fine. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things do not deserve a fine. Also, tell the others which one of these should not be subject to a fine (and why): farting, swearing or showing anger.

### Role C – Swearing

You think swearing in public is the thing deserves the biggest fine. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things do not deserve a fine. Also, tell the others which one of these should not be subject to a fine (and why): littering, farting or showing anger.

### Role D – Showing Anger

You think showing anger in public is the thing deserves the biggest fine. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things do not deserve a fine. Also, tell the others which one of these should not be subject to a fine (and why): littering, swearing or farting.

## Speaking – Fines

Rank these with your partner. Put the things that most deserve a fine at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| • farting in public | • swearing in public          |
| • littering         | • not returning library books |
| • speeding          | • idling car engines          |
| • public anger      | • drinking alcohol in public  |

### Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.