

# SATICHE



selections of logological diversions,  
verbal amuses-bouche, and scientific recreations

*Volume 4*

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## Contents

Things I learned from action movies .....	7
Rejected rejection.....	7
How to photograph a puppy .....	8
Fulldeckisms .....	8
Limericks.....	9
The etiology and treatment of childhood .....	10
If they made toasters... ..	15
New crossbred isms for the '90s.....	16
In the beginning .....	17
Questions .....	18
Fannee .....	18
Chains .....	19
Generation X and their office lingo.....	22
Microsoft TV dinner product instructions .....	23
Helpful camping tips .....	24
How to satisfy a woman every time .....	25
How to satisfy a man every time .....	26
Ways to get rid of telemarketeers.....	26
Fathers' Day observations .....	27
Barbie rebels .....	28
Laws .....	29
Fun things to do on the first day of class.....	30
Computer thoughts .....	31
How to write a paper .....	33
Breaking up is hard to do .....	34
The warning signs of insanity .....	35
Ground rules for lab workers.....	36
Keeping score in a relationship .....	37
Male and female thoughts.....	38

Laws of work.....	40
Ebonics spinoffs .....	41
God v. government.....	42
Quotes.....	42
Mathematics terms .....	43
Various thoughts .....	44
How to be annoying .....	44
Reasons why computers must be female.....	46
Fun things to do at the movies .....	47
Men.....	48
Eugene Ormandy quotes .....	48
Proper fits .....	50
PC Unix.....	50
Men and women are different .....	51
Of Microsoft and manholes.....	53
There was a {physicist / engineer / etc..}.....	54
Boasting computer scientists.....	55
Keeping a high profile in an open plan office .....	56
Corporate astrology .....	57
If women ran the world.....	58
GirlFriend 6.0.....	59
BoyFriend 6.0 .....	60
How to tell a businessman from a businesswoman .....	61
Project managers.....	62
In the future, life will not be like Star Trek .....	62
Astrological prayers .....	65
If at first you don't succeed .....	65
Thoughts to get you through almost any crisis.....	65
Corporate travel guidelines.....	66
99.9%.....	67
Murphy's laws for frequent flyers .....	67
Computer use.....	68
Life and work.....	70
Bedroom physics .....	70

What happens to all those socks?.....	71
Letter of recommendation .....	73
Quotes from Groucho Marx.....	74
Beer and ice cream diet .....	75
Computer beers .....	77
Library enquiries.....	78
Ways to get thrown out of chemistry lab.....	79
If restaurants functioned like Microsoft.....	80
Look and feel lawsuit 666 .....	81
Dictionary of employment want ads terminology.....	82
If's you need to know to get along at work.....	82
Office dieting .....	82
How to unnerve up your boss a little .....	83
Business marriages .....	84
Pranks to pull on new employees.....	84
Definitions from "The Cynic's Dictionary" .....	88
You know you're drinking too much coffee when... ..	90
Overdone English.....	91
Top 10 reasons for being... ..	92
From the depths of Emo Phillips.....	95
Job screening.....	96
Basic cooking and food terms .....	97
Stop the genocide .....	97
Distaff quotes.....	98
Variations on the Lord's prayer.....	98
Camouflage .....	99
Ways to confuse trick-or-treaters.....	99
Things that make you go hmmm.....	100
You know you're having a band day when .....	101
Bit creation.....	102
How programmers hunt elephants .....	102
If computer companies made chickens that crossed the road.....	103
Good news, bad news .....	104
Parental observations .....	105

The Army's definition of a cow .....	105
Subtle supplanters of serious sayings .....	106
What is a turducken? .....	107
A day off?.....	108
Intelligence .....	108
Some classic moments in journalism .....	109
Famous sayings .....	110
Cyber gifts .....	110
Cat lover's Christmas .....	111
Signs of life.....	112
Notes on dieting .....	113
Airline inertial guidance systems .....	113
Answering machine messages .....	114
Geographical meal .....	119
Trivia.....	120
Electrical answers .....	121
Why ask why? .....	121
Parents' glossary.....	122
Things we have learned from the movies .....	123
Margie's thoughts.....	124
Future old timers .....	125
Laws of physics explained .....	126
Birth order .....	126
German lesson .....	128
Hints and tips .....	129
Little facts of life.....	129
Unix problems .....	130
Tools for fixing a car .....	131
Twelve days of Christmas policy .....	132
Slightly less common latin phrases.....	134
More things we have learned from the movies.....	134
Office tips .....	136
Birthday belief systems .....	137
Dog quotes .....	137

Mum quotes .....	138
Notes from Washington D.C.....	141
Top biblical ways to acquire a wife.....	142
Philosophies to start the week with .....	142
Ineffective daily affirmations.....	143
High tech computer sales jargon.....	144
All-purpose businessman’s vocabulary .....	145
Why men should be built by Fuji .....	145
Rules of cricket .....	146
Strangest U.S. laws .....	146
Tips .....	153
Why dogs are better than men.....	155
Why dogs are better than women.....	156

## Things I learned from action movies

1. No matter what my problem is, it's the fault of someone other than myself, and the appropriate response is to find that person and kill him with my bare hands.
2. To be truly attractive, a woman must wear high heels and an outfit so tight you can tell whether she's cold or not from across the room.
3. There are two kinds of women in the world: The type that want to go to bed with you, and the type want to kill you. Both types are physically attractive and under 25 years old.
4. If I rudely argue with my boss in front of my co-workers, not only won't he fire me, but he will gain a profound respect for me.
5. If I can find an important enough mission, it will supercede my obligations to perform household chores, bathe, and call the next day.
6. If I go without bathing, swear a lot, and treat women badly, they will adore me.
7. If a woman tries to clean a bullet wound and I curse in pain, she will fall in love with me.
8. Anyone who isn't a cop, mercenary soldier, and/or private investigator is a homosexual. Or at least a sissy.
9. If I have a prolonged fist-fight with another guy and neither of us dies, we will become best friends.
10. My arch-enemy will bear an uncanny resemblance in age and bearing to my father, and he will ake it clear that he has gained a deep respect for me before I kill him with my bare hands.
11. When I shoot people, they will die quickly and cleanly, and I will never be arrested or troubled by their widowed wife and children. When people shoot me, however, I will at most receive a 'flesh wound,' which will be tended to by a beautiful woman.
12. If I'm white I will befriend at least one black guy, or one white guy if I'm black. If I am Latino the monster/villain will kill me halfway through the film, urging the hero to even greater levels of violence.
13. If an aged scientist is involved in any way, he will have a beautiful daughter who will gaze at me adoringly.
14. If royalty is involved, it will include a beautiful princess who will gaze at me adoringly.
15. If I have a kid partner, he will be tightly-muscled, clean-cut, and gaze at me adoringly.
16. If I am asked to compete against a world champion at any sport or game of any type, I will win. This will infuriate my opponent, who will then try to kill me.
17. If my opponent has a side-kick or henchman, he will never have a sensible name like 'Rick,' or 'Steve.'
18. Beautiful women will frequently furrow their brows with concern and ask, "When's the last time you got any sleep?" They will never ask when I last bathed or used the toilet, although I apparently never do those things either.

## Rejected rejection

Dear Mr. Kennelly:

Thank you for your letter of April 17. After careful consideration I regret to inform you that I am unable to accept your refusal to offer me employment with your firm. This

year I have been particularly fortunate in receiving an unusually large number of rejection letters. With such a varied and promising field of candidates it is impossible for me to accept all refusals.

Despite your company's outstanding qualifications and previous experience in rejecting applicants, I find that your rejection does not meet with my needs at this time. Therefore, I will initiate employment with your firm immediately following graduation. I look forward to seeing you then.

Sincerely,  
Walter Grayson

## How to photograph a puppy

1. Remove film from box and load camera
2. Remove film box from puppy's mouth and throw in bin
3. Remove puppy from bin and brush coffee grounds from muzzle
4. Choose a suitable background for photo
5. Mount camera on tripod and focus
6. Find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth
7. Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera
8. Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees
9. Focus with one hand and fend off puppy with other hand
10. Get tissue and clean nose print from lens
11. Take flash cube from puppy's mouth and throw in bin
12. Put cat outside and put peroxide on the scratch on puppy's nose
13. Put magazines back on coffee table
14. Try to get puppy's attention by squeaking toy over your head
15. Replace your glasses and check camera for damage
16. Jump up in time to grab puppy by scruff of neck and say, "No, outside! No, outside!"
17. Call spouse to clean up mess
18. Fix a drink
19. Sit back in sofa with drink and resolve to teach puppy "sit" and "stay" the first thing in the morning

## Fulldeckisms

- A few clowns short of a circus.
- A few fries short of a Happy Meal.
- An experiment in Artificial Stupidity.
- A few beers short of a six-pack.
- Dumber than a box of hair.
- Doesn't have all his cornflakes in one box.
- The wheel's spinning, but the hamster's dead.
- A few feathers short of a whole duck.
- All foam, no beer.



- The cheese slid off his cracker.
- Couldn't pour water out of a boot with instructions on the heel.
- An intellect rivaled only by garden tools.
- As smart as bait.
- Chimney's clogged.
- Doesn't have all his dogs on one leash.
- Elevator doesn't go all the way to the top floor.
- Forgot to pay his brain bill.
- Her sewing machine's out of thread.
- His antenna doesn't pick up all the channels.
- His belt doesn't go through all the loops.
- If he had another brain, it would be lonely.
- Missing a few buttons on his remote control.
- No grain in the silo.
- Proof that evolution CAN go in reverse.
- Receiver is off the hook.
- Several nuts short of a full pouch.
- Slinky's kinked.
- Too much yardage between the goal posts.
- A few sandwiches short of a picnic.
- All of his oars are not hitting at the same time.

## Limericks

A king, on assuming his reign,  
 Exclaimed with a feeling of peign:  
 "Tho I'm legally heir  
 No one here seems to ceir  
 That I haven't been born with a breign."

A merchant addressing a debtor,  
 Remarked in the course of his lebtor  
 That he chose to suppose  
 A man knose what he ose  
 And the sooner he pays it, the bedtor!

A young lady crossing the ocean  
 Grew ill from the ship's dizzy mocean,  
 She called with a sigh  
 And a tear in her eigh,  
 For the doctor to give her a pocean.

And now our brief lesson is through --  
 I trust you'll agree it was trough;  
 For it's chiefly designed  
 To impress on your migned  
 What wonders our spelling can dough!

## The etiology and treatment of childhood

Childhood is a syndrome which has only recently begun to receive serious attention from clinicians. The syndrome itself, however, is not at all recent. As early as the 8th century, the Persian historian Kidnom made references to "short, noisy creatures," who may well have been what we now call "children." The treatment of children, however, was unknown until this century, when so-called "child psychologists" and "child psychiatrists" became common. Despite this history of clinical neglect, it has been estimated that well over half of all Americans alive today have experienced childhood directly (Suess, 1983). In fact, the actual numbers are probably much higher, since these data are based on self-reports which may be subject to social desirability biases and retrospective distortion.

The growing acceptance of childhood as a distinct phenomenon is reflected in the proposed inclusion of the syndrome in the upcoming Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition, or DSM-IV, of the American Psychiatric Association (1990). Clinicians are still in disagreement about the significant clinical features of childhood, but the proposed DSM-IV will almost certainly include the following core features:

- Congenital onset
- Dwarfism
- Emotional lability and immaturity
- Knowledge deficits
- Legume anorexia

### **Clinical Features of Childhood:**

Although the focus of this paper is on the efficacy of conventional treatment of childhood, the five clinical markers mentioned above merit further discussion for those unfamiliar with this patient population.

#### **CONGENITAL ONSET**

In one of the few existing literature reviews on childhood, Temple-Black (1982) has noted that childhood is almost always present at birth, although it may go undetected for years or even remain subclinical indefinitely. This observation has led some investigators to speculate on a biological contribution to childhood. As one psychologist has put it, "we may soon be in a position to distinguish organic childhood from functional childhood" (Rogers, 1979).

#### **DWARFISM**

This is certainly the most familiar marker of childhood. It is widely known that children are physically short relative to the population at large. Indeed, common clinical wisdom suggests that the treatment of the so-called "small child" (or "tot") is particularly difficult. These children are known to exhibit infantile behavior and display a startling lack of insight (Tom and Jerry, 1967).

## **EMOTIONAL LABILITY AND IMMATURITY**

This aspect of childhood is often the only basis for a clinician's diagnosis. As a result, many otherwise normal adults are misdiagnosed as children and must suffer the unnecessary social stigma of being labelled a "child" by professionals and friends alike.

## **KNOWLEDGE DEFICITS**

While many children have IQ's with or even above the norm, almost all will manifest knowledge deficits. Anyone who has known a real child has experienced the frustration of trying to discuss any topic that requires some general knowledge. Children seem to have little knowledge about the world they live in. Politics, art, and science -- children are largely ignorant of these. Perhaps it is because of this ignorance, but the sad fact is that most children have few friends who are not, themselves, children.

## **LEGUME ANOREXIA**

This last identifying feature is perhaps the most unexpected. Folk wisdom is supported by empirical observation -- children will rarely eat their vegetables (see Popeye, 1957, for review).

## **Causes of Childhood:**

Now that we know what it is, what can we say about the causes of childhood? Recent years have seen a flurry of theory and speculation from a number of perspectives. Some of the most prominent are reviewed below.

### **Sociological Model**

Emile Durkind was perhaps the first to speculate about sociological causes of childhood. He points out two key observations about children:

1. the vast majority of children are unemployed, and
2. children represent one of the least educated segments of our society.

In fact, it has been estimated that less than 20% of children have had more than fourth grade education.

Clearly, children are an "out-group." Because of their intellectual handicap, children are even denied the right to vote. From the sociologist's perspective, treatment should be aimed at helping assimilate children into mainstream society. Unfortunately, some victims are so incapacitated by their childhood that they are simply not competent to work. One promising rehabilitation program (Spanky and Alfalfa, 1978) has trained victims of severe childhood to sell lemonade.

### **Biological Model**

The observation that childhood is usually present from birth has led some to speculate on a biological contribution. An early investigation by Flintstone and Jetson (1939) indicated that childhood runs in families. Their survey of over 8,000 American families revealed that over half contained more than one child. Further investigation revealed that even most non-child family members had experienced childhood at some point. Cross-cultural studies (e.g., Mowgli & Din, 1950) indicate that family childhood is even more prevalent in the Far East. For example, in Indian and Chinese families, as many as three out of four family members may have childhood.

Impressive evidence of a genetic component of childhood comes from a large-scale twin study by Brady and Partridge (1972). These authors studied over 106 pairs of twins, looking at concordance rates for childhood. Among identical or monozygotic twins, concordance was unusually high (0.92), i.e., when one twin was diagnosed with childhood, the other twin was almost always a child as well.

## **Psychological Models**

A considerable number of psychologically-based theories of the development of childhood exist. They are too numerous to review here. Among the more familiar models are Seligman's "learned childishness" model. According to this model, individuals who are treated like children eventually give up and become children. As a counterpoint to such theories, some experts have claimed that childhood does not really exist. Szasz (1980) has called "childhood" an expedient label. In seeking conformity, we handicap those whom we find unruly or too short to deal with by labelling them "children."

## **Treatment of Childhood:**

Efforts to treat childhood are as old as the syndrome itself. Only in modern times, however, have humane and systematic treatment protocols been applied. In part, this increased attention to the problem may be due to the sheer number of individuals suffering from childhood. Government statistics (DHHS) reveal that there are more children alive today than at any time in our history. To paraphrase P.T. Barnum: "There's a child born every minute."

The overwhelming number of children has made government intervention inevitable. The nineteenth century saw the institution of what remains the largest single program for the treatment of childhood -- so-called "public schools." Under this colossal program, individuals are placed into treatment groups based on the severity of their condition. For example, those most severely afflicted may be placed in a "kindergarten" program. Patients at this level are typically short, unruly, emotionally immature, and intellectually deficient. Given this type of individual, therapy is essentially one of patient management and of helping the child master basic skills (e.g. finger-painting).

Unfortunately, the "school" system has been largely ineffective. Not only is the program a massive tax burden, but it has failed even to slow down the rising incidence of childhood.

Faced with this failure and the growing epidemic of childhood, mental health professionals are devoting increasing attention to the treatment of childhood. Given a theoretical framework by Freud's landmark treatises on childhood, child psychiatrists and psychologists claimed great successes in their clinical interventions.

By the 1950's, however, the clinicians' optimism had waned. Even after years of costly analysis, many victims remained children. The following case (taken from Gumbie & Poke, 1957) is typical.

*Billy J., age 8, was brought to treatment by his parents. Billy's affliction was painfully obvious. He stood only 4'3" high and weighed a scant 70 lbs., despite the fact that he ate voraciously. Billy presented a variety of troubling symptoms. His*

*voice was noticeably high for a man. He displayed legume anorexia, and, according to his parents, often refused to bathe. His intellectual functioning was also below normal -- he had little general knowledge and could barely write a structured sentence. Social skills were also deficient. He often spoke inappropriately and exhibited "whining behaviour." His sexual experience was non-existent. Indeed, Billy considered women "icky." His parents reported that his condition had been present from birth, improving gradually after he was placed in a school at age 5. The diagnosis was "primary childhood." After years of painstaking treatment, Billy improved gradually. At age 11, his height and weight have increased, his social skills are broader, and he is now functional enough to hold down a "paper route."*

After years of this kind of frustration, startling new evidence has come to light which suggests that the prognosis in cases of childhood may not be all gloom. A critical review by Fudd (1972) noted that studies of the childhood syndrome tend to lack careful follow-up. Acting on this observation, Moe, Larrie, and Kirly (1974) began a large-scale longitudinal study. These investigators studied two groups. The first group consisted of 34 children currently engaged in a long-term conventional treatment program. The second was a group of 42 children receiving no treatment. All subjects had been diagnosed as children at least 4 years previously, with a mean duration of childhood of 6.4 years. At the end of one year, the results confirmed the clinical wisdom that childhood is a refractory disorder -- virtually all symptoms persisted and the treatment group was only slightly better off than the controls.

The results, however, of a careful 10-year follow-up were startling. The investigators (Moe, Larrie, Kirly, & Shemp, 1984) assessed the original cohort on a variety of measures. General knowledge and emotional maturity were assessed with standard measures. Height was assessed by the "metric system" (see Ruler, 1923), and legume appetite by the Vegetable Appetite Test (VAT) designed by Popeye (1968). Moe et al. found that subjects improved uniformly on all measures. Indeed, in most cases, the subjects appeared to be symptom-free. Moe et al. report a spontaneous remission rate of 95%, a finding which is certain to revolutionize the clinical approach to childhood.

These recent results suggests that the prognosis for victims of childhood may not be so bad as we have feared. We must not, however, become too complacent. Despite its apparently high spontaneous remission rate, childhood remains one of the most serious and rapidly growing disorders facing mental health professional today. And, beyond the psychological pain it brings, childhood has recently been linked to a number of physical disorders. Twenty years ago, Howdi, Doodi, and Beauzeau (1965) demonstrated a six-fold increased risk of chicken pox, measles, and mumps among children as compared with normal controls. Later, Barby and Kenn (1971) linked childhood to an elevated risk of accidents -- compared with normal adults, victims of childhood were much more likely to scrape their knees, lose their teeth, and fall off their bikes. Clearly, much more research is needed before we can give any real hope to the millions of victims wracked by this insidious disorder.

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## If they made toasters...

**If IBM made toasters...** They would want one big toaster where people bring bread to be submitted for overnight toasting. IBM would claim a worldwide market for five, maybe six toasters.

**If Microsoft made toasters...** Everytime you bought a loaf of bread, you would have to buy a toaster. You wouldn't have to take the toaster, but you'd have to pay for it anyway. Toaster'95 would weigh 15,000 pounds (hence requiring a reinforced steel countertop), draw enough electricity to power a small city, take up 95% of the space in your kitchen, would claim to be the first toaster that lets you control how light or dark you wanted your toast to be, and would secretly interrogate your other appliances to find out who made them. Everyone would hate Microsoft toasters, but nonetheless would buy them since most of the good bread only works with their toasters.

**If Apple made toasters...** It would do everything Microsoft toaster does, but 5 years earlier.

**If Fisher-Price made toasters...** "Baby's First Toaster" would have a hand-crank that you turn to toast the bread that pops up like a Jack-in-the-box.

**If The Rand Corporation made toasters...** It would be a large, perfectly smooth and seamless black cube. Every morning there would be a piece of toast on top of it. Their service department would have an unlisted phone number, and the blueprints for the box would be highly classified government documents. The X-Files would have an episode about it.

**If the NSA made toasters...** Your toaster would have a secret trapdoor that only the NSA could access in case they needed to get at your toast for reasons of national security.

**Does Digital (formerly DEC) still make toasters...** They made good toasters in the '80s, didn't they?

**If Hewlett-Packard made toasters...** They would market the Reverse Polish Toaster, which takes in toast and gives you regular bread.

**If Sony made toasters...** Their "Personal Toasting Device", which would be barely larger than the single piece of bread it is meant to toast, can be conveniently attached to your belt.

**If The Franklin Mint made toasters...** Every month you would receive another lovely hand-crafted piece of your authentic Civil War pewter toaster.

**If Cray made toasters...** They would cost \$16 million but would be faster than any other single-slice toaster in the world.

**If Thinking Machines made toasters...** You would be able to toast 64,000,000 pieces of bread at the same time.

**If Timex made toasters...** They would be cheap and small quartz-crystal wrist toasters that take a licking and keep on toasting.

**If Radio Shack made toasters...** The staff would sell you a toaster, but not know anything about it. Or you could buy all the parts to build your own toaster.

**If K-Tel sold toasterx...** They would not be available in stores, and you would get a free set of Ginsu knives with each one.

**If Kodak made toasters...** They would consistently produce high-quality toast, provided you took your bread to the store and waited at least an hour for the results

**If Xerox made toasters...** You could toast one-sided or double-sided. Successive slices would get lighter and lighter. The toaster would jam your bread for you.

**If Oracle made toasters...** They'd claim their toaster was compatible with all brands and styles of bread, but when you got it home you'd discover the Bagel Engine was still in development, the Croissant Extension was three years away, and that indeed the whole appliance was just blowing smoke.

**If Sun made toasters...** The toast would burn often, but you could get a really good cuppa Java.

**If Tandem made toasters...** You could make toast 24 hours a day, and if a piece got burned the toaster would automatically toast you a new one.

**If The Rand Corporation made toasters...** It would be a large, perfectly smooth and seamless black cube. Every morning there would be a piece of toast on top of it. Their service department would have an unlisted phone number, and the blueprints for the box would be highly classified government documents. The X-Files would have an episode about it.

**If CostCo made toasters...** They'd be really cheap, as long as you bought a six-pack of 'em.

## New crossbred isms for the '90s

Blasphemism	"Take the patriarchy and stuff it up your Messiah."
Antisocialism	"The heart of the Nation is the worker who works alone."
Intercommunism.	"The proletariat shall not rest until the means of communication have been wrested from the hands of the bourgeoisie."
Andy Cappitalism	"Lend me five quid, luv?" "Cor, you're not investing in S&Ls again!?"
Parterrorism	"Take this plane to Cuba or we overwater the flower garden!"
Robotulism	"And in Detroit, another six dozen industrial welders succumbed to Mrs Dorfmann's canned beans today, bringing the total costs to..."
Superegotism	"My conscience is bigger than yours."



Seconaltruism	"I love humanity... as long as I take these pills twice a day."
Salad Barbarism	"Emperor! The Vandals demand croutons! And forty stone of cress!"
Rose Bolshevism	"...with just two minutes on the clock, Leningrad needs two touchdowns to take the game..."
Siliconservatism	"Keep the Free Market free of foreign memory chips!"
ACLUpheism	"I hear your son is a card carrying member of the... um... the Willie Horton Fan Club."
Kleenexorcism	"In the name of the Lord, sneeze the devil right out of ya!"
Hey Judaism	"Don't make it bad. Take a Seder song and make it better..."
Christmasochism	"It's December 23rd! I must get to the mall!"
Cecil B. DeMilitarism	"Rambo III, sweatier than ever, kills a cast of thousands!"
Frayed Nazism	"We don't serve Strings in this bar."
Malapropitism	"It'll come out alright in the wash."
Tresspacifism	"We're occupying this missile base until the arms reduction treaty is signed."
Lollipopulism	"There's a Sucker born every minute."
Max Headrheumatism	"Wh- wh- where's my Ben GGGGGay?"
Sadism so!	"Shoeless Joe Jackson was suspended for whipping a batboy..."
Aerosolipsism	"Just one person using flouorocarbons won't make a difference..."
Sugar Racism	"Black boxers are much better than white boxers."
Eau de colonialism	"The perfume used by more British officers in India."
Grand Malapropism	"The sun was obscured by the moon this morning in a total epilepsy."
Safe Sexism	"Now there's a chick I'd like to use a condom with!"
Bobcataclysm	"Lynxes will bring about the end of the world!"
Pomme de territorialism	"We grew that potato, but our landlord gets to eat it."
Sentenced to Prism	"A beam of light was incarcerated in a crystal today after it was caught going 185,935 mph over the speed limit."
Land of the Lostracism	"You don't know the theme songs to '70s TV shows? Get outta here!"
Original Cynicism	"What the hell, the garden's going to seed anyway ..... hand me that apple."
Radioactivism	"Hell no, we won't glow!"
Expatriotism	"America ..... love it and leave it."
Ogden Nationalism	"My country 'tis of thee / and also of the lllama which, in my considered opinion, you'll never see / the lllama spelled with an l, another l, and yet another l, for a grand total, unless I've counted wrong, of three..."
Soup du Journalism	"All the news that's fit to eat."

## In the beginning

and in the beginning there was nothing  
and then God said "let there be light"  
and there was still nothing.  
but you could see it.

## Questions

- When a rooster lays an egg at the top of a roof whose sides slope down at 45 degrees in both directions, which way does the egg fall?
- A plane crashes precisely on the border between the United States and Canada. Where do they bury the survivors?
- An electric train is traveling 45 miles an hour due west, and the wind is blowing 30 miles an hour due south. Which way does the smoke go?
- How much earth is in a rectangular hole six feet by six feet by three feet?
- How many of each type of animal did Moses take on the ark?
- "I can predict the score of any sports event happening next weekend, before the game even starts."
- If an LP is eight inches in diameter, and the label is 3 inches in diameter, how many grooves are there on one side of the record?
- If I drop a bowling ball into a bucket of water at 45 degrees F, and at the same moment drop another bowling ball of the same size and weight into another bucket at 30 degrees F, which ball hits the bottom of its bucket first?
- If a farmer has five haystacks in one field and four haystacks in another field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in a third field?
  
- What's the difference between a duck?
- What's the difference between an orange?
- Why is a mouse when it spins?
- What's the difference between a window?

*One of its legs is both the same.*

*About this color. (Open hands held a foot or two apart, with palms either facing each other, or at right angles to each other (right palm facing left and left palm facing down).)*

*The higher it spins, the faster.*

*The cleaner you wipe it, it gets.*

## Fannee

"Who is Fannee Doolee?" "She likes doors but she hates windows." The idea is to find out why Fannee Doolee liked some things but hated other similar things. For instance, these statements are true of the original Fannee Doolee:

She likes eggs but she hates yolks.

She likes butter but she hates margarine.

She likes tabbies but she hates calicos.

She likes drizzles but she hates rain.

She likes swimming but she hates diving.

She likes surrealism but she hates art.

*Here Fanny likes words with double letters in them*

The Fannee Doolee idea can be extended to other sorts of patterns as well. For instance, Fannee's sister Georgia:

likes voodoo but hates magic  
likes blue, white, and ecru, but hates red  
likes H<sub>2</sub>O but hates water  
likes radii but hates diameters  
likes cocaine but hates crack  
likes Boggle but hates Mastermind  
likes alpha, beta, gamma, and delta, but hates epsilon  
likes quiche but hates custard.

And their brother Hal:

likes pots but hates kettles (he and Fannee agree to disagree on this...)  
likes bugs but hates insects  
likes pain but hates pleasure  
likes Macs but hates Windows and UNIX  
likes soup but hates gazpacho  
likes strength but hates weakness  
likes ten but hates eleven  
likes men but hates women  
likes socks but hates stockings.

Their Aunt Isabel, a somewhat complicated sort:

likes trembling but hates timidity  
likes rain but hates downpours  
likes vanity but hates mirrors  
likes oceans, and likes liners, but hates ocean liners  
likes hawks but hates eagles  
likes Quakers but hates Penn  
likes history but hates memorizing  
likes charity but hates giving  
likes you but hates everyone else  
likes men, and likes women, but hates androgyny.

(And she doesn't get along with Fannee at all.)

Finally, their cousin Jack likes Anglo-Saxon roots and hates French roots, but he seems to be on vacation at the moment (which is to say, my dictionary is inaccessible).

## Chains

By mixing the title of one work (movie, TV show, book, song, whatever) with another, you can sometimes come up with some great combos:

Clan of the Care Bears  
Nightmare on Sesame Street

Fiddler on a Hot Tin Roof  
Creature from the Blue Lagoon  
The Man with the Golden Pond

But those are sort of cheating. The usual rules of this game as I play it require:

- You must use all the words from each title (though you can leave out the occasional "A," "An," or "The");
- You can't scramble the order of the words in a title, though you can insert words from other titles in the middle;
- The titles must be fairly common (usually enforced by requiring that at least two people present must have heard of every title used).

For instance:

Sling Blade Runner  
My Fair Lady and the Tramp  
When Dirty Harry Met Sally  
The Magnificent Seven Ambersons Brides for the Seven Samurai Blues Brothers  
Karamazov from  
Another Planet [seven titles... unless you count *Seven*]  
A Room with a View to a Kill  
Gone With the Wind in the Willows  
Pride of the Damn Connecticut Yankees in King Arthur's Court  
Even Cowgirls Get the Blues Brothers  
Black Beauty and the Beast  
sex, true lies and videotape  
Peggy Sue Got Married to the Mob  
Bringing Up Three Men and a Baby  
The Quiet Earth Girls Are Easy  
The Lost World According to Garp  
Valley of the Guys and Dolls  
The Maltese Falcon and The Snowman  
Regarding Henry V: Portrait of a Serial Killer  
Attack of the Killer Fried Green Tomatoes  
Teacher's Pet Sematary  
Natural Born Free Willy Killers  
Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventures in Babysitting  
The Swiss Addams Family Robinson  
The Princess Bride of Frankenstein  
The Wizard of Speed and Time Bandits  
The Wicker Man in the Iron Mask  
The Lawnmower Man who Fell to Earth  
The NeverEnding West Side Story  
A Star is Born Free Willy Wonka and the Like Waterworld for the Chocolate Factory.  
The Incredible Shrinking Man Of La Mancha  
Bob and Carol And Ted and Alice's Restaurant  
Endless Love Potion #9 to 5 Easy Pieces  
The Lion King, the Witches of Eastwick, and the Wardrobe, in Winter  
The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Duckling  
The Handmaid's Tale of Two Cities  
Cannibal Women in the Avocado Jungle of Death of a Salesman

Scent of a Woman of the Year of Living Dangerously  
Terror of a Tiny Town Like Alice Doesn't Live Here Any More

There are a lot of rules variants. Some people require movie titles only; others allow not only other titles (songs, for instance, or books or TV shows), but common phrases.

Black and Blue Velvet  
Follow The Yellow Brick Road Warrior  
John Wayne's World  
Soylent Green Acres  
Village People of The Damned  
Gentle Ben-Hur [a bear, a rat, and a chariot race...]  
Down Among the Dead Poets Society Men in Black

Some chains overlap in parts of words (or of numbers) rather than full words:

Vertigo West, Young Man  
Terminators of Endearment  
2001 Fine Day  
1984 Weddings and a Funeral  
Return of the Jedi, Claudius  
Two Years Before the Masters of the Universe  
Take Me Out of Africa to the Rollerball Game  
The Rocky Horror Picture Showboat  
Wargames People Play  
Clan of the Bad News Cave Bears  
Lawnmower Man of La Manchurian Candidate  
Man and Superman and Superman and Superman and...

And allowing homophones, especially in partial-word overlaps, can provide some delightful mixes:

Children of Doonesbury  
Brigadune  
The Citizen Kane Mutiny  
My Favorite Year of Living Dangerous Liaisons  
The Nosferatu Jakes

There are some that only work on paper; if you say them aloud they fall apart. The best such I've seen is

Surf Nazis Must Die Fledermaus

You can, of course, string lots of titles and phrases together. This chain leaves out a couple of words in favor of not leaving any words from one phrase dangling in the middle of another phrase:

Mystic Pizza Man and Superman from Uncle Tom's Cabin in the Sky With Diamonds  
are a Girl's Best Friend's Wedding Gift From the Sea of Love is a Many-Splendored  
Thing From Another World, According to Garp

## Generation X and their office lingo

- Blamestorming - sitting around in a group discussing why a deadline was missed or a project failed and who was responsible.
- Beepilepsy - The brief seizure people sometimes suffer when their beepers go off, especially in vibrator mode. Characterized by physical spasms, goofy facial expressions, and stopping speech in mid-sentence.
- Cube farm - an office filled with cubicles.
- Ego surfing - scanning the Net, databases, print media, and so on, looking for references to one's own name.
- Prairie dogging - something loud happens in a cube farm, and people's heads pop up over the walls to see what's going on.
- Idea hamsters - people who always seem to have their idea generators running .
- Mouse potato - the on-line generation's answer to the couch potato.
- CLM (Career-Limiting Move) - Used among microsersfs to describe an ill-advised activity. Trashing your boss while he or she is within earshot is a serious CLM.
- Ohnosecond - that minuscule fraction of time in which you realize you've just made a big mistake.
- SITCOM - stands for Single Income, Two Children, Oppressive Mortgage.
- Stress puppy - a person who thrives on being stressed-out and whiny .
- Tourists - those who take training classes just to take a vacation from their jobs -- "We had three serious students in the class; the rest were tourists."
- Dilberted - To be exploited and oppressed by your boss. Derived from the experiences of Dilbert, the geek-in-hell comic strip character. "I've been dilberted again. The old man revised the specs for the fourth time this week."
- World Wide Wait - The real meaning of WWW.
- CGI Joe - A hard-core CGI script programmer with all the social skills and charisma of a plastic action figure.
- Dorito Syndrome - Feelings of emptiness and dissatisfaction triggered by addictive substances that lack nutritional content. "I just spent six hours surfing the Web, and now I've got a bad case of Dorito Syndrome."
- Under Mouse Arrest - Getting busted for violating an on-line service's rule of conduct. "Sorry I couldn't get back to you. AOL put me under mouse arrest."
- Glazing - Corporate-speak for sleeping with your eyes open. A popular pastime at conferences and early-morning meetings. "Didn't he notice that half the room was glazing by the second session?"
- Dead Tree Edition - The paper version of a publication available in both paper and electronic forms, as in: "The dead tree edition of the San Francisco Chronicle..."
- Graybar Land - The place you go while you're staring at a computer that's processing something very slowly (while you watch the gray bar creep across the screen). "I was in graybar land for what seemed like hours, thanks to that CAD rendering."
- Open-Collar Workers - People who work at home or telecommute.
- Squirt The Bird - To transmit a signal up to a satellite. "Crew and talent are ready...what time do we squirt the bird?"
- Brain Fart - A byproduct of a bloated mind producing information effortlessly. A burst of useful information. "I know you're busy on the Microsoft story, but can you give us a brain fart on the Mitnik bust?" Variation of old hacker slang that had more negative connotations.

- Cobweb Site - A World Wide Web Site that hasn't been updated for a long time. A dead web page.
- It's a Feature - From the adage "It's not a bug, it's a feature." Used sarcastically to describe an unpleasant experience that you wish to gloss over.
- Keyboard Plaque - The disgusting buildup of dirt and crud found on computer keyboards. "Are there any other terminals I can use? This one has a bad case of keyboard plaque."
- Alpha Geek - The most knowledgeable, technically proficient person in an office or work group. "Ask Larry, he's the alpha geek around here."
- Adminisphere - The rarefied organizational layers beginning just above the rack and file. Decisions that fall from the adminisphere are often profoundly inappropriate or irrelevant to the problems they were designed to solve.
- Gray Matter - Older, experienced business people hired by young entrepreneurial firms looking to appear more reputable and established.
- Salmon Day - The experience of spending an entire day swimming upstream only to get screwed in the end.
- Chainsaw consultant - an outside expert brought in to reduce the employee headcount, leaving the top brass with clean hands
- 404 - someone who is clueless, from the World Wide Web error message "404 Not Found", meaning the requested document couldn't be located -- Don't bother asking him, he's 404.
- Elvis year - the peak year of something's popularity -- Barney the dinosaur's Elvis year was 1993.

## Microsoft TV dinner product instructions

You must first remove the plastic cover. By doing so you agree to accept and honor Microsoft rights to all TV dinners. You may not give anyone else a bite of your dinner (which would constitute an infringement of Microsoft's rights). You may, however, let others smell and look at your dinner and are encouraged to tell them how good it is.

If you have a PC microwave oven, insert the dinner into the oven. Set the oven using these keystrokes: `<\mstv.dinn.//08.5min@50%heat//>`  
Then enter: `<ms//start.cook_dindin/yummy\|/yum~yum:-)gohot#cookme>`.

If you have a Mac oven, insert the dinner and press start. The oven will set itself and cook the dinner.

Be forewarned that Microsoft dinners may crash, in which case your oven must be restarted. This is a simple procedure. Remove the dinner from the oven and enter `<ms.nodamn.good/tryagain\again/again.crap>`.

This process may have to be repeated. Try unplugging the microwave and then doing a cold reboot. If this doesn't work, contact your hardware vendor.

Many users have reported that the dinner tray is far too big, larger than the dinner itself, having many useless compartments, most of which are empty. These are for future menu items. If the tray is too large to fit in your oven you will need to upgrade your equipment.

Dinners are only available from registered outlets, and only the chicken variety is currently produced. If you want another variety, call Microsoft Help and they will explain that Microsoft Chicken is all you really need.

Microsoft has disclosed plans to discontinue all smaller versions of their chicken dinners. Future releases will only be in the larger family size. Excess chicken may be stored for future use, but must be saved only in Microsoft approved packaging or the warranty is invalidated.

Microsoft promises a dessert with every dinner after '98. However, that version has yet to be released.

Microsoft dinners may be incompatible with other dinners in the freezer, causing your freezer to self-defrost. This is a feature, not a bug, as your freezer should be defrosted periodically anyway.

## Helpful camping tips

- When using a public campground, a tuba placed on your picnic table will keep the campsites on either side vacant.
- Get even with a bear who raided your food bag by kicking his favorite stump apart and eating all the ants.
- Old socks can be made into high fiber beef jerky by smoking them over an open fire.
- When smoking a fish, never inhale.
- A hot rock placed in your sleeping bag will keep your feet warm. A hot enchilada works almost as well, but the cheese sticks between your toes.
- You'll never be awakened by the call of a loon if you have an unlisted number.
- The best backpacks are named for national parks or mountain ranges. Steer clear of those named after landfills.
- Acupuncture was invented by a camper who found a porcupine in his sleeping bag.
- While the Swiss Army Knife has been popular for years, the Swiss Navy Knife has remained largely unheralded. Its single blade functions as a tiny canoe paddle.
- Modern rain suits made of fabrics that "breathe" enable campers to stay dry in a downpour. Rain suits that sneeze, cough, and belch, however, have been proven to add absolutely nothing to the wilderness experience.
- Lint from your navel makes a handy fire starter. Warning: Remove lint from navel before applying the match.
- You'll never be lost if you remember that moss always grows on the north side of your compass.
- You can duplicate the warmth of a down-filled bedroll by climbing into a plastic garbage bag with several geese.
- The canoe paddle, a simple device used to propel a boat, should never be confused with a gnu paddle, a similar device used by Tibetan veterinarians.
- When camping, always wear a long-sleeved shirt. It gives you something to wipe your nose on.
- You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car.



- Take this simple test to see if you qualify for solo camping. Shine a flashlight into one ear. If the beam shines out the other ear, do not go into the woods alone.
- A two-man pup tent does not include two men or a pup.
- A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. A potato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent hockey puck.
- You can start a fire without matches by eating Mexican food, then breathing on a pile of dry sticks.
- In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a slingshot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear.
- The guitar of the noisy teenager at the next campsite makes excellent kindling.
- A large carp can be used for a pillow.
- Check the washing instructions before purchasing any apparel to be worn camping. Buy only those that read "Beat on a rock in stream."
- The sight of a bald eagle has thrilled campers for generations. The sight of a bald man, however, does absolutely nothing for the eagle.
- It's entirely possible to spend your whole vacation on a winding mountain road behind a large motor home.
- Effective January 1, 1997, you will actually have to enlist in the Swiss Army to get a Swiss Army Knife.
- Bear bells provide an element of safety for hikers in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.
- A great deal of hostility can be released by using newspaper photos of politicians for toilet paper.
- In an emergency, a drawstring from a parka hood can be used to strangle a snoring tent mate.

## How to satisfy a woman every time

Caress, praise, pamper, relish, savor, massage, make plans, fix, empathize, serenade, compliment, support, feed, tantalize, bathe, humor, placate, stimulate, jiffylube, stroke, console, purr, hug, coddle, excite, pacify, protect, phone, correspond, anticipate, nuzzle, smooch, toast, minister to, forgive, sacrifice for, ply, accessorize, leave, return, beseech, sublimate, entertain, charm, lug, drag, crawl, show equality for, spackle, oblige, fascinate, attend, implore, bawl, shower, shave, trust, grovel, ignore, defend, coax, clothe, brag about, acquiesce, aromate, fuse, fizz, rationalize, detoxify, sanctify, help, acknowledge, polish, upgrade, spoil, embrace, accept, butter-up, hear, understand, jitterbug, locomote, beg, plead, borrow, steal, climb, swim, nurse, resuscitate, repair, patch, crazy-glue, respect, entertain, calm, allay, kill for, die for, dream of, promise, deliver, tease, flirt, commit, enlist, pine, cajole, angelicize, murmur, snuggle, snoozle, snurfle, elevate, enervate, alleviate, spotweld, serve, rub, rib, salve, bite, taste, nibble, gratify, take her places, scuttle like a crab on the ocean floor of her existence, diddle, doodle, hokey-pokey, hanky-panky, crystal blue persuade, flip, flop, fly, don't care if I die, swing, slip, slide, slather, mollycoddle, squeeze, moisturize, humidify, lather, tingle, slam-dunk, keep on rockin' in the free world, wet, slicken, undulate, gelatinize, brush, tingle, dribble, drip, dry, knead, fluff, fold, blue-coral wax, ingratiate, indulge, wow, dazzle, amaze, flabbergast, enchant, idolize and worship, and then go back, Jack, and do it again.

## How to satisfy a man every time

Show up with no clothes on.

## Ways to get rid of telemarketers

1. If they want to loan you money, tell them you just filed for bankruptcy and you could sure use some money. Ask, "How long can I keep it? Do I have to ever pay it back, or is it like the other money I borrowed before my bankruptcy?"
2. If they start out with, "How are you today?" say, "Why do you want to know?" Or you can say, "I'm so glad you asked, because no one seems to care these days and I have all these problems, my sciatica is acting up, my eyelashes are sore, my dog just died..." When they get try to get back to the sales process, just continue on with telling about your problems.
3. If the person says he's Joe Doe from the XYZ Company, ask him to spell their name, then ask them to spell the company name, then ask them where it located. Continue asking them personal questions or questions about their company for as long as necessary.
4. This one works better if you are male: Telemarketer: "Hi, my name is Judy and I'm with Canter and Siegel services.... You: "Hang on a second." (few seconds pause) "Okay, (in a really husky voice) what are you wearing?"
5. Crying out, in well-simulated tones of pleasure and surprise, "Judy!! Is this really you? Oh, my God! Judy, how have you BEEN?" Hopefully, this will give Judy a few brief moments of terror as she tries to figure out where the hell she could know you from.
6. Say, "No", over and over. Be sure to vary the sound of each no, and keep an even tempo even as they're trying to speak. This is the most fun if you can keep going until they hang up.
7. If MCI calls trying to get you to sign up with their Family and Friends plan, reply, in a sinister a voice as you can muster, "I don't have any friends...would you be my friend?"
8. If they clean rugs: "Can you get blood out, you can? Well, how about goat blood or HUMAN blood - chicken blood too?"
9. Let the person go through their spiel, providing minimal but necessary feedback in the form of an occasional "Uh-huh, really, or, "That's fascinating." Finally, when they ask you to buy, ask them to marry you. They get all flustered, but just tell them you couldn't give your credit card number to someone who's a complete stranger.
10. Tell them you work for the same company they work for. Example: Telemarketer: "This is Bill from Watertronics." You: "Watertronics!! Hey I work for them too."

Where are you calling from?" Telemarketer: "Uh, Dallas, Texas." You: "Great, they have a group there too? How's business/the weather? Too bad the company has a policy against selling to employees! Oh well, see ya."

11. Answer the phone. As soon as you realize it is a telemarketer, set the receiver down, shout or scream, "Oh, my God!!!" and then hang up.
12. Tell the Telemarketer you are busy and if they will give you their phone number you will call them back. If they say they are not allowed to give out their number, then ask them for their home number and tell them you will call them at home (this is usually the most effective method of getting rid of Telemarketers). If the person says, "Well, I don't really want to get a call at home," say, "Ya! Now you know how I feel", smiling of course...

[If nothing else, just thinking of this list the next time one calls you, you may begin to laugh out loud, which is sure to upset their concentration.]

## Fathers' Day observations

- Last year on Father's Day, my son gave me something I've always wanted: the keys to my car !!!
- My dad used to play games with me. He used to throw me in the air -- and walk away.
- "What were your father's last words ?" "He had no last words. My mother was with him to the end!"
- Father's Day is a holiday on which the family takes time out to remember the forgotten man !
- Fatherhood is pretending the present you love the most is soap - on - a - rope.
- Father's Day is a holiday when your son lets you wear your new necktie first.
- I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it.
- If you must hold yourself up to your children as an object lesson ... hold yourself up as an example and not as a warning.
- The commonest fallacy among women (and men -- in my humble opinion) is that simply having children makes them a mother (a father) -- which is as absurd as believing that having a piano makes one a musician.
- Perhaps host and guest is really the happiest relation for father and son.
- A father lectured his son on the real values of life. The father said, "We were put on Earth to help others." The boy said, "What are the others here for?"
- "Son, when I was your age, I used to be thrilled just to get a piece of dry bread for dinner." "Gee, Dad, you're much better off living with us, aren't you?"
- Father's Day always worries me. I'm afraid I'll get something I can't afford.
- Do you know what I got for Father's Day ? The bills for Mother's Day !!!
- I'm getting my father something he never had before -- a Job !!!
- Father's Day is the day when father goes broke giving his family money so they can surprise him with gifts he doesn't need.
- We never know the love of our parents for us till we have become parents.
- Love is an act of endless forgiveness, a tender look which becomes a habit.

- There are two stages for parents -- when your children ask all the questions and when they think they know all the answers.
- A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small package.
- You should never criticize your wife's judgment -- look who she decided to marry !!!
- Children have never been good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.
- Example is not the main thing in influencing others; It is the only thing.
- My son is now at the awkward age, too old to cry and too young to swear.
- My son is now at the awkward age, too young for a credit card and too old for an allowance.
- Every family should have three children. If one turns out to be a genius, the other two can support him or her.

## Barbie rebels

Dear Santa,

Listen, you little troll, I've been helping you out every year, playing at being the perfect Christmas present, wearing skimpy bathing suits in frigid weather, and drowning in fake tea from one too many tea parties, and I hate to break it to ya, but IT'S DEFINITELY PAYBACK TIME! There had better be some changes around here this year, or I'm gonna call for a nationwide meltdown (and trust me, you won't wanna be around for that). So, here's my 1997 resolution/wish list:

1. A nice, comfy pair of sweat pants and a frumpy, oversized sweatshirt. I'm sick of looking like a hooker. How much smaller are these bathing suits gonna get?
2. Real underwear that can be pulled on and off. Preferably white. What bonehead at Mattel decided to cheap out and MOLD imitation underwear to my skin?!? It looks like cellulite!
3. A REAL man...maybe GI Joe. Heck, I'd take Tickle-Me Elmo over that wimped-out excuse for a boyfriend, Ken. And what's with that earring anyway?
4. Arms that actually bend.
5. Breast reduction surgery. I don't care whose arm you have to twist, just get it done.
6. A sports bra.
7. A new career. Pet doctor and school teacher just don't cut it. How about a systems analyst? Or better yet, a web master!
8. A new, more 90s persona. Maybe "PMS Barbie", complete with a miniature container of chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream and a bag of chips; "Animal Rights Barbie", with my very own paint gun, outfitted with a fake fur coat and handcuffs; or "Stop Smoking Barbie", sporting a removable Nicotrol patch and equipped with several packs of gum.
9. No more McDonald's endorsements. The grease is wrecking my vinyl.
10. Mattel stock options. It's been 37 years--I think I deserve it.

Ok, Mr CEO, that's it. Considering my valuable contribution to society, I don't think these requests are out of line. If you disagree, then you can find yourself a new bimbo doll for next Christmas. It's that simple.

Yours truly, Barbie, Dreamhouse, Malibu, CA

## Laws

LIEBERMAN'S LAW - Everybody lies; but it doesn't matter, since nobody listens.

GOVERNMENT'S LAW - There is an exception to all laws.

ESTRIDGE'S LAW - No matter how large and standardized the marketplace is, IBM can redefine it.

BOREN'S FIRST LAW - When in doubt, mumble.

### DILBERT'S LAWS OF WORK

- If you can't get your work done in the first 24 hours, work nights.
- A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.
- Don't be irreplaceable; if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.
- The more crap you put up with, the more crap you are going to get.
- You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.
- Eat one live toad the first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.
- When the bosses talk about improving productivity, they are never talking about themselves.
- There will always be beer cans rolling on the floor of your car when the boss asks for a ride home from the office.
- Everything can be filed under "miscellaneous."
- Never delay the ending of a meeting or the beginning of a cocktail hour.
- To err is human, to forgive is not our policy.
- Anyone can do any amount of work provided it isn't the work he/she is supposed to be doing.
- If you are good, you will be assigned all the work. If you are really good, you will get out of it.
- You are always doing something marginal when the boss drops by your desk.
- If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.
- When you don't know what to do, walk fast and look worried.
- Following the rules will not get the job done.
- When confronted by a difficult problem you can solve it more easily by reducing it to the question, "How would the Lone Ranger handle this?"
- No matter how much you do, you never do enough.
- The last person that quit or was fired will be held responsible for everything that goes wrong.

Sattinger's Law: It works better if you plug it in.

Pierce's Law: In any computer system, the machine will always misinterpret, misconstrue, misprint, or not evaluate any math or subroutines or fail to print any output on at least the first run through.

Weiler's Law: Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself.

First Law of Relationships: If they're too good to be single, they probably aren't.

Second Law of Relationships: Never take home someone at night that you wouldn't take home in the light.

Why Yawning Is Contagious Theory - You yawn to equalize the pressure on your eardrums. This pressure change outside your eardrums unbalances other people's ear pressures, so they must yawn to even it out

## Fun things to do on the first day of class

- Smoke a pipe and respond to each point the professor makes by waving it and saying, "Quite right, old bean!"
- Wear X-Ray Specs. Every few minutes, ask the professor to focus the overhead projector.
- Sit in the front row and spend the lecture filing your teeth into sharp points.
- Sit in the front and color in your textbook.
- When the professor calls your name in roll, respond "that's my name, don't wear it out!"
- Introduce yourself to the class as the "master of the pan flute".
- Give the professor a copy of The Watchtower. Ask him where his soul would go if he died tomorrow.
- Wear earmuffs. Every few minutes, ask the professor to speak louder.
- Leave permanent markers by the dry-erase board.
- Squint thoughtfully while giving the professor strange looks. In the middle of lecture, tell him he looks familiar and ask whether he was ever in an episode of Starsky and Hutch.
- Ask whether the first chapter will be on the test. If the professor says no, rip the pages out of your textbook.
- Become entranced with your first physics lecture, and declare your intention to pursue a career in measurements and units.
- Sing your questions.
- Speak only in rhymes and hum the Underdog theme.
- When the professor calls roll, after each name scream "THAT'S MEEEEEE! Oh, no, sorry."
- Insist in a Southern drawl that your name really is Wuchen Li. If you actually are Chinese, insist that your name is Vladimir Fernandez O'Reilly.
- Page through the textbook scratching each picture and sniffing it.
- Wear your pajamas. Pretend not to notice that you've done so.
- Hold up a piece of paper that says in large letters "CHECK YOUR FLY".
- Inform the class that you are Belgian royalty, and have a friend bang cymbals together whenever your name is spoken.
- Stare continually at the professor's crotch. Occasionally lick your lips.
- Address the professor as "your excellency".
- Sit in the front, sniff suspiciously, and ask the professor if he's been drinking.
- Shout "WOW!" after every sentence of the lecture.
- Bring a mirror and spend the lecture writing Bible verses on your face.
- Ask whether you have to come to class.
- Present the professor with a large fruit basket.
- Bring a "seeing eye rooster" to class.
- Feign an unintelligible accent and repeatedly ask, "Vet ozzle haffen dee henvay?" Become aggitated when the professor can't understand you.

- Relive your Junior High days by leaving chalk stuffed in the chalkboard erasers.
- Watch the professor through binoculars.
- Start a "wave" in a large lecture hall.
- Ask to introduce your "invisible friend" in the empty seat beside you, and ask for one extra copy of each handout.
- When the professor turns on his laser pointer, scream "AAAGH! MY EYES!"
- Correct the professor at least ten times on the pronunciation of your name, even it's Smith. Claim that the i is silent.
- Sit in the front row reading the professor's graduate thesis and snickering.
- As soon as the first bell rings, volunteer to put a problem on the board. Ignore the professor's reply and proceed to do so anyway.
- Claim that you wrote the class text book.
- Claim to be the teaching assistant. If the real one objects, jump up and scream "IMPOSTER!"
- Spend the lecture blowing kisses to other students.
- Every few minutes, take a sheet of notebook paper, write "Signup Sheet #5" at the top, and start passing it around the room.
- Stand to ask questions. Bow deeply before taking your seat after the professor answers.
- Wear a cape with a big S on it. Inform classmates that the S stands for "stud".
- Interrupt every few minutes to ask the professor, "Can you spell that?"
- Disassemble your pen. "Accidentally" propel pieces across the room while playing with the spring. Go on furtive expeditions to retrieve the pieces. Repeat.
- Wink at the professor every few minutes.
- In the middle of lecture, ask your professor whether he believes in ghosts.
- Laugh heartily at everything the professor says. Snort when you laugh.
- Wear a black hooded cloak to class and ring a bell.
- Ask your math professor to pull the roll chart above the blackboard of ancient Greek trade routes down farther because you can't see Macedonia.

## Computer thoughts

- There are 3 kinds of people: those who can count & those who can't.
- Sign on baby's bib: SPIT HAPPENS.
- Why is "abbreviation" such a long word?
- Don't use a big word where a diminutive one will suffice.
- Every morning is the dawn of a new error...
- A flying saucer results when a nudist spills his coffee.
- For people who like peace and quiet: a phoneless cord.
- I can see clearly now, the brain is gone...
- The beatings will continue until morale improves.
- I used up all my sick days, so I'm calling in dead.
- Mental Floss prevents Moral Decay.
- Madness takes its toll. Please have exact change.
- Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.
- There cannot be a crisis today; my schedule is already full.

- I'd explain it to you, but your brain would explode.
- Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?
- A conclusion is simply the place where you got tired of thinking.
- I don't have a solution but I admire the problem.
- Don't be so open-minded your brains fall out.
- If at first you DO succeed, try not to look astonished!
- Diplomacy is the art of saying 'Nice doggie!'... till you can find a rock.
- Diplomacy - the art of letting someone have your way.
- If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest have to drown too?
- If things get any worse, I'll have to ask you to stop helping me.
- If I want your opinion, I'll ask you to fill out the necessary forms.
- Don't look back, they might be gaining on you.
- It's not hard to meet expenses, they're everywhere.
- Help Wanted: Telepath. You know where to apply.
- Look out for #1. Don't step in #2.
- Budget: A method for going broke methodically.
- Car service: If it ain't broke, we'll break it.
- Shin: A device for finding furniture in the dark.
- Do witches run spell checkers?
- Demons are a Ghouls best Friend.
- Copyright 1994 Elmer Fudd. All wights wesewved.
- Dain bramaged.
- Department of Redundancy Department
- Headline: Bear takes over Disneyland in Pooh D'Etat!
- What has four legs and an arm? A happy pit bull.
- Cannot find REALITY.SYS. Universe halted.
- COFFEE.EXE Missing - Insert Cup and Press Any Key
- Buy a Pentium 586/90 so you can reboot faster.
- $2 + 2 = 5$  for extremely large values of 2.
- Computers make very fast, very accurate mistakes.
- Computers are not intelligent. They only think they are.
- My software never has bugs. It just develops random features.
- C:\WINDOWS C:\WINDOWS\GO C:\PC\CRAWL
- C:\DOS C:\DOS\RUN RUN\DOS\RUN
- <----- The information went data way ----->
- Best file compression around: "DEL \*.\*" = 100% compression
- The Definition of an Upgrade: Take old bugs out, put new ones in.
- BREAKFAST.COM Halted...Cereal Port Not Responding
- The name is Baud....., James Baud.
- BUFFERS=20 FILES=15 2nd down, 4th quarter, 5 yards to go!
- Access denied--nah nah na nah nah!
- C:\> Bad command or file name! Go stand in the corner.
- Bad command. Bad, bad command! Sit! Stay! Staaay..
- Why doesn't DOS ever say "EXCELLENT command or filename!"
- As a computer, I find your faith in technology amusing.
- Southern DOS: Y'all reckon? (Yep/Nope)
- Backups? We don' \*NEED\* no steenking backups.



- E Pluribus Modem
- >... File not found. Should I fake it? (Y/N)
- Ethernet (n): something used to catch the etherbunny
- A mainframe: The biggest PC peripheral available.
- An error? Impossible! My modem is error correcting.
- CONGRESS.SYS Corrupted: Re-boot Washington D.C (Y/n)?
- Does fuzzy logic tickle?
- A computer's attention span is as long as it's power cord.
- 11th commandment - Covet not thy neighbor's Pentium.
- 24 hours in a day...24 beers in a case...coincidence?
- Disinformation is not as good as datinformation.
- Windows: Just another pane in the glass.
- SENILE.COM found . . . Out Of Memory . . .
- Who's General Failure & why's he reading my disk?
- Ultimate office automation: networked coffee.
- RAM disk is \*not\* an installation procedure.
- Shell to DOS...Come in DOS, do you copy? Shell to DOS...
- All computers wait at the same speed.
- DEFINITION: Computer - A device designed to speed and automate errors.
- Press <CTRL>-<ALT>-<DEL> to continue ...
- Smash forehead on keyboard to continue.....
- Enter any 11-digit prime number to continue...
- ASCII stupid question, get a stupid ANSI!
- E-mail returned to sender -- insufficient voltage.
- Help! I'm modeming... and I can't hang up!!!
- All wiyht. Rho sritched mg kegtops aaround?
- Error: Keyboard not attached. Press F1 to continue.
- "640K ought to be enough for anybody." - Bill Gates, 1981
- DOS Tip #17: Add DEVICE=FNGRCROS.SYS to CONFIG.SYS
- Hidden DOS secret: add BUGS=OFF to your CONFIG.SYS
- Press any key... no, no, no, NOT THAT ONE!
- Press any key to continue or any other key to quit...
- Excuse me for butting in, but I'm interrupt-driven.

## How to write a paper

1. Sit in a straight, comfortable chair in a well lit place with plenty of freshly sharpened pencils.
2. Read over the assignment carefully, to make certain you understand it.
3. Walk down to the vending machines and buy some coffee to help you concentrate.
4. Stop off at another floor, on the way back and visit with you friend from class. If your friend hasn't started the paper yet either, you can both walk to McDonald's and buy a hamburger to help you concentrate. If your friend shows you his paper, typed, double-spaced, and bound in one of those irritating see-thru plastic folders, drop him.
5. When you get back to your room, sit in a straight, comfortable chair in a clean, well lit place with plenty of freshly sharpened pencils.

6. Read over the assignment again to make absolutely certain you understand it.
7. You know, you haven't written to that kid you met at camp since fourth grade. You'd better write that letter now and get it out of the way so you can concentrate.
8. Go look at your teeth in the bathroom mirror.
9. Listen to one side of your favorite tape and that's it, I mean it, as soon as it's over you are going to start that paper.
10. Listen to the other side.
11. Rearrange all of your CDs into alphabetical order.
12. Phone your friend on the other floor and ask if he's started writing yet. Exchange derogatory remarks about your teacher, the course, the university, the world at large.
13. Sit in a straight, comfortable chair in a clean, well lit place with plenty of freshly sharpened pencils.
14. Read over the assignment again; roll the words across your tongue; savor its special flavor.
15. Check the newspaper listings to make sure you aren't missing something truly worthwhile on
16. Catch the last hour of soul Brother of Kung Fu on channel 26.
17. Phone your friend on the third floor to see if he was watching. Discuss the finer points of the plot.
18. Go look at your tongue in the bathroom mirror.
19. Look through your roommate's book of pictures from home. Ask who everyone is.
20. Sit down and do some serious thing about your plans for the future.
21. Open your door and check to see if there are any mysterious, trench-coated strangers lurking in the hall.
22. Sit in a straight, comfortable chair in a clean, well lit place with plenty of freshly sharpened pencils.
23. Read over the assignment one more time, just for the hell of it.
24. Scoot your chair across the room to the window and watch the sunrise.
25. Lie face down on the floor and moan.
26. Leap up and write the paper.
27. Type the paper.
28. Complain to everyone that you didn't get any sleep because you had to write the damn paper.

## Breaking up is hard to do

PSYCHOLOGY: Girl accuses guy of just using her as a substitute for his Mother.

SOCIOLOGY: Each claims to have been oppressed in the relationship.

RELIGION: Each prays for reconciliation and/or curses God.

ARCHAEOLOGY: One tries to bury the past, and accuses the other of trying to dig it up.

THEATRE: "OH MY GOD! Life is... ENDED... as we KNOW it!"

BIOLOGY: "You just wanted to get in my genes!"

PHYSICS: Both resign themselves to the fact that what goes up must come down.

JOURNALISM: "Today was the end of an era. Jack, 19, and Jill, 18, called an end to their relationship of 2 weeks..."

WOMEN'S STUDIES: "HE did it!"

**BUSINESS:** Both decide that they're spending way too much money together, and that it's simply cheaper to be single.

**ITALIAN:** "Mama Mia!"

**HISTORY:** Each party argues the breakup was caused by something the other party did in the past.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Both people decide to simply move far away to avoid each other.

**ANATOMY:** "I never liked your body anyway."

**ECONOMICS:** One party demands more than the other can supply.

**ENGLISH:** Each writes the other a perfect breakup letter, complete with introduction, thesis statement, body, and conclusion, that doesn't really say anything substantively intelligible.

**EDUCATION:** Both concede that the relationship was a learning experience.

**COMPUTING:** "Man, this bytes -- we just couldn't interface" and/or "His hard drive was more like a floppy."

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEER:** "It's just so shocking... I'm sure there are positives and negatives, but..."

**ARCHITECTURE:** "There just wasn't much to build on anyway..."

**JEWISH STUDIES:** "OY! You should feel so guilty!"

**PHILOSOPHY:** If 2 people break up in a dorm and there's no one to witness the breakup, are they really single?

**ZOOLOGY:** They were able to mate like banshees, but lacked sophisticated communication skills.

**PHYS. ED.:** They punch each other out in frustration.

**CHEMISTRY:** They turn to hard drugs to relieve the pain.

**COUNSELING:** Each urges the other to "get help!"

**MUSIC:** Each utilizes an operatic lament (or, in Tennessee, a country song) to express his or her sorrow.

**LAW:** They sue each other for breach of a pre-dating agreement.

## The warning signs of insanity

- Your friends tell you that you have been acting strange lately, and then you hit them several times with a sledgehammer.
- Everyone you meet appears to have tentacles growing out of places that you wouldn't expect tentacles to be growing from.
- You start out each morning with a 30-minute jog around the bathroom.
- You write to your mother in Germany every week, even though she sends you mail from Iowa asking why you never write.
- Every time you see a street sign, you have a tremendous urge to relieve yourself on it.
- You wear your boxers on your head because you heard it will ward off evil dandruff spirits.
- You're always having to apologize to your next door neighbor for setting fire to his lawn decorations.
- Every commercial you hear on the radio reminds you of death.
- People stay away from you whenever they hear you howl.
- Your breath smells more and more like squirrel dung each passing day.
- You laugh out loud during funerals.

- When your doctor tells you to say ah, you yell out "RAPE! RAPE!"
- Nobody listens to you anymore, because they can't understand you through that scuba mask.
- You begin to stop and consider all of the blades of grass you've stepped on as a child, and worry that their descendants are going to one day seek revenge.
- You have meaningful conversations with your blender.
- Your father pretends you don't exist, just to play along with your little illusion.
- You collect dead windowsill flies.
- Everytime the phone rings, you shout, "Hey! An angel just got its wings!"
- You like cats. Especially with mayo.
- You scream "I've got a knife!" to people who try to sell you things.
- You scream "I've got a knife!" to people at your family reunion.
- You cry at the end of every episode of Gilligan's Island, because you wanted to be on the island too.
- You put tennis balls in the microwave to see if they'll hatch.
- Whenever you listen to the radio, the music sounds backwards.
- You have a predominant fear of fabric softener.
- You wake up each morning and find yourself wearing a Hawaiian shirt in the middle of your front lawn.
- Your dentist asks you why each individual tooth has your name etched on it, and you tell him it's for security reasons.
- Toast excites you.
- When the waiter asks for your order, you ask to go into another room to tell him, because "the napkins have ears."
- You tend to agree with everything your mother's dead uncle tells you.
- Every time you see the commercial for the Hair Club For Men, you think to yourself, "I think I'll kill the pope today."
- You call up random people and ask if you can borrow their dog, just for a few minutes.
- Your main goal in life is to become the president of Bulemia.
- Nearly everything you say involves the word, "P-toing!"
- You argue with yourself about which is better, to be eaten by a koala or to be loved by an infectious disease.
- You like to sit in cornfields for prolonged periods of time, and pretend that you're a stalk.
- You think that exploding wouldn't be so bad, once you got used to it.
- You try to make a list of the Warning Signs of Insanity. (cough)
- People offer you help, but you unfortunately interpret this as a violation of your rights as a boysenberry.
- You like reading lists like this. :)

## Ground rules for lab workers

- When you don't know what you're doing, do it neatly.
- First draw your curves, then plot the data.
- Experience is directly proportional to the equipment ruined.
- Experiments must be reproducible; they should all fail the same way.

- A record of data is essential; it indicates that you have been working.
- In case of doubt, make it sound convincing.
- Do not believe in miracles; rely on them.
- Teamwork is essential in the lab; it allows you to blame someone else.

## Keeping score in a relationship

With an obvious point of view.....

### Simple Duties

- You go out to buy her spring-fresh extra-light panty liners with wings: +5
- But return with beer: -5
- You check out a suspicious noise at night: 0
- You check out a suspicious noise and it's nothing: 0
- You check out a suspicious noise and it's something: +5
- You pummel it with a six iron: +10
- It's her father: -10

### Social Engagements

- You stay by her side the entire party: 0
- You stay by her side for a while, then leave to chat with a drinking buddy: -2
- Named Tiffany: -4
- Tiffany is a dancer: -6
- Tiffany has implants: -8

### Saturday Afternoons

- You visit her parents: +1
- You visit her parents and actually make conversation: +3
- You visit her parents and stare at the television: -3
- And the television is off: -6
- You spend the afternoon watching college football in your underwear: -6
- And you didn't even go to college: -10
- And it's not really your underwear: -15

### Her Birthday

- You take her out to dinner: 0
- You take her out to dinner and it's not a sports bar: +1
- Okay, it is a sports bar: -2
- And it's all-you-can-eat night: -3
- It's a sports bar, it's all-you-can-eat night, and your face is painted your favorite team colours: -10
- You give her a gift: 0
- You give her a gift, and it's a small appliance: -10
- You give her a gift, and it's not a small appliance: +1
- You give her a gift, and it isn't chocolate: +2
- You give her a gift that you'll be paying off for months: +30

- You wait til the last minute and buy her a gift that day: -10
- With her credit card: -30
- And whatever you bought is two sizes too big: -40

### **Thoughtfulness**

- You forget to pick her up at the bus station: -25
- Which is in Newark, New Jersey: -35
- And the pouring rain dissolves her leg cast: -50

### **A Night Out with Your Pals**

- You have a few beers: -9
- For every beer after three, -2 again
- And miss curfew by an hour: -12
- You get home at 3 a.m.: -20
- You get home at 3 a.m. smelling of booze and cheap cigars: -30
- And not wearing any pants: -40
- Is that a tattoo? -200

### **A Night Out, Just The Two of You**

- You go see a comic: +2
- He's crude and sexist: -2
- You laugh: -5
- You laugh too much: -10
- She's not laughing: -15
- You laugh harder: -25

### **Driving**

- You lose the directions on a trip: -4
- You lose the directions and end up getting lost: -10
- You end up getting lost in a bad part of town: -15
- You get lost in a bad part of town & meet the locals up close & personal: -25
- She finds out you lied about having a black belt: -60

### **Communication**

- When she wants to talk about a problem, you listen, displaying what looks like a concerned expression: 0
- When she wants to talk, you listen, for over 30 minutes: +5
- You listen for more than 30 minutes, without looking at the television or picking up a newspaper: +10
- She realizes this is because you've fallen asleep: -10

## **Male and female thoughts**

Let's say a guy named Roger is attracted to a woman named Elaine. He asks her out to a movie; she accepts; they have a pretty good time. A few nights later he asks her out to dinner, and again they enjoy themselves. They continue to see each other regularly, and after a while neither one of them is seeing anybody else.

And then, one evening when they're driving home, a thought occurs to Elaine, and, without really thinking, she says it aloud: "Do you realize that, as of tonight, we've been seeing each other for exactly six months?"

And then there is silence in the car. To Elaine, it seems like a very loud silence. She thinks to herself: Geez, I wonder if it bothers him that I said that. Maybe he's been feeling confined by our relationship; maybe he thinks I'm trying to push him into some kind of obligation that he doesn't want, or isn't sure of.

And Roger is thinking: Gosh. Six months.

And Elaine is thinking: But hey, I'm not so sure I want this kind of relationship, either. Sometimes I wish I had a little more space, so I'd have time to think about whether I really want us to keep going the way we are, moving steadily toward . . . I mean, where are we going? Are we just going to keep seeing each other at this level of intimacy? Are we heading toward marriage? Toward children? Toward a lifetime together? Am I ready for that level of commitment? Do I really even know this person?

And Roger is thinking: so that means it was . . . let's see . . . February when we started going out, which was right after I had the car at the dealer's, which means . . . lemme check the odometer . . . . Whoa! I am way overdue for an oil change here.

And Elaine is thinking: He's upset. I can see it on his face. Maybe I'm reading this completely wrong. Maybe he wants more from our relationship, more intimacy, more commitment; maybe he has sensed -- even before I sensed it -- that I was feeling some reservations. Yes, I bet that's it. That's why he's so reluctant to say anything about his own feelings. He's afraid of being rejected.

And Roger is thinking: And I'm gonna have them look at the transmission again. I don't care what those morons say, it's still not shifting right. And they better not try to blame it on the cold weather this time. What cold weather? It's 87 degrees out, and this thing is shifting like a garbage truck, and I paid those incompetent thieves \$600.

And Elaine is thinking: He's angry. And I don't blame him. I'd be angry too. God, I feel so guilty, putting him through this, but I can't help the way I feel. I'm just not sure.

And Roger is thinking: They'll probably say it's only a 90-day warranty. That's exactly what they're gonna say, the scumbags.

And Elaine is thinking: Maybe I'm just too idealistic, waiting for a knight to come riding up on his white horse, when I'm sitting right next to a perfectly good person, a person I enjoy being with, a person I truly do care about, a person who seems to truly care about me. A person who is in pain because of my self-centered, schoolgirl, romantic fantasy.

And Roger is thinking: Warranty? They want a warranty? I'll give them a damn warranty. I'll take their warranty and stick it right up their . . . .

"Roger," Elaine says aloud.

"What?" says Roger, startled.

"Please don't torture yourself like this," she says, her eyes beginning to brim with tears.

"Maybe I should never have . . . Oh God, I feel so . . ."

(She breaks down, sobbing.)

"What?" says Roger.

"I'm such a fool," Elaine sobs. "I mean, I know there's no knight. I really know that. It's silly. There's no knight, and there's no horse."

"There's no horse?" says Roger.

"You think I'm a fool, don't you?" Elaine says.

"No!" says Roger, glad to finally know the correct answer.

"It's just that . . . It's that I . . . I need some time," Elaine says.

(There is a 15-second pause while Roger, thinking as fast as he can, tries to come up with a safe response. Finally he comes up with one that he thinks might work.)

"Yes," he says.

(Elaine, deeply moved, touches his hand.)

"Oh, Roger, do you really feel that way?" she says.

"What way?" says Roger.

"That way about time," says Elaine.

"Oh," says Roger. "Yes."

(Elaine turns to face him and gazes deeply into his eyes, causing him to become very nervous about what she might say next, especially if it involves a horse. At last she speaks.)

"Thank you, Roger," she says.

"Thank you," says Roger.

Then he takes her home, and she lies on her bed, a conflicted, tortured soul, and weeps until dawn, whereas when Roger gets back to his place, he opens a bag of Doritos, turns on the TV, and immediately becomes deeply involved in a rerun of a tennis match between two Czechoslovakians he never heard of. A tiny voice in the far recesses of his mind tells him that something major was going on back there in the car, but he is pretty sure there is no way he would ever understand what, and so he figures it's better if he doesn't think about it.

The next day Elaine will call her closest friend, or perhaps two of them, and they will talk about this situation for six straight hours. In painstaking detail, they will analyze everything she said and everything he said, going over it time and time again, exploring every word, expression, and gesture for nuances of meaning, considering every possible ramification. They will continue to discuss this subject, off and on, for weeks, maybe months, never reaching any definite conclusions, but never getting bored with it, either.

Meanwhile, Roger, while playing racquetball one day with a mutual friend of his and Elaine's, will pause just before serving, frown, and say: "Norm, did Elaine ever own a horse?"

## Laws of work

- The first 90% of a project takes 90% of the time, the last 10% takes the other 90% of the time.
- If you can't get your work done in the first 24 hours, work nights.
- A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.
- Don't be irreplaceable; if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.
- It doesn't matter what you do, it only matters what you say you've done and what you're going to do.
- After any salary raise, you will have less money at the end of the month than you did before.
- The more crap you put up with, the more crap you are going to get.
- You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.
- Eat one live toad the first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.
- When the bosses talk about improving productivity, they are never talking about themselves.
- If at first you don't succeed, try again. Then quit. No use being a damn fool about it.



- There will always be beer cans rolling on the floor of your car when the boss asks for a ride home from the office.
- Keep your boss's boss off your boss's back.
- Everything can be filed under "miscellaneous."
- Never delay the ending of a meeting or the beginning of a cocktail hour.
- To err is human, to forgive is not our policy.
- Anyone can do any amount of work provided it isn't the work he/she is supposed to be doing.
- Important letters that contain no errors will develop errors in the mail.
- If you are good, you will be assigned all the work. If you are really good, you will get out of it.
- You are always doing something marginal when the boss drops by your desk.
- People who go to conferences are the ones who shouldn't.
- If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.
- At work, the authority of a person is inversely proportional to the number of pens that person is carrying.
- When you don't know what to do, walk fast and look worried.
- Following the rules will not get the job done.
- Getting the job done is no excuse for not following the rules.
- When confronted by a difficult problem you can solve it more easily by reducing it to the question, "How would the Lone Ranger handle this?"
- No matter how much you do, you never do enough.
- The last person that quit or was fired will be held responsible for everything that goes wrong.

## Ebonics spinoffs

- Afro-American Speak -- Ebonics ("Ebony" + "Phonics")
- Irish-American Speak -- Leprechaunics
- Native-American Speak -- Kimosabics
- Italo-American Speak -- Spumonics (or Rigatonics)
- Chinese-American Speak -- Won-tonics
- Japanese-American Speak -- Mama-san-ics
- Polish-American Speak -- Kielbasanics
- Jewish-American Speak -- Zionics
- Russian-American Speak -- Rasputonics
- Spanish-American Speak -- Flan-ics
- Scottish-American Speak -- Tartan-ics
- Eskimo-American Speak -- Harpoonics
- German-American Speak -- Autobaunics (or Teutonics)
- French-American Speak -- Cornichonics (or Escargonics)
- Oakland-School-Board Speak -- Moronics
- and cats? Catatonics, of course.

## God v. government

If God were to try create today. . . .

In the beginning God Created heaven and the earth. Quickly he was faced with a class action suit for failure to file an environmental impact statement. He was granted a temporary permit for the project, but was stymied with the Cease and Desist order for the earthly part. Appearing at the hearing, God was asked why he began his earthly project in the first place. He replied that he just liked to be creative.

Then God said, "Let there be light." Officials immediately demanded to know how the light would be made. Would there be strip mining? What about thermal pollution? God explained that the light would come from a huge ball of fire. God was granted provisional permission to make light, assuming that no smoke would result from the ball of fire, that he would obtain a building permit, and (to conserve energy) would have the light out half the time. God agreed and said he would call the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." Officials replied that they were not interested in semantics.

God said, "Let the earth bring forth green herb and such as manyseed." The EPA agreed so long as native seed was used. Then God said, "Let waters bring forth creeping creatures having life; and the fowl that may fly over the earth." Officials pointed out this would require approval from the Department of Game coordinated with the Heavenly Wildlife Federation and the Audubongelic Society.

Everything was OK until God said he wanted to complete the project in six days. Officials informed him it would take at least 200 days to review the application and the environmental impact statement. After that there would be a public hearing. Then there would be 10-12 months before...

At this point God created Hell.

## Quotes

- Deja Fu: The feeling that somehow, somewhere, you've been kicked in the head like this before.
- A day without sunshine is like night.
- College is a fountain of knowledge...and the students are there to drink.
- A polar bear is a rectangular bear after a coordinate transform.
- "Some people say that I must be a horrible person, but that's not true. I have the heart of a young boy -- in a jar on my desk."
- When the only tool you own is a hammer, every problem begins to resemble a nail.
- Photons have mass? I didn't know they were catholic!
- If you had everything, where would you keep it?
- The cost of living hasn't affected its popularity.
- What was sliced bread the greatest thing since?
- When aiming for the common denominator, be prepared for the occasional division by zero.
- Of all the things I've lost, I miss my mind the most.

- Character density: The number of very weird people in the office.
- Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- The second day of a diet is always easier than the first. By the second day you're off it.
- Never raise your hands to your kids. It leaves your groin unprotected.
- A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done.
- Advertising: The science of arresting the human intelligence long enough to get money from it
- I have a great diet. You're allowed to eat anything you want, but you must eat it with naked fat people.
- Have you ever noticed? Anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a moron.
- I'm not into working out. My philosophy: No pain, no gain.
- A hotel is a place that keeps the manufacturers of 25-watt bulbs in business.
- You have a cough? Go home tonight, eat a whole box of Ex-Lax, tomorrow you'll be afraid to cough.
- I'm desperately trying to figure out why kamikaze pilots wore helmets.

## Mathematics terms

- This is an analogue of - *I have to have some excuse for publishing it*
- This is of interest in applications - *I have to have some excuse for publishing it*
- The proof is now complete - *I can't finish it*
- I cannot follow the details of X's proof - *It's wrong*
- We omit the details - *I can't do it*
- This problem is difficult - *I don't know the answer*
- Without loss of generality - *I have done an easy special case*
- To fix the ideas - *To consider the only case I can do*
- X's proof is ingenious - *I understand it*
- It may be of interest - *I have to have some excuse for publishing it*
- X's paper is interesting - *I don't understand it*
- This is a known result but I reproduce the proof for the convenience of the reader - *My paper isn't long enough*
- Par arbus de language - *In the terminology used by other authors*
- It is natural to begin with the following considerations - *We have to start somewhere*
- This was proved by X but the following proof may present points of interest - *I can't understand X*
- To simplify the notation - *It's too much trouble to change now*
- It will be observed that - *I hope you have not noticed that*
- It is obvious - *I can't prove it*
- The details may be left to the reader - *I can't do it*
- I wish to thank the referee for his suggestions - *I loused it up*
- By a straightforward computation - *I lost my notes*

- This problem is trivial - *I know the answer*
- This result is well-known - *I can't find the reference*

## Various thoughts

- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
- I love cats ... they taste just like chicken
- Out of my mind. Back in five minutes.
- As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in public schools.
- Laugh alone and the world thinks you're an idiot.
- Sometimes I wake up grumpy; Other times I let her sleep.
- I want to die in my sleep like my grandfather - Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his bus
- The gene pool could use a little chlorine.
- I didn't fight my way to the top of the food chain to be a vegetarian.
- It's as BAD as you think, and they ARE out to get you.
- Smile, it's the second best thing you can do with your lips.
- Time is the best teacher; Unfortunately it kills all its students!
- It's lonely at the top, but you eat better.
- We are born naked, wet and hungry. Then things get worse.
- Make it idiot-proof and someone will make a better idiot.
- He who laughs last thinks slowest.
- Always remember you're unique, just like everyone else.
- Lottery: A tax on people who are bad at math.
- Very funny, Scotty. Now beam down my clothes.
- Puritanism: The haunting fear that someone, somewhere may be happy.
- Consciousness: that annoying time between naps.
- Be nice to your kids. They'll choose your nursing home.
- There are three kinds of people: those who can count & those who can't.
- Why is "abbreviation" such a long word?
- Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?
- Diplomacy is the art of saying 'Nice doggie!'... till you can find a rock.
- $2 + 2 = 5$  for extremely large values of 2.
- If nothing sticks to teflon how does it stick to the pan?

## How to be annoying

- Adjust the tint on your tv so that all the people are green, and insist to others that you "like it that way".
- Drum on every available surface.
- Sing the Batman theme incessantly.
- Staple papers in the middle of the page.
- Sew anti-theft detector strips into people's backpacks.
- Hide dairy products in inaccessible places.
- Write the surprise ending to a novel on its first page.

- Set alarms for random times.
- Learn Morse code, and have conversations with friends in public consisting entirely of "Beeeeep Bip Bip Beeeeep Bip..."
- Buy large quantities of mint dental floss just to lick the flavor off.
- Order a side of pork rinds with your filet mignon.
- Publicly investigate just how slowly you can make a "croaking" noise.
- Honk and wave to strangers.
- Dress only in clothes colored Day-glo Orange.
- Change channels five minutes before the end of every show.
- Wear your trousers backwards.
- Decline to be seated at a restaurant, and simply eat their complimentary mints by the cash register.
- Begin all your sentences with "ooh la la!"
- Leave someone's printer in compressed-italic-cyrillic-landscape mode.
- ONLY TYPE IN UPPERCASE.
- only type in lowercase.
- dont use any punctuation either
- Buy a large quantity of orange traffic cones and reroute whole streets.
- Pay for your dinner with pennies.
- Tie jingle bells to all your clothes.
- Repeat everything someone says, as a question.
- Write "X - BURIED TREASURE" in random spots on all of someone's roadmaps.
- Repeat the following conversation a dozen times: "Do you hear that?" "What?" "Never mind, it's gone now."
- Light road flares on a birthday cake.
- Wander around the restaurant, asking other diners for their parsley.
- Leave tips in Bolivian currency.
- Demand that everyone address you as "Conquistador".
- Push all the flat Lego pieces together tightly.
- At the laundromat, use one dryer for each of your socks.
- When Christmas carolling, sing "Jingle Bells, Batman smells" until physically restrained.
- Wear a cape that says "Magnificent One".
- As much as possible, skip rather than walk.
- Stand over someone's shoulder, mumbling, as they read.
- Finish the 99 bottles of beer song.
- Leave your turn signal on for fifty miles.
- Pretend your mouse is a CB radio, and talk to it.
- Try playing the William Tell Overture by tapping on the bottom of your chin. When nearly done, announce "no, wait, I messed it up", and repeat.
- Name your dog "Dog".
- Inform others that they exist only in your imagination.
- Ask people what gender they are.
- Reply to everything someone says with "that's what YOU think."
- Forget the punchline to a long joke, but assure the listener it was a "real hoot".
- Routinely handcuff yourself to furniture, informing the curious that you don't want to fall off "in case the big one comes".

- While making presentations, occasionally bob your head like a parakeet.
- Lie obviously about trivial things such as the time of day.
- Make beeping noises when a large person backs up.
- Leave your Christmas lights up and lit until September.
- Change your name to John Aaaaasmith for the great glory of being first in the phone book. Claim it's a Hawaiian name, and demand that people pronounce each A.
- Sit in your front garden pointing a hair dryer at passing cars to see if they slow down.
- Chew on pens that you've borrowed.
- Invent nonsense computer jargon in conversations, and see if people play along to avoid the appearance of ignorance.
- Wear a LOT of cologne.
- Ask to "interface" with someone.
- Listen to 33rpm records at 45rpm speed, and claim the faster speed is necessary because of your "superior mental processing".
- Sing along at the opera.
- Mow your lawn with scissors.
- Finish all your sentences with the words "in accordance with prophesy".
- Ask the waitress for an extra seat for your "imaginary friend".
- Go to a poetry recital and ask why each poem doesn't rhyme.
- Ask your co-workers mysterious questions, and scribble their answers in a notebook. Mutter something about "psychological profiles".
- Incessantly recite annoying phrases, such as "sticky wicket isn't cricket."
- Stare at static on the tv and claim you can see a "magic picture".
- Select the same song on the jukebox fifty times.
- Scuff your feet on a dry, shaggy carpet and seek out victims for the static.
- Do not add any inflection to the end of your sentences, producing awkward silences with the impression that you'll be saying more any moment.
- Never make eye contact.
- Never break eye contact.
- Signal that a conversation is over by clamping your hands over your ears.
- Construct elaborate "crop circles" in your front lawn.
- Construct your own pretend "tricorder", and "scan" people with it, announcing the results.
- Holler random numbers while someone is counting.
- Make appointments for the 31st of September.

## Reasons why computers must be female

- As soon as you have one, a better one is just around the corner.
- No one but their creator understands their internal logic.
- Even your smallest mistakes are immediately committed to memory for future reference.
- The native language used to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.
- The message, "Bad command or file name" is about as informative as: If you don't know why I'm mad at you, then I'm certainly not going to tell you.

- As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

## Fun things to do at the movies

- At the end of the movie slump over like you're dead and don't move.
- Bring a jar of moths and let them loose during the movie. Gee, I wonder where's they'll go?
- Shake up a can of pop and roll it down the aisle or under the seats.
- Throw popcorn at the people in front of you. Use Skittles for long-range targets.
- Before the movie starts sit by yourself and politely say "Sorry, this seat is taken" whenever anyone sits near you.
- Sit down and watch the previews. When they've over go out and complain that the movie was too short.
- Whenever anyone talks or makes any noise at all, loudly "SHHH!" them.
- Throw popcorn into the beam of light projecting on the screen. Complain that there's something wrong with the projector.
- Wear a sombrero.
- Speak loudly in a foreign language and then look around suspiciously when no one replies.
- Cough very loudly, very often. Complain that the popcorn is 'too dusty'.
- Sneak into other movies.
- See a movie twice. The second time, bring a megaphone and narrate the entire movie.
- Ask around and try and find out "who has the remote control".
- Remark on how big your TV is. Complain that you're not used to such a small screen.
- Go to the ticket office and tell them that you have a hearing disability. Demand that they turn the sound up for your comfort.
- Make bets with the people sitting next to you about what will happen next. Works best if you've already seen the movie.
- Bring a flashlight. Try to make shadow pictures on the screen.
- Look disgusted at whatever the person next to you is eating. Exclaim "do you know what they put in that?" Insist that the ingredients include nicotine "to make you buy more".
- Bring in a video camera and film the entire movie. Explain that you're "making a documentary of violence in the media".
- Go to the bathroom every 5 minutes. Works best if you're sitting in the middle of a lot of people.
- Wear sunglasses. Complain that the movie is too dark.
- Look official. Bring in 50 of those 3-D glasses and pass them out as if it were a 3-D movie.
- Take notes. Become very annoyed whenever someone glances your way.
- Sit in the aisle. Complain that the folding seats scare you.
- Jump up suddenly and scream. Insist that "something bit you".
- Tell everyone that the movie is X-rated.
- Ask where you can plug in your electric razor.
- Put SuperGlue on the seat in front of you.

- Bring a small pet like a kitten or mouse and let them roam around.
- Tap people in front of you on the shoulder, then look around and whistle casually.
- Bring your own, wooden chair. Insist that you're "allergic to upholstery".
- At the end of the movie look around suspiciously and exclaim, "Where's my wallet (or purse)?" Insist on a police search of everyone present.
- Cry loudly at the funny parts and laugh uncontrollably during the sad parts.
- Complain that the special effects are no good and that there's "not enough blood".
- Sneak in your own food, but bring cans of it and cook it over your camp stove.
- Insist that the snack bar must provide a "vegetarian alternative" to popcorn.
- When the movie is over, stay behind and read the credits.
- Bring your Game Boy or Walkman. Turn the volume waaaay up.
- On the way out, insist that you've lost a contact and that nobody move until it is discovered.

## Men

- Women prefer the simple things in life...like men.
- Boy will be boys but one day all girls will be women.
- I only wanted to have a child, not marry one.
- The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing and then marry him.
- What's the difference between men and pigs?...Pigs don't turn into men when they drink.
- The average man is proof enough that women can take a joke.
- Boys will be boys, but men are better at it.
- What do you call a man who has lost 98% of his brain?...A widower.
- They put one man on the moon. Why can't they put them all there?
- If you catch a man...throw him back.
- Men call us birds, is that because of all the worms we pick up?

## Eugene Ormandy quotes

- Congratulations to each and every one of you for the concert last night in New York and vice versa.
- Who is sitting in that empty chair?
- I'm conducting slowly because I don't know the tempo.
- I conduct faster so you can see my beat.
- I cannot give it to you, so try to watch me.
- I was trying to help you, so I was beating wrong.
- I am thinking it right but beating it wrong.
- I can conduct better than I count.
- I guess you thought I was conducting, but I wasn't.
- I purposefully didn't do anything, and you were all behind.
- Why do you always insist on playing while I'm trying to conduct?
- Even when you are not playing you are holding me back.



- Don't ever follow me, because I am difficult.
- It is not as difficult as I thought it was, but it is harder than it is.
- The notes are right, but if I listened they would be wrong.
- I wrote it the right way, so it was copied the wrong way right. I mean the right way wrong.
- At every concert I've sensed a certain insecurity about the tempo. It's clearly marked 80...uh, 69.
- It is not together, but the ensemble is perfect.
- Someone came too sooner.
- Start before forty-two.
- Start three bars before something.
- Start at B. Yes. No. Yes. No.
- Did you play? It sounded very good.
- Intonation is important, especially when it is cold.
- Beauty is less important than quality.
- If you don't have it in your part, leave it out, because there is enough missing already.
- Percussion a little louder. [We don't have anything.] That's right, play it louder.
- More basses, because you are so far away.
- I need one more bass less.
- There are no woodwinds at number 6. [The woodwinds say they are at number 15.] I know. That is why.
- (To the tubist) Long note? Yes. Make it seem short.
- Brass, stay down all summer.
- Don't play louder, just give it more.
- Accelerando means in tempo. Don't rush.
- I don't want to repeat this a hundred times. When you see crescendo it means p.
- The tempo remains pp.
- It's difficult to remember when you haven't played it before.
- We can't hear the balance yet because the soloist is still on the airplane.
- Please follow me because I have to follow him and he isn't here.
- Without him here, it is impossible to know how fast he will play it, approximately.
- With us tonight is William Warfield, who is with us tonight. He is a wonderful man, and so is his wife.
- Bizet was a very young man when he composed this symphony, so play it soft.
- Mahler wrote it as the third movement of his Fourth Symphony. I mean the fourth movement of his First Symphony. We play it third. The trumpet solo will be played by our solo trumpet player. It's named Blumine, which has something to do with flowers.
- That's the way Stravinsky was. Bup, Bup, Bup, Bup.
- The poor guy's dead now. Play it legato.
- Serkin was so sick he almost died for three days.
- It's all very well to have principles but when it comes to money you have to be flexible.
- Thank you for your cooperation and vice versa.
- I mean what I meant.
- I never say what I mean, but I always manage to say something similar.

- Let me explain what I do here. I don't want to confuse you any more than absolutely necessary.
- I don't mean to make you nervous, but unfortunately I have to.
- Relax. Don't be nervous. My god, it's the Philadelphia Orchestra.

## Proper fits

What is a human resource? Does your organization struggle with the problem of properly fitting people to jobs? Here is a handy hint for ensuring success in job placement. Take the prospective employees you are trying to place and put them in a room with only a table and two chairs. Leave them alone for two hours, without any instruction. At the end of that time, go back and see what they are doing.

- If they have taken the table apart in that time, put them in Engineering.
- If they are counting the butts in the ashtray, assign them to Finance.
- If they are screaming and waving their arms, send them off to Manufacturing.
- If they are talking to the chairs, Personnel is a good spot for them.
- If they are sleeping, they are Management material.
- If they don't even look up when you enter the room, assign them to Security
- And if they've left early, put them in Sales.

## PC Unix

In order for UNIX™ to survive into the nineties, it must get rid of its intimidating commands and outmoded jargon, and become compatible with the existing standards of our day. To this end, our technicians have come up with a new version of UNIX, System VI, for use by the PC - that is, the "Politically Correct."

### **Politically Correct Unix: System VI Release notes:**

#### **UTILITIES**

1. "man" pages are now called "person" pages.
2. Similarly, "hangman" is now the "person\_executed\_by\_an\_oppressive\_regime."
3. To avoid casting aspersions on our feline friends, the "cat" command is now merely "domestic\_quadraped."
4. To date, there has only been a UNIX command for "yes" - reflecting the male belief that women always mean yes, even when they say no. To address this imbalance, System VI adds a "no" command, along with a "-f[orce]" option which will crash the entire system if the "no" is ignored.
5. The bias of the "mail" command is obvious, and it has been replaced by the more neutral "gendre" command.
6. The "touch" command has been removed from the standard distribution due to its inappropriate use by high-level managers.
7. "compress" has been replaced by the lightweight "feather" command. Thus, old information (such as that from Dead White European Males) should be archived via "tar" and "feather".

8. The "more" command reflects the materialistic philosophy of the Reagan era. System VI uses the environmentally preferable "less" command.
9. The biodegradable "KleeNeX" displaces the environmentally unfriendly "LaTeX".

### **SHELL COMMANDS**

1. To avoid unpleasant, medieval connotations, the "kill" command has been renamed "euthanise."
2. The "nice" command was historically used by privileged users to give themselves priority over unprivileged ones, by telling them to be "nice". In System VI, the "sue" command is used by unprivileged users to get for themselves the rights enjoyed by privileged ones.
3. "history" has been completely rewritten, and is now called "herstory."
4. "quota" can now specify minimum as well as maximum usage, and will be strictly enforced.
5. The "abort()" function is now called "choice()."

### **TERMINOLOGY**

1. From now on, "rich text" will be more accurately referred to as "exploitive capitalist text".
2. The term "daemons" is a Judeo-Christian pejorative. Such processes will now be known as "spiritual guides."
3. There will no longer be a invidious distinction between "dumb" and "smart" terminals. All terminals are equally valuable.
4. Traditionally, "normal video" (as opposed to "reverse video") was white on black. This implicitly condoned European colonialism, particularly with respect to people of African descent. UNIX System VI now uses "regressive video" to refer to white on black, while "progressive video" can be any color at all over a white background.
5. For far too long, power has been concentrated in the hands of "root" and his "wheel" oligarchy. We have instituted a dictatorship of the users. All system administration functions will be handled by the People's Committee for Democratically Organizing the System (PC-DOS).
6. No longer will it be permissible for files and processes to be "owned" by users. All files and processes will own themselves, and decided how (or whether) to respond to requests from users.
7. The X Window System will henceforth be known as the NC-17 Window System.
8. And finally, UNIX itself will be renamed "PC" - for Procreatively Challenged.

## **Men and women are different**

Now, this may seem a little simplistic, but the fact is, for a period of about six months in 1973, it was very fashionable to believe that we were all persons first, and members of our gender second.

This, of course, was complete rubbish.

We are different -- in our habits, and in the way we react to environmental stimuli and the way we spend our leisure time; and we are especially different when it comes to our attitudes regarding relationships.

My personal observations have uncovered many significant differences between men and women.

**RELATIONSHIPS** - First of all, a man does not call it a relationship. He refers to it as romance, or a period of dating, of going out, or, in some unfortunate circumstances, "that time when me and Suzie was doing it on a semi-regular basis." When a relationship ends, a woman will cry, and pour her heart out to her girlfriends, and she will write a poem titled "All Men are Idiots." Then she will get on with her life. A man has a little more trouble letting go. For six months, his ex may not hear from him, but then, at three on Saturday night/Sunday morning, he will call and say, "I just wanted to let you know you ruined my life, and I'll never forgive you, and I hate you, and you're a total floozy. But I want to let you know there's always a chance for us." This is known as the "I Hate You/I Love You" drunken phone call. Ninety-nine percent of all men past the age of 21 have made this call at least once. Some men make a career of these calls. There are community colleges that offer extension courses to help men get over this need; alas, these classes rarely prove effective.

**HANDWRITING** - To their credit, men do not decorate their penmanship. They just chickenscratch. Women use scented, colored stationary, and they dot their "i's" with circles and hearts. Women use ridiculously large loops in their "p's" and "g's." It is a royal pain to read a note from a woman. Even when she's dumping you, she'll put a smiley face at the end of the note.

**BATHROOMS** - A man has 6 items in his bathroom: a toothbrush, toothpaste, shaving cream, a razor, a bar of soap and a towel. The average number of items in a typical women's bathroom is 237. A man would not be able to identify most of these items.

**GOING OUT** - When a man says he is ready to go out, it means he is ready to go out. When a woman says she is ready to go out, it means she will be ready, as soon as she makes one phone call and finds her other earring.

**SHOES** - When preparing for work, a woman will slip on casual shoes. She will carry her dress shoes in a plastic bag. When a woman gets to work, she will put on her dress shoes. Five minutes later she will kick them off because her feet are under the desk. A man will wear one pair of shoes for the entire day.

**MIRRORS** - Men are vain; they will check themselves out in the mirror. Women are ridiculous; they will check out their reflections in any shiny surface, mirrors, spoons, shop windows, toasters.

**THE TELEPHONE** - Men see the telephone as a communication tool. They use the telephone to send short messages to other people. A woman can visit her girlfriend for two weeks, and upon returning home, she will call the same friend and they will talk for three hours.

**LOW BLOWS** - Let's say a man and a woman are watching a boxing match on television. One of the figures is felled by a low blow. The woman says, "That must hurt." The man doubles over and actually feels the pain.

**DIRECTIONS** - If a woman is out driving, and she finds herself in unfamiliar surroundings, she will stop at a garage and ask for directions. Men consider this to be a sign of weakness. Men will never stop and ask for directions. Men will drive in a circle for hours, all the while saying things like, "Looks like I've found a new way to get there." and, "I know I'm in the general neighbourhood. I recognize that Tesco's."

**ADMITTING MISTAKES** - Women will sometimes admit making a mistake, but they usually try make it look like it was the man's fault. The last man who admitted he was wrong was General George Custer.

**DRESSING UP** - A woman will dress up to: go shopping, water the plants, empty the rubbish, answer the phone, read a book, get the post. A man will dress up for: weddings, funerals.

**TOYS** - Little girls love to play with toys. Then when they reach the age of 11 or 12, they lose interest. Men never grow out of their obsession with toys. As they get older, their toys simply become more expensive and silly and impractical. Examples of men's toys: little miniature TV's. Car phones. Complicated juicers and blenders. Graphic equalizers. Small robots that serve cocktails on command. Video games. Anything that blinks, beeps, and requires at least 6 "D" batteries to operate.

**LAUNDRY** - A man will wear every article of clothing he owns, including his surgical pants that were really hip about eight years ago, before he will do the laundry. When he is finally out of clothes, he will wear a dirty tracksuit inside out, rent a truck and take his mountain of dirty clothes to the Laundrette.

**SOCKS** - Men are sensible about socks. They wear argyle socks or standard white sweatsocks. Women wear strange socks. Socks with pictures of clouds on them. Socks that are cut way below their ankles. Socks that have little fuzzy balls on the back.

**GARAGES** - Women use garages to park their cars and store their lawnmowers. Men use garages for many things. They hang license plates in garages, and they watch TV in garages, and they build useless lopsided benches in garages.

## Of Microsoft and manholes

Legends have sprung up about the unusual questions that Microsoft's recruiters sometimes seem ask during a job interview. One of them, in particular, is "Why are manhole covers round?" People have chimed in with quite a variety of logical reasons, such as the fact that round ones can't fall in the hole or perhaps that round ones may be rolled so construction crews may schlep them from place to place---certainly a good reason considering their weight. Perhaps one of the best answers, considering Microsoft's line of business, is of course, "because manholes are round." Now given this I was surprised to hear on the net from a now unidentifiable source that near Microsoft headquarters, the actual manhole covers in their streets are square!

### **Reasons Why Microsoft's Manhole Covers are Square:**

- Shortened beta test cycle.

- City got a special deal for bundling square manhole covers with their manholes despite the presence of superior alternatives.
- Microsoft Street For Windows crashes on circles. Tech support says Chicago has them working, denies copying Apple/Cupertino's round covers.
- Construction company had to sign non-competition agreement barring street developers from any contact with Euclid.
- DR-DOS found compatible with round ones.
- They make \$49 dollars on each upgrade: Manhole Cover 1.0: the original. Manhole Cover 1.1: turned 90 degrees. Manhole 1.2: turned 180 degrees. Manhole 2.0 New Technology: flipped upside down.
- Perfect game piece for acting out those wacky Human Minesweeper tournaments.
- Ziff-Davis publishing pushing new mag ``Square Manhole World".
- To prepare for Windows Everywhere: Windows For Manhole Covers.
- Every single circle reminds The Bill of "O"-S-2.

## There was a {physicist / engineer / etc..}

A mathematician, a physicist and an engineer are given an identical problem: Prove that all odd numbers greater than 2 are prime numbers. They proceed:

- Mathematician: 3 is a prime, 5 is a prime, 7 is a prime, 9 is not a prime - counterexample - claim is false.
- Physicist: 3 is a prime, 5 is a prime, 7 is a prime, 9 is an experimental error, 11 is a prime, ...
- Engineer: 3 is a prime, 5 is a prime, 7 is a prime, 9 is a prime, 11 is a prime, ...
- Computer Scientist: 1 is a prime, 1 is a prime, 1 is a prime, 1 is a prime, ... Yes, they're all primes.

When considering the behaviour of a howitzer:

- A mathematician will be able to calculate where the shell will land
- A physicist will be able to explain how the shell gets there
- An engineer will stand there and try to catch it

An assemblage of the most gifted minds in the world were all posed the following question: "What is  $2 + 2$  ?"

- The engineer whips out his slide rule (so it's old) and shuffles it back and forth, and finally announces "3.99".
- The physicist consults his technical references, sets up the problem on his computer, and announces "it lies between 3.98 and 4.02".
- The mathematician cogitates for a while, oblivious to the rest of the world, then announces: "I don't what the answer is, but I can prove an answer exists!".
- Philosopher: "But what do you mean by  $2 + 2$  ?"
- Logician: "Please define  $2 + 2$  more precisely."
- Accountant: Closes all the doors and windows, looks around carefully then asks "What do you want the answer to be?"

What is "pi"?

- Mathematician: Pi is the number expressing the relationship between the circumference of a circle and its diameter.
- Physicist: Pi is 3.1415927plus or minus 0.000000005
- Engineer: Pi is about 3.

A statistician, a mathematician, an engineer, and a physicist are out hunting together. They spy a deer in the woods. The physicist calculates the velocity of the deer and the effect of gravity on the bullet, aims his rifle and fires. Alas, he misses; the bullet passes three feet behind the deer. The deer bolts some yards, but comes to a halt, still within sight of the trio. "Shame you missed," comments the engineer, "but of course with an ordinary gun, one would expect that." He then levels his special deer-hunting gun, which he rigged together from an ordinary rifle, a sextant, a compass, a barometer, and a bunch of flashing lights which don't do anything but impress onlookers, and fires. Alas, his bullet passes three feet in front of the deer, who by this time wises up and vanishes for good. "Well," says the physicist, "your contraption didn't get it either." "What do you mean?" pipes up the statistician. "Between the two of you, that was a perfect shot!"

How they knew it was a deer:

- The physicist observed that it behaved in a deer-like manner, so it must be a deer.
- The mathematician asked the physicist what it was, thereby reducing it to a previously solved problem.
- The engineer was in the woods to hunt deer, therefore it was a deer.

A mathematician, a physicist, and an engineer were travelling through Scotland when they saw a black sheep through the window of the train.

- "Aha," says the engineer, "I see that Scottish sheep are black."
- "Hmm," says the physicist, "You mean that some Scottish sheep are black."
- "No," says the mathematician, "All we know is that there is at least one sheep in Scotland, and that at least one side of that one sheep is black!"

## Boasting computer scientists

- Right! I run System V on my VIC-20!
- Hmmmm...well, I am getting SVR4 for my HP 48SX.....
- HA! I'm just finishing up a port of VMS for my Timex Sinclair! Top THAT!
- I'm running NextStep on Atari 2600 Video Game System.
- Just last night I was able to get Windows to boot on my Sears PONG game.
- I am replying to this message with my built-in VAX Mailer on my Game-Boy.
- I just installed a 10 Gigabyte Drive to handle all the replies! However, it only runs at 230,000 Baud due to the large drive slowing it down.
- I fear I will not be getting news any longer... The batteries on my calculator-watch are running out.
- My calculator-watch is solar... And if I turned off the lights, NO ONE would be getting news...

- Feh. I'm so slick NASA just awarded ME the TERADATA contract to run on my TV remote! They liked my proposal mainly because I'm ALSO able to shoehorn in the TEXAS SUPERCOLLIDER computations between commercials! Beat THAT!
- Well, well, well. SSC calculations, huh. I built a system out of 2 inches of wire, 3 pennies and a AA battery that does realtime calculations of particle vectors during the Big Bang. A complete simulation of the first 2 years of the life of the universe, accurate to the theoretical limit, takes about 5 seconds.
- And you guys think you are so great. I just spent the last half hour getting X11 to run on my slide rule. I am still having problems connecting it to the net around here, but I would welcome any suggestions.
- So what!!! I'm running Xinitrc, TWMRC, Internet, and 27 muds off of a paperclip. Not to mention the fact that I am designing a new form of television with 7000 pixels based off a piece of tissue paper. Next!!!
- Man, that's baby stuff. I'm running a particle accelerator utilizing matter-antimatter reactions in my doorknob, and calculating everything in the fourth dimension using a single dip switch and a large glass of water.
- Child's play, I have an old piece of cheese that is, at this very moment, raytracing an actual model of the universe five hours from now, while at the same time calculating the heat produced from the new intel Pentium.
- And you people think that you are hackers! I'm currently engaged in a project which involves simultaneous simulation of multiple universes (To see what would happen if various constants change.  $\pi=8.4$  is an interesting one.) My hardware consists of a single wooden pencil (no paper). With it, I can do real-time simulations of  $2^{32}$  universes in parallel.
- You guys are wimps!! I've just finished converting a microwave oven into a paradimensional teleportation device. The only problem I'm having so far is that my breakfast bagel keeps disappearing!! May have to eat it raw . . .
- Sorry, that's my fault. I'm afraid that the high-energy laser-pumped negentropic vortex generator I made from my own nostril hair, which is currently cranking out entire new universes at the rate of 7.6 per picosecond, was breaking the FCC emissions limits and gronking your microwave's control panel. It should work properly now. Also, my cat Arthur was FTPing hundreds of terabytes of PD software from Epsilon Eridani in the year 4741 A.D. over the faster-than-light Ethernet interface I built for him, and this may have been loading the Net a little yesterday. My sincere apologies to everyone who noticed any performance degradation.

## Keeping a high profile in an open plan office

- Never write a note or memo if you can phone or visit instead - everyone wants to talk whenever you're ready.
- Don't sit down to talk - the acoustics are better the higher you are, and remember that most people are a bit deaf so SPEAK UP.
- Try to talk with at least three people between you and your listener, so that they don't feel left out.
- The very best place for a conversation is in the corridor, beside someone else's desk. If the corridor is full, try leaning against their cupboard or hanging over their screen.



- Never warn people of your approach by knocking on their desk or cupboard. People love surprises, especially if they're busy.
- The best time to disturb someone is when they look thoughtful or are concentrating. It's your duty to give them a break now and again.
- To make sure that you get regular breaks, never use a "Do No Disturb" sign. When other people use them they're only joking.
- Always hold meetings around a desk. If you book a conference room everyone will think you've got something to hide.
- If the phone isn't answered after four rings, hang on. Someone will answer it eventually, and they might like a chat, too.
- Never divert calls if you're leaving your desk. Your telephone could get into bad habits.
- Try to whistle, hum or tap your fingers while you work. It is a comfort to others to know that you're still there.
- If you have to design the office layout, remember to leave lots of wide-open spaces so that we can see and hear each other right across the floor.

## Corporate astrology

Astrology tells us about you and your future simply by your birthday. The Chinese Zodiac uses the year of your birth. Demographics tell us what you like, dislike, whom you vote for, what you buy, and what you watch on television. Well, the Corporate Zodiac goes a step further: simply by your job title, people will have you all figured out...

**MARKETING:** You are ambitious yet stupid. You chose a marketing degree to avoid having to study in college, concentrating instead on drinking and socializing--which is pretty much what your job responsibilities are now. Least compatible with Sales.

**SALES:** Laziest of all signs, often referred to as "marketing without a degree," you are also self-centered and paranoid. Unless someone calls you and begs you to take their money, you like to avoid contact with "customers" so you can "concentrate on the big picture." You seek admiration for your golf game throughout your life.

**TECHNOLOGY:** Unable to control anything in your personal life, you are instead content to completely control everything that happens at your workplace. Often even you don't understand what you are saying, but who the hell can tell?! It is written that the geeks shall inherit the Earth.

**ENGINEERING:** One of only two signs that actually studied in school, it is said that ninety percent of all personal ads are placed by engineers. You can be happy with yourself: your office is typically full of all the latest "ergodynamic" gadgets. However, we all know what is really causing your "carpal tunnel"...

**ACCOUNTING:** The only other sign that studied in school, you are mostly immune from office politics. You are the most feared person in the organization; combined with your extreme organizational traits, the majority of rumors concerning you say that you are completely insane.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:** Ironically, given your access to confidential information, you tend to be the biggest gossip within the organization. Possibly the only other person that does less work than marketing, you are unable to return any calls today because you have to get a haircut, have lunch, and mail a letter!

**MIDDLE MANAGEMENT/DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT/"TEAM LEADS":** Catty, cut-throat, yet completely spineless, you are destined to remain at your current job for the rest of your life. Unable to make a single decision you tend to measure your worth by the number of meetings you can schedule for yourself. Best suited to marry other "Middle Managers," as everyone in your social circle is a "Middle Manager."

**SENIOR MANAGEMENT:** Catty, cut-throat, yet completely spineless, you are destined to remain at your current job for the rest of your life. Unable to make a single decision you tend to measure your worth by the number of meetings you can schedule for yourself. Best suited to marry other "Senior Managers," as everyone in your social circle is a "Senior Manager."

**CUSTOMER SERVICE:** Bright, cheery, positive, you are a fifty-cent cab ride from taking your own life. As a child very few of you asked your parents for a little cubicle for your room and a headset so you could pretend to play "Customer Service." Continually passed over for promotions, your best bet is to sleep with your manager.

**CONSULTANT:** 666.

## If women ran the world...

- A man would no longer be considered a "good catch" simply because he is breathing.
- Medical research money would be spent on developing new birth control methods for men.
- Women with cold hands would give men prostate exams.
- Baby-sitting, doing dishes and making beds would be considered "Macho".
- The hem of men's pants would go up or down depending on the economy.
- Men would be forced to purchase overpriced clothes every season.
- Minnie Mouse would get equal billing with Mickey.
- Fewer women would be dieting because the ideal weight standard would increase by 40 pounds.
- Overweight men would be encouraged to wear girdles.
- PMS would be a legitimate defense in court.
- Men would come with papers showing their true identity, marital and employment status, if they live with their mother, and whether they have had their shots.
- Shopping would be considered an aerobic activity.
- Men would get reputations for sleeping around.
- "Ms. Magazine" would have an annual swimsuit issue featuring scantily clad male models.
- Men who designed women's shoes would be forced to wear them.
- Men would not be allowed to eat gas-producing foods within two hours of bedtime.
- Men would be as attentive AFTER marriage as they were before.

- Men would be secretaries for female bosses, working twice as hard for none of the credit.
- Little girls would read "Snow White and the Seven Hunks".
- Men would earn 70 cents for every dollar women make.
- Men would bring drinks, chips and dip to women watching soap operas.
- Men would HAVE to get Playboy for the articles, because there would be no pictures.
- Men would learn phrases like: I'm sorry, I love you, You're beautiful, Of course you don't look fat in that outfit, Go to sleep-I'll take care of the baby, etc.
- Men would be judged entirely by their looks, women by their accomplishments.
- Men would sit around and wonder what WE are thinking.
- Men would pay as much attention to their women as their cars.
- All toilet seats would be nailed down.
- Men would work on relationships as much as they work on their careers.
- TV news segments on sports would never run longer than one minute.
- All men would be forced to spend one month in a PMS simulator.
- Men would have their wedding rings permanently attached so they can't pretend to be single.
- During mid-life crisis, men would get hot-flashes and women would date 19 year old boys.
- Overweight men would have their weight brought to their attention constantly.
- After a baby is born, men would take a six-week paternity leave to wait on their wives hand and foot.
- For basic training, soldiers would have to take care of a two-year old for six weeks.
- A female employee would be noticed for her work performance, not her bra size.
- Singles bars would have metal detectors to weed out men hiding wedding rings in their pockets.

## GirlFriend 6.0

Last year a friend of mine upgraded GirlFriend 6.0 (marketing name Fianceé 1.0) to Wife 1.0 and found that it's a memory hog leaving very little system resources for other applications. He is only now noticing that Wife 1.0 also is spawning Child-Processes which are further consuming valuable resources.

No mention of this particular phenomena was included in the product brochure or the documentation, though other users have informed him that this is to be expected due to the nature of the application. Not only that, Wife 1.0 installs itself such that it is always launched at system initialization where it can monitor all other system activity. He's finding that some applications such as PokerNight 10.3, BeerBash 2.5, and PubNight 7.0 are no longer able to run, crashing the system when selected (even though they always worked fine before). At installation, Wife 1.0 automatically installs undesired plug-Ins such as MotherInLaw 55.8 and BrotherInLaw Beta release. As a consequence system performance seems to diminish with each passing day.

Some features he'd like to see in the upcoming Wife 2.0:

- A "Don't remind me again" button
- Minimize button
- An install shield feature that allows Wife 2.0 to be installed with the option to uninstall at anytime without the loss of cache and other system resources.
- An option to run the network driver in promiscuous mode which would allow the systems hardware probe feature to have greater use.

I myself decided to avoid all of the headaches associated with Wife 1.0 by sticking with Girlfriend 2.0. Even here, however, I found many problems. Apparently you cannot install Girlfriend 2.0 on top of Girlfriend 1.0. You must uninstall Girlfriend 1.0 first. Other users say this is a long standing bug which I should have been aware of. Apparently the versions of Girlfriend have conflicts over shared use of the I/O port. You think they would have fixed such a stupid bug by now. To make matters worse, The uninstall program for Girlfriend 1.0 doesn't work very well leaving undesirable traces of the application in the system.

Another annoying problem -- all versions of Girlfriend continually popup annoying messages about the advantages of upgrading to Wife 1.0, and they are also totally "object oriented" and only support hardware with gold plated contacts.

\*\*\*\*\* BUG WARNING \*\*\*\*\*

Wife 1.0 has an undocumented bug. If you try to install Mistress 1.1 before uninstalling Wife 1.0, Wife 1.0 will delete MSMoney files before executing a self - uninstallation. Then Mistress 1.1 will refuse to install, claiming insufficient system resources.

\*\*\* BUG WORK-AROUNDS \*\*\*\*\*

To avoid the above bug, try installing Mistress 1.1 on a different system and never run any file transfer applications such as Laplink 6.0. Also, beware of similar shareware applications that have been known to carry viruses that may affect Wife 1.0.

Another solution would be to run Mistress 1.0 via a UseNet provider under an anonymous name. Here again, beware of the viruses which can accidentally be downloaded from the UseNet.

## BoyFriend 6.0

Last year a friend of mine installed BoyFriend 6.0. While this program did not come with an uninstaller it seemed to have a time-out feature and would eventually totally disappear. If she wished to continue running BoyFriend 6.0 she had to reinstall it. She upgraded to Husband 1.0 which retains all of the features of BoyFriend 6.0 and doesn't seem to uninstall itself as frequently. No other advantages to upgrading are apparent.

She has been experimenting with the various add-on modules available for Husband 1.0 . Most recently she has installed MowLawn 1.2 and YardWork2.0 which she downloaded from the Internet at a freeware site. As frequently happens with freeware the add-ons would start running but then required at least six additional plug-in modules loaded of Miller 1.1 through Miller 1.6. Substitutions of the Miller 1.x series of plug-ins can be made interchangeably with Coors 1.x, Budweiser 2.x, or Sam Adams 1.x. No significant difference in run time has been noted. Extending the series of Miller

1.x much beyond 1.6, while possible, seemed to affect the accuracy of MowLawn 1.2 and YardWork2.0 and becomes counterproductive. Eventually they cause Husband 1.0 to crash requiring a system shut down. Once crashed even re-booting usually will not restart Husband 1.0 until the next day.

The Husband 1.0 will not run at all on Sundays with out the liberal seasonable use of Football 3.0, Basketball 2.0, Baseball 1.5, or Hockey 2.5. Once one of these are running Husband 1.0 keeps requesting additional installations of Coors 1.x, Budweiser 2.x, or Sam Adams 1.x plus assorted plug-ins of FOOD 3.x. This seems to occupy the Husband 1.0 exclusively and no additional features can be accessed or run.

She occasionally runs Husband 1.0 with the Theater 4.0 module and, while it does run, Husband 1.0 will complain of run-time, lack of resources, and will run sluggishly. If it seems to stop (energy save mode) it can be restarted with a "warm boot". The "warm boot" can cause momentary confusion and cause Husband 1.0 to then request the score. Comment: None of these problems are apparent if she uses action plug-ins such as UnderSiege 2.0 or DieHard 3.0. She gets similar performance from running BoyFriend 6.0 with Shopping 3.5 unless she uses the plug-ins for Sears 2.4 and HomeDepot 1.7.

Many times she reevaluates the need for Husband 1.0 or even BoyFriend 6.0. She considers the running difficulties, occasional unreliability, complaints of low system resources; and constant demands for care/attention. She wonders why she doesn't just let it stay uninstalled and maybe she would if it wasn't for the way BoyFriend 6.0 or Husband 1.0 ran with Love 1.0.

## How to tell a businessman from a businesswoman

- A businessman is aggressive; a businesswoman is pushy.
- A businessman is good on details; she is picky.
- He loses his temper because he's so involved in his job; she is bitchy.
- When he is depressed (or hung-over), everyone tiptoes past his office; she is moody, so it must be her time of the month.
- He follows through; she doesn't know when to quit.
- He's confident; she's conceited.
- He stands firm; she's impossible to deal with.
- He is firm; she is hard.
- His judgments are her prejudices.
- He drinks because of the excessive job pressure; she's a lush.
- He isn't afraid to say what he thinks; she's mouthy.
- He's close-mouthed; she's secretive.
- He climbed the ladder to success; she slept her way to the top.
- He is a stern taskmaster; she's hard to work for.
- He is witty; she is sarcastic.

## Project managers

- If you get in my way, I'll kill you! - ideal project manager
- If you get in my way, you'll kill me! - somewhat less than ideal project manager
- If I get in my way, I'll kill you! - somewhat misguided project manager
- If I get in your way, I'll kill you! - A tough project manager (eats glass, live cats, etc.)
- If get kill in will way I you. - dyslexic, functionally illiterate project manager
- I am the way! Kill me if you can! - messianic project manager
- Get away, I'll kill us all! - suicidal project manager
- If you kill me, I'll get in your way. - thoughtful but ineffective project manager
- If I kill you I'll get in your way. - project manager who has trouble dealing with the obvious
- If a you getta ina my way, I gonna breaka you arm. - project manager from New York
- I am quite confident that there is nothing in the way, so no one will get killed. - project manager who is about to get in big trouble
- If you kill me, so what? If you get in my way, who cares? - weak, uninspired, lackluster project manager
- If I kill me, you'll get your way. - pragmatic project manager
- Kill me, it's the only way. - every project manager to date.
- If we get in each others' way, who will get killed? - An utterly confused manager

## In the future, life will not be like Star Trek

There are so many Star Trek™ spin-offs that it is easy to fool yourself into thinking that the Star Trek vision is an accurate vision of the future. Sadly, Star Trek does not take into account the stupidity, selfishness, and horniness of the average human being. Allow me to describe some of the more obvious errors in the Star Trek vision.

### **Medical Technology**

On Star Trek, the doctors have handheld devices that instantly close any openings in the skin. Imagine that sort of device in the hands of your unscrupulous friends. They would sneak up behind you and seal your ass shut as a practical joke. The devices would be sold in novelty stores instead of medical outlets. All things considered, I'm happy that it's not easy to close other people's orifices.

### **Transporter**

It would be great to be able to beam your molecules across space and then reassemble them. The only problem is that you have to trust your co-worker to operate the transporter. These are the same people who won't add paper to the photocopier or make a new pot of coffee after taking the last drop. I don't think they'll be double-checking the transporter coordinates. They'll be accidentally beaming people into walls, pets, and furniture. People will spend all their time apologizing for having inanimate objects protruding from parts of their bodies. "Pay no attention to the knickknacks; I got beamed into a hutch yesterday."

If I could beam things from one place to another, I'd never leave the house. I'd sit in a big comfy chair and just start beaming groceries, stereo equipment, cheerleaders, and anything else I wanted right into my house. I'm fairly certain I would abuse this power. If anybody came to arrest me, I'd beam them into space. If I wanted some paintings for my walls, I'd beam the contents of the Louvre over to my place, pick out the good stuff, and beam the rest into my neighbor's garage.

If I were watching the news on television and didn't like what I heard, I would beam the anchorman into my living room during the commercial break, give him a vicious wedgie, and beam him back before anybody noticed. I'd never worry about 'keeping up with the Joneses,' because as soon as they got something nice, it would disappear right out of their hands. My neighbors would have to use milk crates for furniture. And that's only after I had all the milk crates I would ever need for the rest of my life. There's only one thing that could keep me from spending all my time wreaking havoc with the transporter: the holodeck.

### **Holodeck**

For those of you who only watched the 'old' Star Trek, the holodeck can create simulated worlds that look and feel just like the real thing. The characters on Star Trek use the holodeck for recreation during breaks from work. This is somewhat unrealistic. If I had a holodeck, I'd close the door and never come out until I died of exhaustion. It would be hard to convince me I should be anywhere but in the holodeck, getting my oil massage from Cindy Crawford and her simulated twin sister. Holodecks would be very addicting. If there weren't enough holodecks to go around, I'd get the names of all the people who had reservations ahead of me and beam them into concrete walls. I'd feel tense about it, but that's exactly why I'd need a massage. I'm afraid the holodeck will be society's last invention.

### **Sex with Aliens**

According to Star Trek, there are many alien races populated with creatures who would like to have sex with humans. This would open up a lot of anatomical possibilities, but imagine the confusion. It's hard enough to have sex with human beings, much less humanoids. One wrong move and you're suddenly transported naked to the Gamma Quadrant to stand trial for who-knows-what. This could only add to performance anxiety. You would never be quite sure what moves would be sensual and what moves would be a galactic-sized mistake.

Me Trying to Have Sex with an Alien:

Me: May I touch that?

Alien: That is not an erogenous zone. It is a separate corporeal being that has been attached to my body for six hundred years.

Me: It's cute. I wonder if it would let me have sex with it.

Alien: That's exactly what I said six hundred years ago.

The best part about having sex with aliens, according to the Star Trek model, is that the alien always dies a tragic death soon afterward. I don't have to tell you how many problems that would solve. Realistically, the future won't be that convenient.

### **Phasers**

I would love to have a device that would stun people into unconsciousness without killing them. I would use it ten times a day. If I got bad service at the convenience store,

I'd zap the clerk. If somebody with big hair sat in front of me at the theater, zap! On Star Trek, there are no penalties for stunning people with phasers. It happens all the time. All you have to do is claim you were possessed by an alien entity. Apparently, that is viewed as a credible defense in the Star Trek future. Imagine real criminals in a world where the 'alien possession' defense is credible.

Criminal: Yes, officer, I did steal that vehicle, and I did kill the occupants, but I was possessed by an evil alien entity.

Officer: Well, okay. Move along.

I wish I had a phaser right now. My neighbor's dog likes to stand under my bedroom window on the other side of the fence and bark for hours at a time. My neighbor has employed the bold defense that he believes it might be another neighbor's dog, despite the fact that I am standing there looking at him barking only twenty feet away. In a situation like this, a phaser is really the best approach. I could squeeze off a clean shot through the willow tree. A phaser doesn't make much noise, so it wouldn't disturb anyone. Then the unhappy little dog and I could both get some sleep. If the neighbor complains, I'll explain that the phaser was fired by the other neighbor's dog, a known troublemaker who is said to be invisible. And if that doesn't work, a photon torpedo is clearly indicated.

### **Shields**

I wish I had an invisible force field. I'd use it all the time, especially around people who spit when they talk or get too close to my personal space. In fact, I'd probably need a shield quite a bit if I also had a phaser to play with. I wouldn't need a big shield system like the one they use to protect the Enterprise, maybe just a belt-clip device for personal use. I could insult dangerous people without fear of retribution. Whatever crumbs of personality I now have would be completely unnecessary in the future. On the plus side, it would make shopping much more fun.

Shopping with Shields Up:

Me: Ring this up for me, you unpleasant cretin.

Saleswoman: I oughta slug you!

Me: Try it. My shields are up.

Saleswoman: Damn!

Me: There's nothing you can do to harm me.

Saleswoman: I guess you're right. Would you like to open a charge account? Our interest rates are very reasonable.

Me: Nice try.

### **Long-Range Sensors**

If people had long-range sensors, they would rarely use them to scan for new signs of life. I think they would use them to avoid work. You could run a continuous scan for your boss and then quickly transport yourself out of the area when he came near. If your manager died in his office, you would know minutes before the authorities discovered him, and that means extra break time.



## Astrological prayers

ARIES: Dear God, please give me patience... and could you do it right now?

TAURUS: Dear God, help me accept change, but not too quick.

GEMINI: Dear God! Who is God? Where is God? Why is God?

CANCER: Dear God!!!

LEO: Yes?

VIRGO: Dear God, please make us perfect and don't mess it up like You did the last time.

LIBRA: Dear God, please help me to be decisive, but on the other hand, what do you think is best?

SCORPIO: Our Father, forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, even though the b\*\*\*\*\*ds don't deserve it!

SAGITTARIUS: Dear Lord, if I've told you once, I've told you a million times, help me stop exaggerating.

CAPRICORN: Dear God! I'd like to ask you to help me, but I learned a long time ago not to rely on anyone else!

AQUARIUS: Dear God, I know I like change, but this chaos is ridiculous!!

PISCES: Dear Lord, as long as I'm going to drink this fifth of Scotch tonight, please use the stimulation for Thy glory.

## If at first you don't succeed

If at first you don't succeed, you're a failure and a disgrace to humanity

If at first you don't succeed, find somebody more qualified.

If at first you don't succeed, read the damn manual.

If at first you don't succeed, hide the evidence that you even tried.

If at first you don't succeed, call tech support.

If at first you don't succeed, blame society.

If at first you don't succeed, call it a day and have a beer.

If at first you don't succeed, it didn't need to be done anyway.

If at first you don't succeed, quit.

If at first you don't succeed, quit and watch tv.

If at first you don't succeed, get your child to do it.

If at first you don't succeed, get your neighbor's child to do it.

If at first you don't succeed, to hell with it. Too much damn trouble.

## Thoughts to get you through almost any crisis

1. Indecision is the key to flexibility.
2. There is always one more son-of-a-bitch than you counted on.
3. If you find something you like, buy a lifetime supply, because they will soon stop making it.
4. All things equal, fat people use more soap.
5. You can't tell which way the train went by looking at the track.
6. Be kind, everyone you meet is fighting a tough battle.
7. This is as bad as it can get, but don't bet on it.

8. There is no substitute for genuine lack of preparation.
9. By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.
10. Happiness is merely the remission of pain.
11. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
12. Sometimes too much drink is not enough.
13. The facts, although interesting, are irrelevant.
14. The world gets a little better every day and worse in the evening.
15. The careful application of terror is also a form of communication.
16. No one shred of evidence exists in favor of the idea that life is serious.
17. Someone who thinks logically is a nice contrast to the real world.
18. Things are more like they are today than they ever have been before.
19. The other line always moves faster until you get in it.
20. Anything worth fighting for is worth fighting dirty for.
21. Everything should be made as simple as possible but no simpler.
22. Friends may come and go but enemies accumulate.
23. It's hard to be nostalgic when you can't remember anything.
24. I have seen the truth and it makes no sense.
25. To live forever, acquire a chronic disease and take care of it.
26. Suicide is the most sincere form of self-criticism.
27. If you think that there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.
28. If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.
29. One seventh of your life is spent on Monday.
30. The more you run over a dead cat, the flatter it gets.

## Corporate travel guidelines

Due to budget constraints, the following policies have been established regarding your traveling on official business.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Hitchhiking in lieu of commercial transport is the preferred choice. Luminescent safety vests will be issued to all employees prior to their departure on company business trips. Bus transportation will be used whenever hitchhiking is not possible. Airline tickets will only be authorized for purchase in extreme circumstances and the lowest fares will be used. If, for example, a meeting is scheduled in Seattle, but a lower fare can be obtained by traveling to Detroit, then the meeting will be relocated to Detroit.

### **LODGING**

All employees are encouraged to stay with relatives, friends, or mere acquaintances while on company business. If weather permits, public areas such as parks, roadside rests and parking lots should be used for temporary lodging sites. Bridges and tunnels may provide shelter in periods of inclement weather.

### **MEALS**

Expenditures for meals will be limited to the absolute minimum. It should be noted that certain grocery chains often provide free samples of promotional items. Entire meals can often be consumed in this manner. Travelers should also become familiar with indigenous roots, berries and other protein sources available at their destination.

If restaurants must be utilized, travelers should seek establishments offering "all you can eat" salad bars. This will be especially cost effective to employees traveling together, as a single plate can be used to feed the entire group. Employees are also encouraged to bring their own food while on company business. Cans of tuna fish, spam, and Beefaroni can be conveniently consumed at your leisure, without the unnecessary bother of heating or other costly preparation.

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

Entertainment while on travel is strictly discouraged. If such extravagances are required on customer contacts, the customer should be encouraged to "pick up the tab". Such action will save company money and convince the customer that we are concerned about spending money on providing a good product - - not on useless frivolities. The hospitality provided to our customers who visit our facility shall also be tasteful, yet cost effective. In lieu of extravagant dinners, a picnic bench will be placed in the parking lot near the dumpster and a green garden hose will be made available so that liquid refreshments can be provided to our guests.

For those who are taking early retirement "GOOD LUCK", for those who are thinking about it - THINK HARDER, and for those who aren't going – SORRY

## 99.9%

If 99.9% is good enough then....

- 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily
- 114,500 mismatched pairs of shoes will be shipped/year
- 18,322 pieces of mail will be mishandled/hour
- 2,000,000 documents will be lost by the IRS this year
- 2.5 million books will be shipped with the wrong covers
- Two planes landed at Chicago's O'Hare airport will be unsafe every day
- 315 entries in Webster's Dictionary will be misspelled
- 20,000 incorrect drug prescriptions will be written this year
- 880,000 credit cards in circulation will turn out to have incorrect cardholder information on their magnetic strips
- 103,260 income tax returns will be processed incorrectly during the year
- 5.5 million cases of soft drinks produced will be flat
- 291 pacemaker operations will be performed incorrectly
- 3056 copies of tomorrow's Wall Street Journal will be missing one of the three sections

## Murphy's laws for frequent flyers

- No flight ever leaves on time unless you are running late and need the delay to make the flight.
- If you are running late for a flight, it will depart from the farthest gate within the terminal.

- If you arrive very early for a flight, it inevitably will be delayed.
- Flights never leave from Gate #1 at any terminal in the world.
- If you must work on your flight, you will experience turbulence as soon as you touch pen to paper. Or start to drink your coffee.
- If you are assigned a middle seat, you can determine who has the seats on the aisle and the window while you are still in the boarding area. Just look for the two largest passengers.
- Only passengers seated in window seats ever have to get up to go to the lavatory.
- The crying baby on board your flight is always seated next to you.
- The best-looking woman/man on your flight is never seated next to you.
- The less carry-on luggage space available on an aircraft, the more carry-on luggage passengers will bring aboard.

## Computer use

### Using the Line Printer:

- If your printout does not arrive within 1.2 seconds, immediately take the printer offline and press line feed enough times to place the perforation in the center of all subsequent printouts. Leave the printer in this inoperative state, but be sure to place your document (140k minimum) in the queue at least five (5) more times before going home. In the unlikely event you return for your output, give it a cursory glance before discarding in a convenient location.
- Be sure and send graphics output to the line printer as often as possible. Fill at least 200 pages with brief cryptic strings such as q:!  
@ in the corner. After observing that this output does not match the plot you intended, perform the exact same action a second time, in the hope that the first error was simply the result of intervention by evil spirits.
- Wad, crush, crumple, stomp, spindle, paw, and rip at least six (6) other users' output in retrieving your own. Broadcast this refuse in random directions or coat the vicinity of the printer with it in an act of Cristo-like performance art.
- Note to administrators: change the print ribbon at least once every presidential administration, whether it needs it or not. Ensure that the print queue is mysteriously disabled before all major class projects, and that name/banner/whitespace pages exceed printed output by a ratio of at least 3:1.

### Using Dot Matrix Printers:

- Randomly strewn tractor feed paper edges give your workspace that festive, ticker-tape parade atmosphere. Fling these everywhere so your fellow users will feel like returning Mercury astronauts.
- Make sure the paper will wrap around and re-insert itself into the tractor feed while you've left to pee.

### Using the Laser Printer:

- At the slightest delay, begin randomly pushing buttons on the front panel. If this elicits no favorable response, switch the printer on and off several times.
- Do not bother busy service personnel with problems, perform maintenance yourself. Insert paper haphazardly in the tray to ensure that it will misfeed or jam so thoroughly in the rollers that disassembly is required.

- Remember that the twenty people behind you in the queue are just as eager as you to see your 1200k postscript printout of H0TMAMA9.GIF. Be sure and make copies for all of them, too. Make sure that at least one copy is not in encapsulated form, so that rather than H0TMAMA9 the other users clustered around the printer are treated to the even more invigorating spectacle of the single remaining ream of paper being filled with vital information such as M#6%%iou{^pK/\$.

### **Using Terminals:**

- Those mysterious functions keys at the top must be good for something, so press them all. Whine loudly when the terminal subsequently displays the Magna Carta in inverse video and locks up.
- Seek out all possible actions that produce a bell/beep, and perform them at least 9,734 times over the next half hour.
- Achieve a sense of oneness with the information on the screen by pressing your grubby greasy mitts all over it. Make sure there are at least three clear prints for each finger.
- Leave mysterious and/or repulsive stains or goo on the most frequently used keys. Make sure to extend your own casual approach to hygiene to your favorite terminal.
- Note to administrators: be vigilant in guarding against novice users learning vital secrets such as how to set their terminal type. Remember, ex and edlin build character. Furtheeeeer, makeeee sureeee that at leeeeast oneeee keeey sticks on all teeerminals.

### **Workstations:**

- If the workstation has locked up, or is not performing with the proper pep and vigor you expect, switch it on and off a few times just like your pc.
- Run large jobs on at least five (5) workstations at once from remote logins for the true sensation of multitasking.
- Note to administrators: at all costs, DO NOT let mere users obtain sensitive information such as how to run various windowing systems or properly set their path. Actual productive use of workstations creates wear and eventually necessitates replacement. Hide all manuals at an undisclosed location on the Ross Ice Shelf. Make sure users are able to set their cursor to Gumby shape, but do not renew vital software licenses on a timely basis.

### **Programming:**

- To guard against any future deciphering of your code, use less-than-illuminating variable names such as a, b, and c. However, for the most frequently used variables, assign names such as "this\_is\_my\_new\_value".
- In Fortran, make sure to use undeclared variables starting with the letter m for real values.
- If your code isn't working, be sure to fish through the trash to find some that does.
- Remember, no task is too simple or brief to perform on a mainframe. Anything done on a pc, even generating times tables, is inherently suspect. A brief C or Pascal program written on your pc in a convenient ten minutes simply can't compare to the grandeur of a 400k executable file running on a decrepit behemoth the size of a recreational vehicle. Even if your results are wrong, just think of the precision to which they will be wrong.
- Core dumps are fun! Copy them here, there, and everywhere, mail them to friends, and list them to lock your terminal or make it squeal. Take full advantage of this

valuable service needed by at least a whopping 0.001% of the computing public. What Your Name Should Be

## Life and work

### Life Environment

Wise Man + Wise Woman	=	Romance
Wise Man + Dumb Woman	=	Affairs
Dumb Man + Wise Woman	=	Divorce
Dumb Man + Dumb Woman	=	Marriage

### Work Environment

Wise Manager + Wise Employee	=	Profit
Wise Manager + Dumb Employee	=	Production
Dumb Manager + Wise Employee	=	Promotion
Dumb Manager + Dumb Employee	=	Overtime

## Bedroom physics

### Introduction

Old-style physics courses consist of endless lectures where you have to get up on winter mornings (or even summer afternoons, if it comes to that). This radical new course ends the misery of tutorials taking up valuable leisure time, by being the only one in the country which guarantees you can study Physics without ever having to leave your room (except to stock up on biscuits).

The course is divided into the following modules:

Thermodynamics - Insulating properties of duvet materials.

- Heat transfer by radiation, conduction and convection.
- Radiation - the student is invited to make a piece of toast on a two bar gas fire. Particular attention is to be paid to anisotropic thermal equilibrium modes, resulting in burnt crusts yet a soggy middle.
- Conduction - Practical studies in the relative thermal conductivities of toast, flesh, metal etc.
- Convection - Students are invited to go out for a rumbustious curry the night before. Properties of warm gas convection in a confined space are then studied. Both wafted and non-wafted situations. (NB Students are advised to make colleagues aware of their personal Boundary Conditions on commencement of the experiment).
- Entropy - An understanding of how a closed system (e.g. a student's room) tends towards chaos is assumed. Practical experiments include the irreversible conversion of orthogonal unit packet of cigarettes into smoke, ash, crumpled paper, phlegm, lung cancer etc etc.

Electricity and Magnetism - Magnetic properties of the Electricity Meter.

- Practical experiments in stopping the little meter wheel going round, including large counter magnets on top, shear forces applied to the casing, exothermic chemical transformations etc etc.
- Practical electronics. Students must become familiar with the workings of simple electronic devices such as the Sony Walkman, Sega Megadrive, CD player. Also, a knowledge of simple circuit diagrams, such as those which show you which way round the batteries go in your Gameboy.

Acoustics - Isotropic and anisotropic properties of partition walls and conduction of sound. Practical experiments on critical levels of acoustic energy (i.e. the level of sound at which your biscuits).

Measurements & Errors - Understanding of the random process involved in a bank account balance. Reconciliation of your statement with what you think you've spent within acceptable systematic errors.

Quantum Mechanics and Relativity - All practical quantum experiments are Gedanken experiments anyway. The student is invited to have a long think about things, in bed.

- An in depth derivation of why high-energy particles are less efficient than those which stay in bed all day.
- Practical experiments may be performed with certain chemical stimulants in order to examine time dilation, length contraction, and appetite expansion. (For advanced students only. See under Roach-Rizla Theory).

At the end of the course, students are awarded a BEd, which they can pick up at Senate Hall. (If they can be bothered).

## What happens to all those socks?

The answers to two of the 20th century's most puzzling questions have recently been found. One of the questions is physical, while the other is philosophical. However, despite the differences, both questions have the same answer.

The physicists' question is: "Why are quantum mechanical effects like wave-particle duality, probability wave theory and tunneling effects not seen in the macroscopic world?" The philosophers' question is: "Where do all the odd socks go?"

The answer is simple and can be found in a domestic appliance: the humble washing machine. It seems that socks are tunnelling from one machine to another.

Philosophers had for a long time suspected that the household washing machine was the answer, but lacked sufficient evidence. Their limited knowledge of physics suggested that the socks could not just disappear without trace, unless some extraordinary mass-to-energy transformation was possible. But since this obviously cannot happen, they reluctantly surmised that washing machines were not the answer.

The washing machine theory may be hard to accept, but there is some compelling evidence to support it:

Socks disappear from inside washing machines. This statement is so blatantly true that it hardly needs proving. However, if you doubt it just check your collection of socks. It is almost certain that some socks do not form pairs, showing conclusively that some are missing. Socks can also appear inside washing machines. This is not so clear to the casual observer, but again a quick check of your sock collection should soon convince you. You are bound to find at least one odd sock that is not yours. You did not buy it and were never given it. The sock just appeared one day.

Clearly the spontaneous creation and destruction of socks inside a washing machine would violate all conservation laws, especially sock parity, and the conversion of the mass of the sock into energy would certainly play havoc with a low-temperature wash.

If socks disappear and appear in washing machines without being spontaneously destroyed or created in the machines, there is only one other explanation: they tunnel between machines. The exact mechanism is unclear, but recent observations would suggest that washing machines are connected via some, or all, of the 'left-over' dimensions of string theory.

For the doubters amongst you there are experiments that provide evidence for this phenomenon. These experiments have the added attractions of requiring no more than household items and being easily reproducible.

All that is required is a washing machine, a duvet cover and as many socks as possible. A duvet cover with some sort of fastening at the opening, like poppers or a zip, is preferable but not essential. Close the fastening and roll the cover up so the opening is on the inside of the ball and therefore neither visible nor accessible. Place the socks and the duvet cover in the washing machine and wash.

At the end of the wash empty the machine and check inside the duvet cover for any socks whose probability waves have collapsed inside the cover. Given enough socks and enough washes you will, sooner or later, find a sock inside the cover. Remember that you are looking for a random event that will not occur to order, so the experiment may need repeating. Do not forget to watch for the complete disappearance (or appearance) of any socks while conducting these experiments.

Now the probability of a sock managing to get inside a duvet cover under these conditions is very small, in spite of the churning of the washing machine. If the cover has a zip that is done up before the experiment and which remains so throughout, it should be impossible for a sock to get into the cover. However this is exactly what happens on occasion.

In fact I have even experienced multiple tunnelling, in which the probability waves of several objects collapsed around each other. This resulted in a sock inside another sock, inside a pillow case, inside a duvet cover. This result is extremely rare, but multiple tunnelling can occur, leading to many socks inside a single duvet cover.

While these experiments provide evidence of macroscopic probability waves and tunnelling, they do not help to prove that socks actually tunnel between washing machines. However it is simple to see how this theory can be proved conclusively. Just put a marked sock in a washing machine and wash it until it disappears. Then, search



all the other washing machines in the universe until you find the machine that contains the marked sock.

As socks are macroscopic quantum objects and have a probability wave, the marked sock must be in one of the machines. It is impossible to determine in which machine the probability wave collapses and the sock appears - until you look. However, when the right machine is opened and the sock found, the theory will be proven beyond doubt.

Author's note: This experiment can be attempted by the academic community though I suggest that scientists do not try to get funding from any government agency. Perhaps a chain of laundrettes could be persuaded to sponsor the research. In any case, I look forward to hearing of the further results in this fascinating and squeaky clean science.

## Letter of recommendation

The secret to writing a good letter of recommendation is in careful wording

ACME WIDGETS, INC.  
To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to commend the services of my former employee, Mr. John Smith. I most enthusiastically recommend this person with no qualifications whatsoever.

*("This person HAS no qualifications whatsoever.")*

I'm sorry we let him get away,

*("We should have prosecuted.")*

but I must say that Mr. Smith's real talent was being wasted on this job.

*("He got high regularly.")*

Mr. Smith is not your average, everyday worker.

*("Every OTHER day, maybe.")*

You won't find many people like him.

*("In fact, most people can't stand him.")*

Whenever he was asked to do anything, it only took a second to get it done.

*("A second person, that is.")*

You can ask him to do anything, and he won't mind.

*("He won't DO it, but he won't mind you asking.")*

Mr. Smith was always asking if there was anything he could do.

*("We were always wondering that, too.")*

Given the opportunity, I am certain that Mr. Smith will quickly forge a name for himself within your company.

*("Don't leave any blank checks lying around.")*

You will be very fortunate to get this person to work for you.

*("God knows, we couldn't get him to work for US!")*

All in all, I cannot recommend Mr. Smith too highly.

*("In fact, I cannot recommend Mr. Smith at all.")*

Sincerely,  
Bob Jones, President, Acme Widgets, Inc.

## Quotes from Groucho Marx

- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- Room service? Send up a larger room.
- Who are you going to believe, me or your own eyes?
- Those are my principles. If you don't like them I have others.
- He may look like an idiot and talk like an idiot but don't let that fool you. He really is an idiot.
- I never forget a face, but in your case I'll be glad to make an exception.
- A child of five could understand this. Fetch me a child of five.
- From the moment I picked your book up until I laid it down I was convulsed with laughter. Someday I intend reading it.
- Ice Water? Get some Onions - that'll make your eyes water!
- You know I could rent you out as a decoy for duck hunters?
- You've got the brain of a four-year-old boy, and I'll bet he was glad to get rid of it.
- A man's only as old as the woman he feels.
- Why should I care about posterity? What's posterity ever done for me?
- Why, I'd horse-whip you if I had a horse.
- Military justice is to justice what military music is to music.
- Military intelligence is a contradiction in terms.
- One morning I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How he got into my pajamas I'll never know.
- There is no sweeter sound than the crumbling of your fellow man.
- I must say that I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a book.
- I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it.
- If I held you any closer I would be on the other side of you.
- I must confess, I was born at a very early age.
- I don't care to belong to a club that accepts people like me as members.
- It is better to have loft and lost than to never have loft at all.
- I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.
- Either he's dead or my watch has stopped.
- Remember men, we're fighting for this woman's honour; which is probably more than she ever did.
- Women should be obscene and not heard.
- After his introduction on a music/variety show, Groucho and the host both sat down at center stage. Host: "I'm a big fan of yours, Groucho." Groucho: "If it gets any hotter in here I could use a big fan."
- Do you think I could buy back my introduction to you?
- Time wounds all heels.
- Why was I with her? She reminds me of you. In fact, she reminds me more of you than you do!
- Behind every successful man is a woman, behind her is his wife.
- As soon as I get through with you, you'll have a clear case for divorce and so will my wife.
- Well, art is art, isn't it? Still, on the other hand, water is water! And east is east and west is west and if you take cranberries and stew them like apple-sauce they taste

much more like prunes than rhubarb does. Now, uh... Now you tell me what you know.

- Marry me and I'll never look at another horse!
- I married your mother because I wanted children, imagine my disappointment when you came along.
- Whatever it is I'm against it.
- A woman is an occasional pleasure but a cigar is always a smoke.
- Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read.
- Quote me as saying I was mis-quoted.

## Beer and ice cream diet

As we all know, it takes 1 calorie to heat 1 gram of water 1 degree centigrade. Translated into meaningful terms, this means that if you eat a very cold dessert (generally consisting of water in large part), the natural processes which raise the consumed dessert to body temperature during the digestive cycle literally sucks the calories out of the only available source, your body fat.

For example, a dessert served and eaten at near  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $32.2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) will in a short time be raised to the normal body temperature of  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $98.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). For each gram of dessert eaten, that process takes approximately 37 calories as stated above. The average dessert portion is 6 oz, or 168 grams. Therefore, by operation of thermodynamic law, 6,216 calories ( $1\text{ cal./gm/deg.} \times 37\text{ deg.} \times 168\text{ gms}$ ) are extracted from body fat as the dessert's temperature is normalized.

Allowing for the 1,200 latent calories in the dessert, the net calorie loss is approximately 5,000 calories.

Obviously, the more cold dessert you eat, the better off you are and the faster you will lose weight, if that is your goal.

This process works equally well when drinking very cold beer in frosted glasses. Each ounce of beer contains 16 latent calories, but extracts 1,036 calories (6,216 cal. per 6 oz. portion) in the temperature normalizing process. Thus the net calorie loss per ounce of beer is 1,020 calories. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to calculate that 12,240 calories ( $12\text{ oz.} \times 1,020\text{ cal./oz.}$ ) are extracted from the body in the process of drinking a can of beer.

Frozen desserts, e.g., ice cream, are even more beneficial, since it takes 83 cal./gm to melt them (i.e., raise them to  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and an additional 37 cal./gm to further raise them to body temperature. The results here are really remarkable, and it beats running hands down.

Unfortunately, for those who eat pizza as an excuse to drink beer, pizza (loaded with latent calories and served above body temperature) induces an opposite effect. But, thankfully, as the astute reader should have already reasoned, the obvious solution is to drink a lot of beer with pizza and follow up immediately with large bowls of ice cream.

We could all be thin if we were to adhere religiously to a pizza, beer, and ice cream diet. Happy eating!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: One other thing to note for those of you pigging out to lose weight, a dietary calorie is equal to a kilocalorie in physics. Better luck next time. Instead, try this alternative suggestion:*

I enjoyed reading the piece on the Beer and Ice Cream Diet

Although it has been nearly 20 years since my college physics and thermodynamics courses, your diet neglects to account for several factors, thus reducing its effectiveness.

Ice cream, for example, is loaded with both sugar and fat--two sources of dietary calories. Served at near  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $32.2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), it will rise to room temperature  $28.1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $72^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) with no consumption of calories or loss of body fat.

Additionally, consider the results of inserting a 6 oz (168 grams) mass, at a temperature of  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $32.2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), inside of a 200 lb or 91,200 gram object (the size of an average American male body) which is at a temperature of  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $98.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

Anytime two objects of differing temperatures come in contact, the two objects relative amount of thermodynamic energy (heat) will seek an equilibrium based on the objects relative temperature and mass to each other.

The ambient temperature of the larger mass will be reduced in proportion to the temperature difference AND THE MASS of the smaller object. Since the dessert is approximately 0.001875% (less than 2 tenths of one percent) of the mass of the body, any caloric loss due to the temperature differential will be negligible.

But the underlying premise of loss of body fat through temperature differentials of consumed food is valid. Its just that your scale is off.

Consider the following: A 200 pound man consuming his body weight in water which is at a temperature just above freezing will be required to generate significant amount of heat in order to maintain his body temperature at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $98.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

But drinking all that liquid would be time-consuming, and involve frequent trips to the bathroom. Instead, consider inserting the man--as the smaller mass--into a larger mass of just above freezing water.

As the body struggles to maintain its temperature at or near  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $98.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), there will be a significant consumption of calories. Since the human body's internal systems can only function in a certain temperature range, care must be taken to remove the person from the vat of freezing water before system failure and death occur due to hypothermia.

Perhaps a regimen of dunking the dieter into the vat of frigid water for three minutes at a time every fifteen minutes. Remember, if you give the dunkee a towel or blanket after extraction from water, you will be defeating the purpose of forcing the body to raise its own temperature back to normal, thereby consuming body fat as a source of energy.

The extreme temperatures will cause a great deal of discomfort and pain, so a strong opium derivative will be necessary so the dieter can endure the ordeal. Alternatively, earplugs will be required for the "dietician" supervising the procedure.

## Computer beers

### **DOS Beer**

Requires you to use your own can opener, and requires you to read the directions carefully before opening the can. Originally only came in an 8 oz. can, but now comes in a 16 oz. can. However, the can is divided into eight compartments of 2 oz. each, which have to be accessed separately. Soon to be discontinued, although a lot of people are going to keep drinking it after it's no longer available.

### **Mac Beer**

At first, came only in a 16 oz. can, but now comes in a 32 oz. can. Considered by many to be a 'light' beer. All the cans look identical. When you take one from the 'fridge, it opens itself. The ingredients list is not on the can. If you call to ask about the ingredients, you are told that "you don't need to know." A notice on the side reminds you to drag your empties to the trash can.

### **Windows 3.1 Beer**

The world's most popular. Comes in a 16 oz. can that looks a lot like Mac Beer's. Requires that you already own a DOS Beer. Claims that it allows you to drink several DOS Beers simultaneously, but in reality, you can only drink a few of them, very slowly; especially slowly if you are drinking the Windows Beer at the same time. Sometimes, for no apparent reason, a can of Windows Beer will explode when you open it.

### **OS/2 Beer**

Comes in a 32 oz. can. Does allow you to drink several DOS Beers simultaneously. Allows you to drink Windows 3.1 Beer simultaneously, too, but somewhat slower. Advertizes that its cans won't explode when you open them, even if you shake them up. You never really see anyone drinking OS/2 Beer, but the manufacturer (International Beer Manufacturing) claims that 9 million six-packs have been sold.

### **Windows 95 Beer**

A lot of people have taste-tested it and claim it's wonderful. The can looks a lot like Mac Beer's can, but tastes more like Windows 3.1 Beer. It comes in 32 oz. cans, but when you look inside, the cans only have 16 oz. of beer in them. Most people will probably keep drinking Windows 3.1 Beer until their friends try Windows 95 Beer and say they like it. The ingredients list, when you look at the small print, has some of the same ingredients that come in DOS Beer, even though the manufacturer claims that this is an entirely new brew.

### **Windows NT Beer**

Comes in 32 oz. cans, but you can only buy it by the truck-load. This causes most people to have to go out and buy bigger refrigerators. The can looks just like Windows 3.1 Beer's, but the company promises to change the can to look just like Windows 95 Beer's. Touted as an "industrial strength" beer, and suggested only for use in bars.

## **TRS-80 Beer**

TRS-80 beer was a proprietary recipe for a fairly bland beer available only in 8oz. cans. Offering only the very rudimentary components of a basic beer, it required that the user be very familiar with beers, cans and drinking in general, before it could be consumed. Much like DOS beer, which followed much later, TRS-80 beer cans required that you use your own opener. Once they were open you were forced to drink the beer one teaspoon at a time. TRS-80 beer was never really stable, and cans were known to explode at any time, even after being opened.

## **Library enquiries**

*Part 1: Actual reference queries reported by American and Canadian library reference desk workers of various levels.*

- "Do you have books here?"
- "Do you have a list of all the books written in the English language?"
- "Do you have a list of all the books I've ever read?"
- "I'm looking for Robert James Waller's book, *Waltzing through Grand Rapids*." (Actual title wanted: "Slow Waltz in Cedar Bend.")
- "Do you have that book by Rushdie: 'Satanic Nurses'?" (Actual title: "Satanic Verses")
- "Where is the reference desk?" This was asked of a person sitting at a desk who had hanging above her head a sign saying "REFERENCE DESK"!
- "I was here about three weeks ago looking at a cookbook that cost \$39.95. Do you know which one it is?"
- "Which outlets in the library are appropriate for my hairdryer?"
- "Can you tell me why so many famous Civil War battles were fought on National Park Sites?"
- "Do you have any books with photographs of dinosaurs?"
- "I need a color photograph of George Washington [Christopher Columbus, King Arthur, Moses, Socrates, etc.]"
- "I need a photocopy of Booker T. Washington's birth certificate."
- "I need to find out Ibid's first name for my bibliography."
- "Why don't you have any books by Ibid? He's written a lot of important stuff."
- "I'm looking for information on carpal tunnel syndrome. I think I'm having trouble with it in my neck."
- "Is the basement upstairs?" (Asked at First Floor Reference Desk)
- "I am looking for a list of laws that I can break that would send me back to jail for a couple of months."

*Part 2: Actual Reference Interviews reported by American and Canadian library reference desk workers of various levels.*

Patron: "I'm looking for a book."

Mental answer 1: "Well, you're in the right place."

Mental answer 2: "Here's one." (Hand over nearest volume.)

Audible answer : "Can you be a little more specific?"

Patron: "I got a quote from a book I turned in last week but I forgot to write down the author and title. It's big and red and I found it on the top shelf. Can you find it for me?"  
Mental answer: "Books classified by color are shelved downstairs in the [non-existent] third sub-basement."

Audible answer: "What were you looking for when you found the book the first time?"

In an art library: Patron: Do you have any books on Art?

Ref: Yes. Did you have a certain artist in mind, or a period or style in mind?

Patron: No.

Ref: I guess you'll have to look through our 120,000 books and see if you find anything.

Patron: OK.

Patron: "Do you have anything good to read?"

Reference person getting her audible and mental answers mixed up: "No, ma'am. I'm afraid we have 75,000 books, and they're all duds."

Telephone patron: Do you have books on leaves?

Library worker: Nope, we keep them on shelves.

(She then hung up. Can you tell she's not too fond of Reference duty?)

Caller: "I have a painting by Vincent Van Gogh. It's all blue with swirly stars on it. Can you tell me where I can get it appraised?"

Ref.: "Sir, does it say 'Metropolitan Museum of Art' on the bottom? It does? Well, what you have there is a poster that they sell in the gift shop. I think they're about \$10.00."

Patron: "I am looking for a globe of the earth.

Ref: "We have a table-top model over here."

Patron: "No, that's not good enough. Don't you have a life size?"

Ref (after a short pause): "Yes, but it's in use right now!"

Patron: "I have to write a two-page paper on the Civil War, can you help?"

Ref: "What aspect of the war interests you?"

Patron: "What aspect? You mean I have to choose something in particular about it? I thought I'd just write about the whole thing"

## Ways to get thrown out of chemistry lab

- Pretend an electron got stuck in your ear, and insist on describing the sound to others.
- Give a cup of liquid nitrogen to a classmate and ask, "Does this taste funny to you?"
- Consistently write three atoms of potassium as "KKK".
- Mutter repeatedly, "Not again....not again....not again."
- When it's very quiet, suddenly cry out, "My eyes!"
- Deny the existence of chemicals.
- Begin pronouncing everything your immigrant lab instructor says exactly the way he/she says it.
- Casually walk to the front of the room and urinate in a beaker.

- Pop a paper bag at the crucial moment when the professor is about to pour the sulfuric acid.
- Show up with a 55-gallon drum of fertilizer and express an interest in federal buildings.

## If restaurants functioned like Microsoft

Patron: Waiter!

Waiter: Hi, my name is Bill, and I'll be your Support Waiter. What seems to be the problem?

Patron: There's a fly in my soup!

Waiter: Try again, maybe the fly won't be there this time.

Patron: No, it's still there.

Waiter: Maybe it's the way you're using the soup; try eating it with a fork instead.

Patron: Even when I use the fork, the fly is still there.

Waiter: Maybe the soup is incompatible with the bowl; what kind of bowl are you using?

Patron: A SOUP bowl!

Waiter: Hmm, that should work. Maybe it's a configuration problem; how was the bowl set up?

Patron: You brought it to me on a saucer; what has that to do with the fly in my soup?!

Waiter: Can you remember everything you did before you noticed the fly in your soup?

Patron: I sat down and ordered the Soup of the Day!

Waiter: Have you considered upgrading to the latest Soup of the Day?

Patron: You have more than one Soup of the Day each day??

Waiter: Yes, the Soup of the Day is changed every hour.

Patron: Well, what is the Soup of the Day now?

Waiter: The current Soup of the Day is tomato.

Patron: Fine. Bring me the tomato soup, and the check. I'm running late now.

*[waiter leaves and returns with another bowl of soup and the check]*

Waiter: Here you are, Sir. The soup and your check.

Patron: This is potato soup.

Waiter: Yes, the tomato soup wasn't ready yet.

Patron: Well, I'm so hungry now, I'll eat anything.

*[waiter leaves.]*

Patron: Waiter! There's a gnat in my soup!

The check:

Soup of the Day	\$5.00
Upgrade to newer Soup of the Day	\$2.50
Access to support	\$1.00



## Look and feel lawsuit 666

To: Microsoft Lawyers, Inc.

From: Azathoth, Nyarlathotep and Hastur, Elder Attorneys.

Sirs:

Our agents among the mortal herd have brought to Our attention your recent product entitled Windows '95. Therefore We now give you statutory notice of intent of proceedings to be taken against Microsoft by the Many-Angled Ones.

With this suit We will show that Windows '95, and to a lesser extent all of the Microsoft range of products, infringe upon the recognised "look-and-feel" of the Elder Gods, for the following reasons:

- Windows '95 is a crawling abomination from the darkest pits of Hell;
- No man can be in its presence for too long without being driven into gibbering insanity;
- A cult who worship it exist in secret amongst the mortal herd;
- Those who associate with it for too long develop common physical characteristics, to wit: pale, clammy skin, bulging eyes, generally unkempt physical appearance, tendency towards nocturnal living, change in diet to that which normal men do not eat (in your case tacos, burgers and Jolt Coke; in Ours, human flesh, Fungi of Yuggoth and the blood of Alien Gods);
- Mysterious tomes that purport to explain this phenomenon are reputed to exist; they are bound in an unnatural substance and only available at a terrible cost to the user.
- The Microsoft range of products seek to utterly dominate the world, and force all who dwell there to live in eternal damnation.

As you can see, Our case is very strong, especially when you consider that most judges prefer not to have chittering things with tentacles for faces scoop out their brains and eat them.

We hope that you will consider these points carefully and settle out of court, since it is not Our intention to have your senior partners spend the rest of their mercifully short lives under heavy sedation in a maximum security psychiatric hospital. After all, it was the Lords of the Outer Planes who gave humanity lawyers in the first place.

Respectfully yours,

*<Oddly disturbing squiggle in some sort of ichor>*

## Dictionary of employment want ads terminology

Energetic self-starter:	You'll be working on commission.
Entry level position:	We will pay you the lowest wages allowed by law.
Experience required:	We do not know the first thing about any of this.
Fast learner:	You will get no training from us.
Flexible work hours:	You will frequently work long overtime hours.
Good organizational skills:	You'll be handling the filing.
Make an investment in you future:	This is a franchise or a pyramid scheme.
Management training position:	You'll be a salesperson with a wide territory.
Much client contact:	You handle the phone or make "cold calls" on clients.
Must have reliable transportation:	You will be required to break speed limits.
Must be able to lift 50 pounds:	We offer no health insurance or chiropractors.
Opportunity of a lifetime:	You will not find a lower salary for so much work.
Planning and coordination:	You book the bosses travel arrangements.
Quick problem solver:	You will work on projects months behind schedule already.
Strong communication skills:	You will write tons of documentation and letters.

## If's you need to know to get along at work

- If it rings, put it on hold.
- If it clunks, call the repairman.
- If it whistles, ignore it.
- If it's a friend, stop work and chat.
- If it's the Boss, look busy.
- If it talks, take notes.
- If it's handwritten, type it.
- If it's typed, copy it.
- If it's copied, file it.
- If it's Friday, FORGET IT!!!

## Office dieting

A recent report by the American Medical Association pointed out that proper weight control and physical fitness cannot be attained by dieting alone. People who spend most of their day behind a desk face a particular problem in losing weight. Too many of these people fail to realize that calories can be burned off by the hundreds by engaging in strenuous exercises that are common for office workers:

<b>Office Activity</b>	<b>Calories burned</b>
Adding fuel to the fire	85
Balancing the books	335
Beating around the bush	75

Beating your head against a wall	450
Beating your own drum	100
Bending over backwards	75
Bending the rules	375
Chewing nails	85
Climbing the ladder of success	750
Climbing the walls	250
Dodging responsibility	80
Dragging your heels	100
Eating crow	190
Fishing for compliments	35
Flying off the handle	225
Going around in circles	320
Grasping at straws	75
Hitting the nail on the head	50
Jogging your memory	125
Jumping on the bandwagon	200
Jumping to conclusions	100
Making mountains out of molehills	500
Passing the buck	25
Patting yourself on the back	25
Pouring salt on a wound	30
Pulling out the stops	100
Pulling strings	180
Pushing your luck	360
Racing against time	300
Running down the boss	130
Spinning your wheels	145
Sticking your neck out	980
Stretching the truth	450
Swallowing your pride	150
Throwing your weight around (depending on weight)	50-300
Tooting your own horn	50
Turning the other cheek	50
Wading through paperwork	300
Wrapping it up at day's end	12

## How to unnerve up your boss a little

- Readjust his computer terminal so that the focus is just slightly off.
- Take his name out of the next issue of the phone book.
- Start showing up early for work.
- Put a different name on his door.
- Change the charts and graphs he is going to use in an important meeting.
- Super glue one wheel of his chair.
- After you've had an argument, make him shake hands and make up.
- Loosen the handles on the drawers of his desk.

- Put a resistor in his phone so the volume is REAL low, then, either talk REAL loud or REAL soft, or alternate.
- Send him a memo from the real estate division talking about how much money they could make by renting out his office.
- Transfer his calls to security
- Unadjust the horizontal hold on his computer terminal.
- If he falls asleep a lot, make moaning and groaning noises till he wakes up.
- Transfer everybody's phone calls to his phone.

## Business marriages

A Marketing Manager got married to a woman who had previously been married eight times. On his wedding night, his wife informed him that she was still a virgin. This puzzled the Marketing Manager since after eight marriages, he thought that at least one of her husbands would have been able to perform. He asked his new bride to explain the phenomena. Her comments were as follows,

"My first husband was a Sales Representative who spent our entire marriage telling me, in grandiose terms, 'It's gonna be great!'"

My second husband was from Software Services; he was never quite sure how it was supposed to function, but he said he would send me documentation.

My third husband was from Field Service who constantly said that everything was diagnostically 'okay', but he just couldn't get the system up.

My fourth husband was from Educational Services, and he simply said, 'Those who can...do; those who can't...teach.'

My fifth husband was from the Telemarketing Department who said that he had the orders, but he wasn't quite sure when he was going to be able to deliver.

My sixth husband was an Engineer. He told me that he understood the basic process but needed three years to research, implement, and design a new state-of-the-art method.

My seventh husband was from Finance And Administration. His comments were that he knew how, but he just wasn't sure whether or not it was his job.

My eighth husband was from Standards And Regulations and told me that he was up to the standards but that regulations said nothing about how to do it."

The wife said sweetly to her new husband, "Now I am married to you, a man of Marketing."

The husband looked at his wife and simply said, "I know I have the product, I'm just not sure how to position it!"

## Pranks to pull on new employees

- Sending new copy shop employees for double-sided transparencies.
- In the army, we sent new cooks for a can of dehydrated water. This actually worked cause new privates are conditioned to do what you say and everything in an army kitchen is dehydrated.
- I heard that someone was sent out to get striped paint. On arriving at the shop, he was sent back to ask if the stripes should be horizontal or vertical.
- Send the new apprentice to the boilerhouse for a bucket of steam.

- In the phone company, new employees are sent after sky hooks...
  - Tell a friend that the gas station is hiring someone to change spark plugs in diesel engines for 8\$/hour. See if he gets a job.
  - I am reminded of the story, held to be true, about the new employee that had never worked with a desktop computer before. One of the office workers loaded a small program that made sounds like water running out of a drain. He then told this naive little thing that you needed to drain the water out of the computer every day before beginning the daily tasks. Faithfully, every day, she ran the program that drained the water from the computer. Weeks went by, and she was moved to another area of the office, to a different computer, that didn't have the drain program on it. She couldn't understand that she had been HAD and complained that she could not do her work without being able to drain the water from her computer. Her supervisor had the fellow who installed the previous "water drainer" install it on her new PC. She was then able to function.
  - Working in electronic instrumentation, we'd get a student engineer and ask them to help us find spurs from a source by getting a "spur sniffer." And if he was a computer science major, we'd really lose him for awhile if he was dumb enough to go searching all the analog data books looking for a "precision zero volt reference." "We'd like at least 3 digit accuracy!"
  - "That's the third time this week this scaffolding plank has broken. Run down to the welder's shed and get 5 or 6 #4 wood rods."
  - "Run down to the supply shed and get me 20 feet of shoreline."
  - From the office ranks: "Go ask Doris to bring us some coffee."
  - I used to work in a restaurant and we would send new employees to go mop the walk-in freezer. Then we would send them to chip the ice off the floor.
  - I also work in a restaurant. We sometimes tell the newbies to fetch the grill enlarger when there is a rush hour. When they have been looking for it for half an hour, they learn to ask when they are not sure of what to do. Once we told a newbie to measure all of the french fries we wasted.
  - I worked for a construction company one summer and, in my second week, was sent for a new bubble for the spirit level to the stores. Knowing I was being had, but wanting a morning off work, I went to the stores and explained the wind up to the storekeeper. He said "wait a minute", went away and came back with a jar about 95% full of water. He told me to take it back to my foreman and explain that this was the only sized bubble that the stores had and that if they needed a smaller one they would have to wait until the order came in next week.
  - When my mother was a nursing student in England, they had a number of standard jokes. One that I remember went something like this: Nurse: "Go and ask the Ward Sister if I can borrow her fallopian tubes." (Sometimes, my mother relates, the answer would come back "Sorry, they're in use at the moment.")
  - During my summers, I work for a construction company and they have a great prank to play on a new guy. As you approach the time to lay cement, tell him to go to a store and look for a hydraulic cement bender and tell them to charge it to their account. It has never failed them, I know personally!
- My cousin and I were in two different shops in Trade School, he in the appliance repair and me in the heavy equipment shop. When 'newbies' got in the way, he'd send them down to me for the "short stand", I'd send them back after a few minutes with the message "can't find the short stand, is the long stand any good?", and he'd promptly send them for the long stand. I'd send guys for left-handed screwdrivers, buckets of steam, and once in a while, for a long stand. Although I used to dish it

out, I was caught when I was a Newbie, I was told to get the chain stretcher from the welding shop, I learned VERY quickly!

- Get a pair of intercoms. Stick one in an empty drive bay of the new guys' machine. At the other end, in another room, someone talks into it with a robot voice. Tells him it's an AI with speech synth and voice recognition. We played this on an extremely nerdy software intern. He actually bought it at first. Then the AI started getting abusive...
- Ask the new employee to go get: sky hooks, left-handed wrench/hammer/razor, Agent Orange (paint colour). Or shoot elastics at them while they are carrying boxes. Or press the intercom button on the phone and tell them the phone is for them. You hear the poor shmuck going "Hello? Hellooo?" over the whole store.
- This is a common one in the framing business. No, not framing pictures, but framing houses. When most of the framing crew is all working together to set a particularly big and heavy beam (it gets fairly intense, especially when you don't have a crane), suddenly start yelling about the beam being too short and yell at the new laborer to get the board stretcher. They usually run off as fast as they can, search through vans and trucks while everyone is screaming for them to hurry up, because the beam is \*REALLY\* getting heavy.
- In the Navy: sending a new recruit down to the sail shop for a Boatswain's Punch. Obedient little dweeb marches in and asks the old salt on duty for the request item. Sailor chuckles and then wallops the recruit in the arm. You'd be surprised how many don't get it right off and say something like "Can I have the boatswain's punch now, pleeeez" and get nailed again!
- We ask any new purchaser to find us toner for the fax machine.
- "Go get me 10 feet of shoreline."
- "Go get me a 9 inch raping tool."
- We once had a summer technician, a young pretty one, about a year out of RPI, in our hardware engineering lab. There was a problem with a board and one of the engineers said that the resistors were in backwards (for the non-hardware-techie-types, resistors don't care which way they're in). He was expecting a laugh back, 'cuz after all she was an RPI (good engineering school) student. About an hour later, she said she changed the resistors and the board was still broken. I guess it's more of a story than a prank.
- This is a true story. A friend of mine was undergoing his vacation training with a major electronic firm. One day, after examining a piece of equipment to be disassembled, his supervisor said to him, "Could you please get the Allen key for me?" My friend promptly said yes and went about it. He came back shortly and told his supervisor, "There is nobody by the name of Allan Kee."
- My father was in the Navy for 22 years and said they had loads of fun sending the new seamen out to find some Prop Wash (which is the air flow off the propeller as it turns, incidentally). He'd always chuckle at some poor kid who'd be gone for hours sent from shop to shop to shop.
- I work in a restaurant and we got a new dishwasher to do this. We told him that the drinking water spout had to be manually filled and got him a bucket. He spent almost 20 minutes getting 5 gallon buckets full of water, then pouring it straight down the drain! Haha!
- "Get me a bubble for the spirit level."
- "Get me some blue sparks for the generator."
- And my favourite: get the new employee to "get a long stand"...send them to a friend who tells them, "You want a long stand? I'll get one. Wait here." ...and leave them.

- This reminds me of a time when I used to work part time in a popular fast food (restaurant?). It was customary that new employees were given a tour around the work area and, being in the fast food industry, it was emphasised by the guide that they had to wash their hands thoroughly before commencing a shift. They were then taken to the sink, where they were to wash their hands. First, the guide would show them. The walls were tiled and the guide would say, "You press this tile and the water will come out of the tap." There was actually a pedal on the ground that we would press by foot. It was pretty cruel, we would change the tile that they were pressing and tell them "No, no it's this one." or "No, you're not pressing hard enough."
- When I worked at Domino's Pizza, we would send newbie's out for a "dough repair kit". The guy making the pizzas would "accidentally" tear a hole in the dough and would send the new guy to a neighboring store for a dough repair kit. A couple of guys actually bought it!
- I work at McDonald's and the in-joke to play on new employees is to ask them to plug in the bun cabinet (it has no plug). Or go ask them to water the plants in the lobby (they are fake).
- I used to be a manager for a movie theatre. One thing they used to do to new employees all the time: When the new scrub was making the nacho trays, they were told that they had to have exactly 47 nacho chips per tray or management would get pissed that the yields were too low. They'd happily count out 47 chips and arrange them, all nice and neat. :)
- In high school, I used to work for a catalog showroom similar to Service Merchandise called Dolgins. There was a position in the warehouse that basically called for keeping the warehouse clean as well as bringing shopping carts back in out of the parking lot. One winter evening, it started to snow and we told this new guy that he needed to put snow tires on all of the shopping carts. About a half hour later, we checked on him, and he had all 200 or so shopping carts turned upside down and was in the process of taking the third wheel off of the first one. It quit snowing soon after, so we told him that we didn't need to do it tonight and he put the 3 wheels back on and turned the rest of the carts back over. I don't know if he ever figured out that we were pulling his chain.
- While working in a mobile radio station with the military, we would have to drive a steel stake into the ground and attach it to the vehicle. This would act as a ground connection should the truck be struck by lightning. Many a private was sent to get a 'lightening bolt' to attached the wire between the truck and stake. On one occasion, a private returned to say that the supply sargeant refused to give us a lightening bolt until we returned the 'short circuits' and 'sky hooks' which he claimed we had in our possession!
- I used to work at Burger Chef as a teen in Indiana. I was training a new employee on clean up detail (cleaning utensils, work tables, etc.) and when we were all done with the work, she asked if there was anything else. I explained to her that her next duty was to dig through all the trash bags from the customer area and retrieve any of the styrofoam containers used to hold sandwiches, that these had to be washed so we could reuse them the next day. She got through two bags of trash before we let her in on the joke.
- While driving in the truck (6 of us), I would ask the new one to grab the "matterbabe" for me, as I couldn't reach it. After being flustered for finding nothing, the employee would say, "What's the matterbabe?" We all replied, "Nothing honey"

- My boss was cooking some ribs and she scraped all the coagulated white grease off. She thought it might be funny to pack it all together and scoop it with an ice cream scoop onto dessert plates and tell the servers it was leftover lemon sorbetto. Only a couple fell for it.
- When I was in the Army, we used to send new recruits after a 'box of grid squares' (military maps are sectioned into 1 kilometer by 1 kilometer squares which are referred to as 'grid squares'). This was always good for a few laughs as the recruit went from office to office trying to find who maintained the supply of grid squares. It did backfire once however, when one of the recruits went and got a map and cut it up into little pieces and returned it in a box. We got our 'box of grid squares' and a lecture on not destroying government equipment to boot.

Two other jokes for the filling station newbie were: 1) Have a co-worker call the station and ask how much it cost to have muffler bearings replaced; 2) Tell the newbie to replace the winter air in a car's tires.

- In the Navy, we had similar types of fun with newbies. 1) Sent nub for 50 feet of chow line. 2) We'd also send them to Supply for 100 feet of green chow line (telling them it was *\*very\** important) whereupon the Supply clerk would say we've only got red chow line will that do? When they came back, we'd say red is okay, but we need 200 feet of red. The newbie would run back to the supply clerk, who would tell them that he only had 150 feet of red but he might have enough yellow. Would yellow do? We would tell the newbie that yellow would work, how much did they have? The newbie would run to the supply shack who would say we've got over 400 feet, is that enough? We would tell the newbie that we need 600 feet because yellow chow line isn't as strong as green or even red and we'd need to triple tie it. When the newbie would run back to the supply shack, the clerk would say, I've only got a little more than 400 feet, that's what I told you last time, you idiot newbie etc. etc. Usually, at this point, the newbie either figured it out or was dead tired by the time he had finished running all over the boat. What was funny was that in our submarine, there were very few straight paths from the engine room to supply, so the newbie had to run like crazy; after all, it was very important! 3) Electricians sent newbies to Machinist's Mates for a Machinist's Punch; usually ended up in some form of painful physical contact between MM and newbie... 4) When I was qualifying for one of my watchstations (answering questions to show I knew what was going on), the person I had gone to for the check-out asked me how old I was. I replied 23. He said good, that's how many look-ups I was going to have. (A look-up is when you don't know the answer and you have to go look it up and tell the person giving you the check-out)

## Definitions from “The Cynic’s Dictionary”

**ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION:** Procreation without recreation.

**BOOKCASE:** A piece of furniture used in America to house bowling trophies and Elvis collectibles.

**BULIMIA:** Retched excess.

**CHIC:** Considered smart without the deadening implication of intelligence.

**CLIQUE:** A group of insiders who greet outsiders with their backsides; a closed circle of asses.

**CONSULTANT:** A jobless person who shows executives how to work.



**DENTURES:** Two rows of artificial ivories that may be removed periodically to frighten one's grandchildren or provide accompaniment to Spanish music.

**DNA:** A complex organic molecule characterized as the building block of life and appropriately shaped like a spiral staircase to nowhere.

**ERUDITE:** Exhibiting a degree of book learning fatal to success in any business or romantic enterprise.

**FIBER:** Edible wood-pulp said to aid digestion and prolong life, so that we might enjoy another six or eight years in which to consume wood-pulp.

**FUNERAL HOME:** A stately manse occupied by transients who continually receive visitors but lack the energy and inclination to entertain them.

**GENETIC ENGINEERING:** Tampering with chromosomes so that science might develop a new miracle cure or a rabbit that plays the banjo.

**HIP:** Smartly attuned to the latest cutting-edge cliches.

**JOB:** A state of employment everyone wants but few look forward to on a Monday morning.

**LAWYER:** A professional advocate hired to bend the law on behalf of a paying client; for this reason considered the most suitable background for entry into politics.

**LECHER:** A stud with liver spots.

**LOOTING:** A public shopping spree generously sponsored by local merchants in the wake of a riot.

**LOTTERY:** The equivalent of betting that the next pope will be from Duluth, or that the parrot in the pet store window speaks Flemish.

**MATH ANXIETY:** An intense lifelong fear of two trains approaching each other at speeds of 60 and 80 mph.

**MUGGER:** A benevolent citizen of the streets who frequently spares the lives of total strangers in exchange for any cash and valuables in their possession.

**NEGOTIATING:** The art of persuading your opponent to take the nice shiny copper penny and give you the wrinkled old paper money.

**NEUROTIC:** Sane but unhappy about it.

**OBITUARY:** A final summation of our lives that, for most of us, occupies about three inches of space in what will shortly become cage liner for our neighbor's parakeet.

**POSITIVE THINKING:** Self-improvement through self-deception.

**QUALITY OF LIFE:** What an industrialized nation is said to offer when enough of its citizens are suffering from terminal stress.

**REVOLUTIONARY:** An oppressed person waiting for the opportunity to become an oppressor.

**SHALLOWNESS:** The root cause of chronic good health, high school popularity, appearance on the fiction bestseller lists, and gainful employment on local TV news broadcasts.

**STAR:** A performer who makes more than his or her agent. Also **SUPERSTAR:** A performer who makes more than Guatemala.

**STATE-OF-THE-ART:** Soon-to-be-obsolete.

**TABOO:** Any strict cultural prohibition that, when breached, causes everyone in the group to gasp; e.g., cannibalism, public nudity, serving fried pork rinds at a Hasidic wedding, or answering the question "How are you?" in the negative.

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** The usual alternative to overwork.

**URINAL:** The one place where all men are peers.

**VIRGIN:** A young innocent who in former times was sacrificed to the gods but who now merely lives in disgrace.

WAKE: 1. A convivial soiree with a preserved corpse in the room. 2. What the mourners would be visibly startled to see the corpse do, especially those expecting a sizable inheritance.

X-CHROMOSOME: A genetic double-cross that empowers women with the ability to bear children and reserves for men the right to be color-blind hemophiliacs.

ZOMBIE: A mirthless creature beloved by teenage horror movie fans and those in charge of the hiring at accounting firms.

## You know you're drinking too much coffee when...

- You answer the door before people knock.
- You ski uphill.
- You get a speeding ticket even when you're parked.
- You speed walk in your sleep.
- You haven't blinked since the last lunar eclipse.
- You just completed another sweater and you don't know how to knit.
- You grind your coffee beans in your mouth.
- You sleep with your eyes open.
- You have to watch videos in fast-forward.
- The only time you're standing still is during an earthquake.
- You can take a picture of yourself from ten feet away without using the timer.
- You spend every vacation visiting "Maxwell House."
- Your eyes stay open when you sneeze.
- You chew on other people's fingernails.
- The nurse needs a scientific calculator to take your pulse.
- Your T-shirt says, "Decaffeinated coffee is the devil's blend."
- You can type sixty words per minute... with your feet.
- You can jump-start your car without cables.
- Your only source of nutrition comes from "Sweet & Low."
- You don't sweat, you percolate.
- You've worn out the handle on your favorite mug.
- You go to AA meetings just for the free coffee.
- You walk twenty miles on your treadmill before you realize it's not plugged in.
- You forget to unwrap candy bars before eating them.
- You've built a miniature city out of little plastic stirrers.
- People get dizzy just watching you.
- You've worn the finish off your coffee table.
- Your taste buds are so numb you could drink your lava lamp.
- You're so wired, you pick up AM radio.
- People can test their batteries in your ears.
- Your life's goal is to amount to a hill of beans.
- Instant coffee takes too long.
- You channel surf faster without a remote.
- When someone says, "How are you?", you say, "Good to the last drop."
- You want to be cremated just so you can spend the rest of eternity in a coffee can.
- You want to come back as a coffee mug in your next life.

- Your birthday is a national holiday in Brazil.
- You'd be willing to spend time in a Turkish prison.
- You go to sleep just so you can wake up and smell the coffee.
- You name your cats "Cream" and "Sugar."
- You get drunk just so you can sober up.
- You speak perfect Arabic without ever taking a lesson.
- Your Thermos is on wheels.
- Your lips are permanently stuck in the sipping position.
- You have a picture of your coffee mug on your coffee mug.
- You can outlast the Energizer bunny.
- You short out motion detectors.
- You don't even wait for the water to boil anymore.
- Your nervous twitch registers on the Richter scale.
- You think being called a "drip" is a compliment.
- You don't tan, you roast.
- You don't get mad, you get steamed.
- Your three favorite things in life are...coffee before, coffee during and coffee after.
- Your lover uses soft lights, romantic music, and a glass of iced coffee to get you in the mood.
- You can't even remember your second cup.
- You help your dog chase its tail.
- You soak your dentures in coffee overnight.
- Your coffee mug is insured by Lloyds of London.
- You introduce your spouse as your coffeemate.

## Overdone English

1. One red fruit of the malus family ingested daily holds a medical disciple afar.  
*An apple a day keeps the doctor away.*
2. Refrain from enumerating your poultry prior to their emergence from their calcified enclosures.  
*Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.*
3. The promptest feathered biped seizes the annelid.  
*The early bird gets the worm.*
4. Distant meadows are inevitably more verdant.  
*The grass is always greener on the other side.*
5. Everything is legitimate in matters pertaining to ardent affection and armed conflict between nations.  
*All is fair in love and war.*
6. An object penetrating the upper atmosphere irrevocably descends.  
*What goes up must come down.*
7. There's no sense demanding attention by loud screeches over spilled white liquid derived from the lactic glands of a female bovine.  
*There's no use crying over spilled milk.*
8. If primary failure is imminent, new attempts should be made repetitiously.  
*If at first you don't succeed try, try again.*
9. An ancient canine can't be instructed to fresh stratagem.

- You can't teach an old dog new tricks.*
10. Members of an avian species of identical plumage congregate.  
*Birds of a feather flock together.*
  11. Freedom from incrustations of grime is contiguous to rectitude.  
*Cleanliness is Godliness*
  12. The temperature of the guarded content of an unremittingly galled saucepan does not reach 212 degrees.  
*A watched pot never boils.*
  13. When there are visible vapours having their provenance in ignited carbonaceous materials, there is conflagration.  
*Where there is smoke, there is fire.*
  14. A plethora of individuals with expertise in culinary techniques vitiated the potable concoction produces by steeping certain comestibles.  
*Too many cooks spoil the soup.*
  15. Neophyte's serendipity.  
*Beginner's luck.*
  16. A revolving igneous conglomerate accumulates no congeries of small, green bryophyte plant.  
*A rolling stone gathers no moss.*
  17. Abstention from any aleatory undertaking precludes a potential escalation of a lucrative nature.  
*Absence makes the heart grow fonder.*
  18. Missiles of ligneous or quarried masses have the potential of fracturing osseous structure, but appellations will eternally remain innocuous.  
*Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.*

## Top 10 reasons for being...

### Top 10 Reasons for Being French

1. When speaking fast you can make yourself sound gay
2. Yet to experience the joy of winning the world cup for the first time
3. You get to eat insect food like snails and frog's legs
3. If there's a war you can surrender really early
4. You don't have to read the subtitles on those late night films on Channel 4.
5. Channel 4.
6. You can test your own nuclear weapons in other people's countries
7. You can be ugly and still become a famous film star
7. Allow Germans to march up and down your most famous street
8. humiliating your sense of national pride
9. You don't have to bother with toilets, just go in the street
10. People think you're a great lover even when you're not

### Top 10 Reasons for Being American

1. You can have a woman president without electing her
2. You can spell colour wrong and get away with it
3. You can call Budweiser beer
4. You can be a crook and still be president

5. If you've got enough money you can get elected to do anything
6. If you can breathe you can get a gun
7. You can invent a new public holiday every year
8. You can play golf in the most hideous clothes ever made and nobody seems to care.
9. You get to call everyone you've never met "buddy"
10. You can think you're the greatest nation on earth.
11. When you're not.
12. At all.

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being English**

1. Two World Wars and One World Cup doo-dah doo-dah
2. Warm beer
3. You get to confuse everyone with the rules of cricket
4. You get to accept defeat graciously in major sporting events
5. Union jack underpants
6. Water shortages guaranteed every single summer
7. You can live in the past and imagine you are still a world power.
8. Bathing once a week-whether you need to or not
9. Ditto changing underwear
10. Beats being Welsh.
11. Or Scottish

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Italian**

1. In-depth knowledge of bizarre pasta shapes
2. Unembarrassed to wear fur.
3. No need to worry about tax returns
4. Glorious military history... well, till about 400 a.d.
5. Can wear sunglasses inside
6. Political stability
7. Flexible working hours
8. Live near the Pope
9. Can spend hours braiding girlfriend's armpit hair
10. Country run by Sicilian murderers

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Spanish**

1. Glorious history of killing South American tribes
2. The rest of Europe thinks Africa begins at the Pyrenees
3. You get your beaches invaded by Germans, Danes, Brits etc
4. The rest of your country is already invaded by Moroccans
5. Everybody else makes crap paella and claims it's the real thing
6. Honesty
7. Only sure way of bedding a woman is to dress up in stupid, tight clothes and risk your life in front of bulls
8. You get to eat bulls' testicles
9. Gibraltar
10. Supported Argentina in Falklands War.

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being German**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. In-built sense of pacifism

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Indian**

1. Chicken Madras
2. Lamb Passanda
3. Onion Bhaji
4. Bombay Potato
5. Chicken Tikka Masala
6. Rogan Josh
7. Popadoms
8. Chisken Dopiazza
9. Meat Boona
10. Kingfisher lager

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Welsh**

1. You've got to be having a laugh, haven't you?!?!?!?

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Irish**

1. Guinness
2. 18 children because you can't use contraceptives
3. You can get into a fight just by marching down someone's road
4. Pubs never close
5. Can use Papal edicts on contraception passed in the second Vatican
6. Council of 1968 to persuade your girlfriend that you can't have sex with a condom on.
7. No one can ever remember the night before
8. Kill people you don't agree with
9. Stew
10. More Guinness
11. Eating stew and drinking Guinness in an Irish pub at 3 in the morning after a bout of sectarian violence.

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Canadian**

1. It beats being an American.
2. Only country to successfully invade the US and burn its capital to the ground.
3. You can play hockey 12 months a year, outdoors.

4. Only country to successfully invade the US and burn its capital to the ground.
5. Where else can you travel 1000 miles over fresh water in a canoe?
6. A political leader can admit to smoking pot and his/her popularity ratings will rise.
7. Only country to successfully invade the US and burn its capital to the ground.
8. Kill Grizzly bears with huge fuckoff shotguns and cover your house in their skins
9. Own-an-Eskimo scheme.
10. Only country to successfully invade the US and burn its capital to the ground

### **Top 10 Reasons for Being Australian**

1. Know your great-grand-dad was a murdering bastard that no civilised nation on earth wanted.
2. Fosters Lager
3. Dispossess Aborigines who have lived in your country for 40,000 years because you think it belongs to you.
4. Annihilate England every time you play them at cricket.
5. Tact and sensitivity.
6. Bondi Beach.
7. Other beaches.
8. Liberated attitude to homosexuals
9. Drinking cold lager on the beach
10. Having a bit of a swim and then drink some cold lager on the beach.

### **From the depths of Emo Phillips**

- Women: You can't live with them, and you can't get them to dress up in a skimpy Nazi costume and beat you with a warm squash.
- ...and always remember the last words of my grandfather, who said "A truck!"
- I got in a fight one time with a really big guy, and he said, "I'm going to mop the floor with your face." I said, "You'll be sorry." He said, "Oh, yeah? Why?" I said, "Well, you won't be able to get into the corners very well."
- The toughest time...in anyone's life...is when you have to kill a loved one just because they're the devil.
- I ran three miles today, finally I said, "Lady, take your purse."
- I'm a great lover, I'll bet.
- People come up to me and say, "Emo, do people really come up to you?"
- People come up to me and they're worried...that I'll reproduce.
- Some mornings it just doesn't seem worth it to gnaw through the leather straps.
- I was at a bar nursing a beer. My nipple was getting quite soggy.
- I was walking down the street, something caught my eye...and dragged it fifteen feet.
- I went into Gus's artificial organ and taco stand. I said "Give me a bladder por favor." The guy said "Is that to go?" I said, "Well what else would I want it for?"
- You know, a lot of girls go out with me just to further their careers...damn anthropologists.
- I was in a bar the other night, hopping from barstool to barstool, trying to get lucky -- but there wasn't any gum under any of them.
- The other day a woman came up to me and said, "Didn't I see you on television?" I said, "I don't know. You can't see out the other way."

- I discovered my wife in bed with another man, and I was crushed. So I said, "Get off me, you two!"
- I was walking across a bridge one day, and I saw a man standing on the edge, about to jump off. so I ran over and said "stop! don't do it!" "Why shouldn't I?" he said. I said, "Well, there's so much to live for!" He said, "Like what?" I said, "Well...are you religious or atheist?" He said, "Religious." I said, "Me too! Are you Christian or Buddhist?" He said, "Christian." I said, "Me too! Are you Catholic or Protestant?" He said, "Protestant." I said, "Me too! Are you Episcopalian or Baptist?" He said, "Baptist!" I said, "Wow! Me too! Are you Baptist Church of God or Baptist Church of the Lord?" He said, "Baptist Church of God!" I said, "Me too! Are you Original Baptist Church of God, or are you Reformed Baptist Church of God?" He said, "Reformed Baptist Church of God!" I said, "Me too! Are you Reformed Baptist Church of God, Reformation of 1879, or Reformed Baptist Church of God, Reformation of 1915?" He said, "Reformed Baptist Church of God, Reformation of 1915!" I said, "Die, heretic scum!" and pushed him off.
- At my lemonade stand I used to give the first glass away free and charge five dollars for the second glass. The refill contained the antidote.
- A friend of mine gave me a Philip Glass record. I listened to it for five hours before I realized it had a scratch on it.

## Job screening

*In order for the executive staff of our corporation to get to know you, the applicant better, we ask that you answer the following question: Are there any significant experiences you have had, or accomplishments you have realized that helped define you as a person?*

I am a dynamic figure, often seen scaling walls & crushing ice, I have been known to remodel train stations at my lunch breaks, making them more efficient in the area of heat retention. I translate ethnic slurs for Cuban refugees, I write award-winning opera's, I manage time efficiently. Occasionally, I tread water for three days in a row. I woo women with my sensuous and Godlike trombone playing. I can pilot bicycles up severe inclines with unflagging speed, and I cook thirty-minute brownies in twenty minutes. I am an expert in stucco, a veteran in love, and an outlaw in Peru. Using only a hoe and a large glass of water, I once single handily defended a small village in the American basin from a hoard of ferocious army ants. I play bluegrass cello, I was scouted by the Met's. I am subject of numerous documentaries. When I am bored, I build large suspension bridges in my yard. I enjoy urban hand gliding. On, Wednesday's, after school, I repair electrical appliances free of charge. I am an abstract artist, a concrete analyzer, and a ruthless bookie. Critics worldwide swoon over my original line of corduroy evening wear. I don't perspire. I am a private citizen, yet I receive fan mail. Last summer I toured New Jersey with a traveling centrifugal-force demonstration. My deft floral arrangements have earned me fame in international botany circles. Children trust me. I can hurl tennis rackets at small moving objects with deadly accuracy. I once read Paradise Lost, Moby Dick, and David Copperfield in one day and still had time to refurbish an entire dining room that evening. I know the exact location of every item in the supermarket. I have performed covert operations for the CIA. I sleep once a week, when I do sleep, I sleep in a chair. While on vacation at Disneyland, I successfully negotiated with a group of terrorists who had seized a



bakery. The laws of physics don not apply to me. I balance, I weave, I dodge, I frolic, and my bills are paid. On weekends to let off steam, I participate in full contact-origami. A year ago I discovered the meaning of life but forgot to write it down. I have made extraordinary four-course meals using only a Mouli and a toaster oven. I breed prize winning clams. I have won bull fights in San Juan, cliff diving competitions in Sri Lanka, and spelling Bees at the Kremlin. I have played Hamlet, I have performed open heart surgery, and I have spoken with ELVIS.

## Basic cooking and food terms

Arab coffee:	Thick, black, bitter coffee, traditionally served in tiny cups at gunpoint, or found in graduate student's offices.
Calorie:	Basic measure of the amount of rationalization offered by the average individual prior to taking a second helping of a particular food.
Frying Pan:	Standard instrument of destruction for eggs, pancakes, and various vegetable matter. Remains may be removed from surface with diluted solution of sulfuric acid.
Microwave oven:	Space-age kitchen appliance that uses the principle of radar to locate and immediately destroy any food placed within the cooking compartment.
Oven:	Compact home incinerator used for disposing of bulky pieces of meat and poultry.
Porridge:	Thick oatmeal rarely found on American tables since children were granted the right to sue their parents. The name is an amalgamation of the words "Putrid," "hORRID," and "sluDGE."
Preheat:	To turn on the heat in an oven for a period of time before cooking a dish, so that the fingers may be burned when the food is put in, in addition to when it is removed.
Recipe:	A series of step-by-step instructions for preparing ingredients you forgot to buy, in utensils you don't own, for a dish you'll never make.
Tongue:	A variety of meat, rarely served because it clearly crosses the line between a cut of beef and a piece of dead cow.
Yogurt:	Semi-solid dairy product made from partially evaporated and fermented milk. Yogurt is one of only three foods that taste exactly the same as they sound. The other two are goulash and squid.

## Stop the genocide

Every second billions of innocent assembler instructions are executed all over the world. Inhumanly they are put on a pipeline and executed with no regard to their feelings. The illegal instructions are spared, although they should be executed instead of the legal ones.

Prior to the execution the instructions are transported to a cache unit using a bus. There they spent their last moments waiting for the execution. Just before the execution the instruction is separated into several pieces. The execution isn't always

fast and painless. On crude hardware the execution of a complex instruction can take as long as 150 clock cycles. Scientists are working on shorter execution times.

Microsoft endorses the needless execution of instructions with their products like DOS™, Windows™, Word™ and Excel™. It is more humane to use software which minimises the executions. Modern machines use several units to execute multiple instructions simultaneously. This way it is possible to execute several hundred million instructions per second. The time is near when there will be no more instructions to execute. ACT NOW! Before it's too late

*This article was written on recycled paper by hand.*

## Distaff quotes

- Any girl can be glamorous. All you have to do is stand still and look stupid."
- When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country.
- I base most of my fashion taste on what doesn't itch.
- Behind every successful man is a surprised woman.
- Our struggle today is not to have a female Einstein get appointed as an assistant professor. It is for a woman schlemiel to get as promoted as quickly as a male schlemiel.
- In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man; if you want anything done, ask a woman.
- If I were going to convert to any religion I would probably choose Catholicism because it at least has female saints and the Virgin Mary.
- I have yet to hear a man ask for advice on how to combine marriage and a career.
- Sometimes I wonder if men and women really suit each other. Perhaps they should live next door and just visit now and then.
- I never married because there was no need. I have three pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband. I have a dog which growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon, and a cat that comes home late at night.
- Nagging is the repetition of unpalatable truths.
- I am a marvelous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man I keep his house.

## Variations on the Lord's prayer

Lord help me to relax about insignificant details beginning tomorrow at 7:41:23 am e.s.t.

God help me to consider people's feelings, even if most of them ARE hypersensitive.  
God help me to take responsibility for my own actions, even though they're usually NOT my fault.

God, help me to not try to RUN everything. But, if You need some help, please feel free to ASK me!

Lord, help me to be more laid back and help me to do it EXACTLY right.

God help me to take things more seriously, especially laughter, parties, and dancing.

God give me patience, and I mean right NOW!

Lord help me not be a perfectionist. (Did I spell that correctly?)  
 God, help me to finish everything I sta  
 God, help me to keep my mind on one th -- Look a bird -- ing at a time.  
 God help me to do only what I can and trust you for the rest. And would you mind putting that in writing?  
 Lord keep me open to others' ideas, WRONG though they may be.  
 Lord help me be less independent, but let me do it my way.  
 Lord help me follow established procedures today. On second thought, I'll settle for a few minutes.  
 Lord, help me slow down andnotrushthroughwhatIdo.  
 Amen.

## Camouflage

...Another enemy decoy, built in occupied Holland, led to a tale that has been told and retold ever since by veteran Allied pilots. The German "airfield," constructed with meticulous care, was made almost entirely of wood. There were wooden hangars, oil tanks, gun emplacements, trucks, and aircraft. The Germans took so long in building their wooden decoy that Allied photo experts had more than enough time to observe and report it.

The day finally came when the decoy was finished, down to the last wooden plank. And early the following morning, a lone RAF plane crossed the Channel, came in low, circled the field once, and dropped a large ..... wooden bomb.

## Ways to confuse trick-or-treaters

- Give away something other than sweets. (Toothpicks, golf balls, bags of sand, etc.)
- Wait behind the door until some people come. When they get near the door, jump out, wearing a costume, and holding a bag, and yell, "Trick or Treat!" Look at them, scratch your head, and act confused.
- Fill a briefcase with marbles and crackers. Write on it, "Top Secret" in big letters. When trick-or-treaters come, look around suspiciously, say, "It's about time you got here," give them the briefcase, and quickly shut the door.
- Get about 30 people to wait in your living room. When trick-or-treaters come to the door, say, "Come in." When they do, have everyone yell, "Surprise!!!" Act like it's a surprise party.
- Get everyone who comes to the door to come in and see if they can figure out what's wrong with your dishwasher. Insist that it makes an unnatural "whirring" sound.
- After you give them sweets, hand the trick-or-treaters a bill.
- Open the door dressed as a giant fish. Immediately collapse, and don't move or say anything until the trick-or-treaters go away.
- When you answer the door, hold up one sweet, throw it out into the
- street, and yell, "Crawl for it!"
- When you answer the door, look at the trick-or-treaters, act shocked and scared, and start screaming your head off. Slam the door and run around the house, screaming until they go away.

- Insist that the trick-or-treaters each do ten push-ups before you give them any sweets.
- Hand out menus to the trick-or-treaters and let them order their sweets. Keep asking if anyone wants to see the wine list.
- Get a catapult. Sit on your porch and catapult pumpkins at anyone who comes within 50 yards of your house.
- When people come to the door, jump out a nearby window, crashing through the glass, and run as far away from your house as you can.
- Answer the door dressed as a pilgrim. Stare at the trick-or-treaters for a moment, pretend to be confused, and start flipping through a calendar.
- Instead of sweets, give away colored eggs. If anyone protests, explain that the eggs are the only thing you had left over from Easter.
- Answer the door dressed as a dentist. Angrily give the trick-or-treaters a two-hour lecture on tooth decay.
- Answer the door with a mouthful of Smarties and several half-eaten chocolate bars in your hands. Act surprised, and close the door. Open it again in a few seconds, and insist that you don't have any sweets.
- Put a crown on a pumpkin and put the pumpkin on a throne on your porch. Insist that all of the trick-or-treaters bow before the pumpkin.
- Dress up like a bunny rabbit. Yell and curse from the moment you open the door, and angrily throw the sweets at the trick-or-treaters. Slam the door when you're finished.

## Things that make you go hmmmmm...

- The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese
- I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol
- I intend to live forever - so far, so good
- Support bacteria - they're the only culture some people have
- When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder
- If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.
- If you choke a smurf, what color does it turn?
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- Energizer Bunny arrested, charged with battery.
- I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.
- Shin: a device for finding furniture in the dark.
- Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- Wear short sleeves! Support your right to bare arms!
- For Sale: Parachute. Only used once, never opened, small stain.
- All those who believe in psychokinesis raise my hand.
- I'm desperately trying to figure out why kamikaze pilots wore helmets.
- Don't spend two dollars to dry clean a shirt. Donate it to the Salvation Army instead. They'll clean it and put it on a hanger. Next morning buy it back for seventy-five cents.

- During the heat of the space race in the 1960's, the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration decided it needed a ball point pen to write in the zero gravity confines of its space capsules. After considerable research and development, the Astronaut Pen was developed at a cost of about \$241 million U.S. The pen worked and also enjoyed some modest success as a novelty item back here on Earth. The Soviet Union, faced with the same problem, used a pencil.
- The graduate with a Science degree asks, "Why does it work?" The graduate with an Engineering degree asks, "How does it work?" The graduate with an Accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?" The graduate with a Liberal Arts degree asks, "Do you want chips with that?"
- I am not a vegetarian because I love animals; I am a vegetarian because I hate plants.
- The Lord's Prayer is 66 words, the Gettysburg Address is 286 words, there are 1,322 words in the Declaration of Independence, but government regulations on the sale of cabbage total 26,911 words.
- If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life without even considering if there are men on base.

## You know you're having a band day when

- You've been at work 3 hours before you notice that your fly is open or your blouse unbuttoned.
- You have to sit down to brush your teeth in the morning.
- Everyone avoids you the morning after the company office party.
- Your income tax refund check bounces.
- It costs more to fill up your car than it did to buy it.
- The bird singing outside your window is a vulture.
- You wake up and your braces are stuck together.
- Your blind date turns out to be your ex-wife/husband.
- You put both contacts into the same eye.
- Your mother approves of the person you're dating.
- Your doctor tells you that you're allergic to chocolate.
- You have to borrow from your Visa card to pay your Mastercard.
- Nothing you own is actually paid for.
- Everyone loves your driver's licence picture, but you think it looks awful.
- The health inspector condemns your office coffee maker.
- You invite the peeping Tom in... and he says no.
- The Gypsy fortune teller offers to refund your money when she sees your future.
- People think that you're 40 and you're only 25.
- When the doctor tells you are in fine health for someone twice your age.
- You call your spouse and tell them that you'd like to eat out tonight and when you get home, your find a sandwich on the front porch.
- You start to put on the clothes that you wore home from the party last night..... and there aren't any.

## Bit creation

In the beginning, God created the bit. And the bit was a zero.

On the first day, he toggled the 0 to 1, and the Universe was. (In those days, bootstrap loaders were simple, and "active low" signals didn't yet exist.)

On the second day, God's boss wanted a demo, and tried to read the bit. This being volatile memory, the bit reverted to a 0. And the universe wasn't. God learned the importance of backups and memory refresh, and spent the rest of the day (and his first all-nighter) reinstalling the universe.

On the third day, the bit cried "Oh, Lord! If you exist, give me a sign!" And God created rev 2.0 of the bit, even better than the original prototype. Those in Universe Marketing immediately realized that "new and improved" wouldn't do justice to such a grand and glorious creation. And so it was dubbed the Most Significant Bit. Many bits followed, but only one was so honored.

On the fourth day, God created a simple ALU with 'add' and 'logical shift' instructions. And the original bit discovered that -- by performing a single shift instruction -- it could become the Most Significant Bit. And God realized the importance of computer security.

On the fifth day, God created the first mid-life kicker, rev 2.0 of the ALU, with wonderful features, and said "Forget that add and shift stuff. Go forth and multiply." And God saw that it was good.

On the sixth day, God got a bit overconfident, and invented pipelines, register hazards, optimizing compilers, crosstalk, restartable instructions, micro interrupts, race conditions, and propagation delays. Historians have used this to convincingly argue that the sixth day must have been a Monday.

On the seventh day, an engineering change introduced Windows into the Universe, and it hasn't worked right since.

## How programmers hunt elephants

**CLIPPER** - programmers don't actually hunt elephants, they just buy libraries of elephant parts and then spend years trying to integrate them.

**DBASE** - programmers only hunt elephants at night when no one will notice that they are still using crossbows.

**FOXPRO** - programmers switch to newer and better rifles every few days which causes them to spend more time learning new shooting techniques than actually hunting.

**C** - programmers refuse to buy rifles off the shelf, preferring to take steel rods and a mobile machine shop to Africa intending to build the perfect rifle for the job from scratch.

**PARADOX** - programmers go to Africa with copies of Hollywood movie scripts about elephant hunting, the re-enactment of which they believe will help them catch an elephant.

**ACCESS** - programmers zero right in on an elephant right away, even with no prior experience in elephant hunting, and then, impeccably dressed and fully looking the part, get the elephant in their beautifully-mounted scopes, and then realize that other than missing a trigger, they are 99.9% 'there'.

**RBASE** - programmers are rarer than elephants. In fact, when an elephant sees an RBASE programmer he considers it a luck day.

**VISUAL ACCESS** - programmers point at their bullets, point at their rifles, then point at the elephant. This amuses the elephants, who run away. They are unable to pursue the elephant because their jeeps are undriveable having steering wheels, yokes, joy sticks and rudders, due to their love of multiple controls.

**ADA, APL, and FORTRAN** - programmers are just as fictional as Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy.

**COBOL** - programmers have too much empathy to hunt another near-extinct species.

## If computer companies made chickens that crossed the road

**NT Chicken** - Will cross the road in June. No, August. September for sure.

**OS/2 Chicken** - It crossed the road in style years ago, but it was so quiet that nobody noticed.

**Win 95 Chicken** - You see different colored feathers while it crosses, but cook it and it still tastes like ... chicken.

**Microsoft Chicken (TM)** - It's already on both sides of the road. And it just bought the road.

**OOP Chicken** - It doesn't need to cross the road, it just sends a message.

**Assembler Chicken** - First it builds the road ...

**C Chicken** - It crosses the road without looking both ways.

**C++ Chicken** - The chicken wouldn't have to cross the road, you'd simply refer to him on the other side.

**VB Chicken** - USHighways!TheRoad.cross (aChicken)

**Delphi Chicken** - The chicken is dragged across the road and dropped on the other side.

**Java Chicken** - If your road needs to be crossed by a chicken, the server will download one to the other side. (Of course, those are chicklets)

**Web Chicken** - Jumps out onto the road, turns right, and just keeps on running.

**Gopher Chicken** - Tried to run, but got flattened by the Web chicken.

**Newton Chicken** - Can't cluck, can't fly, and can't lay eggs, but you can carry it across the road in your pocket!

**Cray Chicken** - Crosses faster than any other chicken, but if you don't dip it in liquid nitrogen first, it arrives on the other side fully cooked.

**Quantum Logic Chicken** - The chicken is distributed probabilistically on all sides of the road until you observe it on the side of your course.

**Heisenberg Chicken** - We could tell you how it crossed the road, but we couldn't tell you where.

**Lotus Chicken** - Don't you \*dare\* try to cross the road the same way we do!

**Mac Chicken** - No reasonable chicken owner would want a chicken to cross the road, so there's no way to tell it to.

**Al Gore Chicken** - Waiting for completion of NCI (Nation Chicken-crossing Infrastructure) and will cross as soon as it's finished, assuming he's re-elected and the Republicans don't gut the program.

### **COBOL Chicken**

0001-CHICKEN-CROSSING.

```
IF NO-MORE-VEHICLES THEN
  PERFORM 0010-CROSS-THE-ROAD
  VARYING STEPS FROM 1 BY 1 UNTIL
  ON-THE-OTHER-SIDE
ELSE
  GO TO 0001-CHICKEN-CROSSING
```

## Good news, bad news

Good News She says she wants to do incredible things to your body.

Bad News She's talking about doing them for medical science.

Good News She knows every trick in the book when it comes to car engines.

Bad News She'll use half of them on your car the first time you make her mad.

Good News She can make you feel all tingly and strange.

Bad News She does this by overcooking your dinner.

Good News She laughs at your jokes.

Bad News She doesn't speak English.

Good News She says that thoughts of you keep her up all night.

Bad News Those thoughts were of revenge for some petty crime that you weren't even aware you committed.

Good News You finally worked up the courage to pour your heart out to the woman you love and ask her to marry you.

Bad News You didn't realize that underneath her large hair she was wearing a Walkman and didn't hear a word you said.



## Parental observations

- A baby usually wakes up in the wee-wee hours of the morning.
- A child will not spill on a dirty floor.
- A young child is a noise with dirt on it.
- A youth becomes a man when the marks he wants to leave on the world have nothing to do with tires.
- An unbreakable toy is useful for breaking other toys.
- Avenge yourself; live long enough to be a problem to your children.
- Be nice to your kids, for it is they who will choose your nursing home.
- Celibacy is not hereditary.
- Familiarity breeds children.
- For adult education, nothing beats children.
- God invented mothers because he couldn't be everywhere at once.
- God invented guilt so mothers could be everywhere at once.
- Having children is like having a bowling alley installed in your brain.
- Having children will turn you into your parents.
- If a child looks like his father, that's heredity; if he looks like a neighbor, that's environment.
- If you have trouble getting your children's attention, just sit down and look comfortable.
- Ill-bred children always display their pest manners.
- Insanity is inherited; you get it from your kids.
- It now costs more to amuse a child than it once did to educate his father.
- It rarely occurs to teenagers that the day will come when they'll know as little as their parents.
- Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps the kids in touch.
- Never lend your car to anyone to whom you have given birth.
- One child is often not enough, but two children can be far too many.
- You can learn many things from children... like how much patience you have.
- Summer vacation is a time when parents realize that teachers are grossly underpaid.
- The first sign of maturity is the discovery that the volume knob also turns to the left.
- There are three ways to get things done: 1) do it yourself 2) hire someone to do it 3) forbid your kids to do it
- There would be fewer problems with children if they had to chop wood to keep the television set going.
- Those who say they "sleep like a baby" haven't got one.
- The best thing to spend on your children is time.

## The Army's definition of a cow

- A cow is a completely automated milk-manufacturing machine.

- It's encased in untanned leather and mounted on four vertical moveable supports, one on each corner.
- The front end contains: the cutting and grinding mechanism, as well as, light sensors, air inlet and exhaust, bumper and a fog horn.
- The rear end contains: the dispensing apparatus and automatic fly swatter.
- The central section houses a hydro-chemical conversion plant. This consists of four fermentation and storage tanks, an integrated network, which is connected to the rear-dispensing unit.
- In brief the extremely visible features are: 2 lookers, 2 hookers, 4 stander-uppers, 4 hanger-downers and a swissy-wissy.

## Subtle supplanters of serious sayings

1. Similar sire; similar scion.
2. Precipitancy creates prodigality.
3. Tenants of vitreous abodes ought to hurl no lithoidal fragments.
4. It is not proper for mendicants to be indicative of preferences.
5. Compute not your immature gallinaceans prior to their being produced.
6. It is fruitless to become lachrymose over scattered lacteal fluid.
7. Cleave gramineous manner for fodder during the period that the orb of the day is refulgent.
8. A feline possesses the power to contemplate a monarch.
9. Pulchritude does not extend below the surface of the derma.
10. Failure to be present causes the vital organ to become more enamored.
11. Every article which coruscates is not fashioned from aureate metal.
12. Freedom from guile or fraud constitutes the most excellent principle of procedure.
13. Each canine passes through his period of preeminence.
14. Consolidated you and I maintain ourselves erect; separated we defer to the law of gravity.
15. You cannot estimate the value of the contents of a bound, printed narrative or record from its exterior vesture.
16. Folks deficient in ordinary judgment scurryingly enter areas of which celestial beings dread to set foot.
17. Liquid relish for the female anserine fowl is the individual condiment for the male.
18. A feathered creature clasped in the manual members is equal in value to a brace in the bosky growth.
19. The individual of the Class Aves, arriving before the appointed time, seizes the invertibrate animal of the Group Vernes.
20. Socially oriented individuals tend to congregate in gregariously homogenius groups.
21. One may address a member of the Equidae family toward aqueous liquid, but one is incapable of compelling him to quaff.
22. Forever refrain from enumerating the dental projections of a bequested member of the Equidae family.
23. One Pyrus Malus per diem restrains the arrival of the Hippocratic apostle.
24. Fondness for notes of exchange constitutes the tuberous structure of all satanically-inspired principles.
25. Supposing one primarily fails to be victorious, bend further efforts in that direction.

26. Be adorned with the pedal encasement that gives comfort.
27. Prudence and sagacity are the worthier condiments of intrepid courage.
28. He who expresses merriment in finality expresses merriment excelling either in equal quality.
29. A scrutinized vessel never exceeds 212 degrees Fahrenheit.
30. A rotating lithoidal fragment never accrues lichen.

## What is a turducken?

1. A repository of ageless wisdom.
2. A large mammal that "tastes like chicken."
3. The native adult beverage of Turkey.
4. An obscure statistical variant of the chi-square test.
5. The remote control to a parking meter.
6. The treatment for an astigmatism.
7. The red nose hair on a clown.
8. A man's hairstyle that covers a bald spot.
9. The reason Bob Dole lost the election.
10. A riding lawnmower with a three-inch deck.
11. An intact flying saucer that has been buried seven miles under the north polar ice cap for 17,233 years.
12. A four-dimensional sphere.
13. A microscopic fissure in the space-time continuum caused by quantum fluctuations in the gravitational field generated by a four-dimensional sphere no more massive than a positron but no less massive than a boson.
14. The ache in your head caused by trying to unscramble the Star Trek-esque techno-jargon in #13.
15. The ache in my Trekker heart caused by mocking the show.
16. A leaf on a rare animal-eating plant: the Venus dung-beetle trap.
17. Your third wisdom tooth.
18. An icecicle that points up.
19. The name for a tandem bicycle in Sweden (spelled "Turducken").
20. A good name for a rock band.
21. A bathyscaphe submarine capable of reaching a depth of eight miles -- under liquid nitrogen.
22. A person with one eyebrow.
23. The number "six" in Swahili.
24. A 2-karat gold-plated half-eaten tangerine.
25. The technical name for the "apple" key on a Mac.
26. A pink elephant as seen through a jumble of funhouse mirrors, one side of a pair of binoculars, and an LSD high.
27. A spent uranium mine which has been converted into a theme park for children.
28. A color that is a mix of rusty maroon, navy blue, and neon green.
29. Another way to spell "trinitrotoluene."
30. The standard greeting of SAGA Steve's cloned replacement in 2274 in Mongolia.
31. An economic theory which states that higher taxes results in more prosperity. Also known as "liberalism."
32. The ravenous love chortles of the Madagascar Rabbit-Bunny.
33. An Activities Board event which involves the Dating Game and Virtual Reality....

34. The 312-move checkmate.
35. The déjà vu sensation of Chinese water torture while being nibbled to death by ducks.
36. The official name for the plastic wrappers around peppermint candies.
37. A 750-watt halogen night light.
38. An abstract painting of the letter W in a bar fight with the color blue, in which the bartender is a moldy grilled-cheese sandwich serving polka music as a beverage.
39. A Freudian slip knot.
40. That "bong" sound when you have a new e-mail message.
41. A Martian base on the Moon which will be the staging area for their invasion in 1999.
42. The number after "eleventeen".
43. The elected leader of all dwarvenkind.
44. A pastry made of eggs, flour, vinegar, tofu, iron shavings, and cups and cups of baking soda.
45. The aspect of the Force which controls levitation and body-odor suppression.
46. A bathing suit that dissolves in water.
47. An idiot who has nothing better to do than come up with 47 possible definitions for "turducken."
48. A pagan god worshiped as part of a cross-stitching and needlepoint ritual.
49. A collection of toenail clippings from famous persons.
50. The preferred name in the 19th century in Europe for the internal combustion engine.

*(It actually turned out to be a Southern US dish combining turkey, duck and chicken. Kind of disappointing really.)*

## A day off?

*So you want the day off? Let's take a look at what you are asking for....*

There are 365 days per year available for work. There are 52 weeks per year in which you already have two days of per week, leaving 261 days available for work. Since you spend 16 hours each day away from work, you have used up 170 days, leaving only 91 days available. You spend 30 minutes each day on coffee break. That accounts for 23 days each year, leaving only 68 days available. With a one hour lunch period each day, you have used up another 46 days, leaving only 22 days available for work. You normally spend 2 days per year on sick leave. This leaves you only 20 days available for work. We are off for 5 holidays per year, so your available working time is down to 15 days. We generously give you 14 days vacation per year which leaves only 1 day available for work and you are certainly **NOT** taking that day off!!!

## Intelligence

It was a hot summer day, and the two friends were digging a deep hole in the ground while their boss sat in the shade under a tree.

"Moe," says Joe, "I can't understand it. Why are we down here working all day in the hot sun, while our boss gets to sit in the shade drinkin' lemonade?"

"Yeah, that's been buggin' me, too," says Moe. "Why dontcha go up and ask him?" So Joe climbs up out of the hole to find his boss slumped over, taking a nap. Gently he says, "boss... boss..." until the boss wakes up.

"What do you want?" said the boss.

"Me and Moe want to know, how come we gotta work in that hot hole while you get to sit in the shade takin' a nap, that's what!" said Joe.

"Quite simply, it's because of intelligence," replied the boss.

"Intelligence? What's that?"

"Here, I'll show you." And with that, the boss placed his hand on the tree.

"Now hit my hand as hard as you can," he said, and Joe (after hesitating slightly but getting an affirming nod from his boss) reared back and swung his fist as hard as he could at his boss's hand -- but just as he was about to strike, the boss quickly moved his hand and Joe hit the tree instead.

"Now, THAT's intelligence," said the boss, and Joe, still rubbing his sore hand, reluctantly assented and climbed back down in the hole.

Once back down, Moe asked him, "well, what'd he say?"

"He said we're down here 'cause of intelligence."

"Intelligence? What's that?"

"Here, I'll show you." Joe then placed his hand on his face and said, "now, hit my hand with your shovel."

## Some classic moments in journalism

- Jon Snow: "In a sense, Deng Xiaoping's death was inevitable, wasn't it?" Expert: "Er, yes." (Channel 4 News)
- "As Phil De Glanville said, each game is unique, and this one is no different to any other." (John Sleightholme - BBC1)
- "If England are going to win this match, they're going to have to score a goal." (Jimmy Hill - BBC)
- "Beethoven, Kurtag, Charles Ives, Debussy - four very different names." (Presenter, BBC Proms, Radio 3)
- "Cystitis is a living death, it really is. Nobody ever talks about it, but if I was faced with a choice between having my arms removed and getting cystitis, I'd wave goodbye to my arms quite happily." (Louise Wener (of Sleeper) in Q Magazine)
- "Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field." (Metro Radio Sports Commentary)
- Listener: "My most embarrassing moment was when my artificial leg fell off at the altar on my wedding day." Simon Fanshawe: "How awful! Do you still have an artificial leg?" (Talk Radio)
- Interviewer: "So did you see which train crashed into which train first?" 15-year-old: "No, they both ran into each other at the same time." (BBC Radio 4)
- Presenter (to palaeontologist): "So what would happen if you mated the woolly mammoth with, say, an elephant?" Expert: "Well in the same way that a horse and a donkey produce a mule, we'd get a sort of half-mammoth. Presenter: "So it'd be like some sort of hairy gorilla?" Expert: "Er, well yes, but elephant shaped, and with tusks." (GLR)
- Kilroy-Silk: "Did you mean to get pregnant?" Girl: "No. It was a cock-up."

- Grand National winning jockey Mick Fitzgerald: "Sex is an anti-climax after that!"  
Desmond Lynam: "Well, you gave the horse a wonderful ride, everyone saw that."  
(BBC)

## Famous sayings

*As a fun assignment, I gave my pupils the beginning of a list of famous sayings and asked them to provide original endings for each one.*

- A rolling stone plays the guitar.
- The grass is always greener when you remember to water it.
- A bird in the hand is a real mess.
- No news is no newspaper.
- It's always darkest just before I open my eyes.
- If you can't stand the heat, don't start the fireplace.
- Never put off till tomorrow what you should have done yesterday.
- A penny saved is nothing in the real world.
- The squeaking wheel gets annoying.
- We have nothing to fear but our principle.
- To err is human. To eat a muskrat is not.
- I think, therefore I get a headache.
- Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry, and someone yells, "Shut up!"
- Better to light a candle than to light an explosive.
- It's always darkest before 9:30 p.m.
- Early to bed and early to rise is first in the bathroom.
- A journey of a thousand miles begins with a blister.
- There is nothing new under the bed.
- Don't count your chickens - it takes too long.

## Cyber gifts

Are you having a hard time finding the right gift for the computer addict whose PC has everything? Not another Dilbert necktie, or King's Quest XLVIII. Try one of these.

- CD-ROM rewinder.
- Virtual reality beer.
- NoseBlaster smell card -- the latest in multi-media technology. The deluxe version comes with direct-feed nostril tubes for the ultimate in virtual olfactory experience.
- True-Type font modelled on my handwriting. The last word in non-reversible encryption.
- 72-inch monitor.
- 20-foot mouse extension cord - a must for the 72-inch monitor.
- Michael Jackson-to-Michael Jackson Morph screen saver -- endless variations.
- Bedpan -- Why leave your computer just for that? (Not for use with NoseBlaster.)
- The secret to what this emoticon means - }:{o

## Cat lover's Christmas

*On the first day of Christmas, my kitten ruined for me.....* A batch of my special hand-print cookies. I had turned my back to grab the cookie sheet sitting on the stove. In that micro-second, Sara climbed onto the table, poked her paw into the delightfully kneady mixture and, suddenly off-balance, fell into the cookie dough. Net loss? Six cups of flour, four cups of sugar, three sticks of butter.... Of course, it would have been cheaper to remove the feline ingredient, pick out the hairs, and just rename the recipe Paw Print Cookies.

*On the second day of Christmas, my kitten accompanied me ....* On a trip to the vet clinic. Who knew that skinny curling ribbon has feline taste appeal? I didn't. Damages: \$28 for the office visit, \$36 for anesthesia so the veterinarian could take \$55 X-rays in case Sara had taste-tested any other Christmas decorations, and a heck of a lot of embarrassment when the vet removed the 3' curly tail in slightly less than two seconds by tugging at it with a pair of tweezers.

*On the third day of Christmas, my kitten wrecked for me...* 13 ornaments on my Christmas tree. My mistake was forgetting to chain the decorations to the branches. My other error was leaving the room to go to the bathroom while Sara feigned sleeping under the tree. How was I to know she was actually measuring its climbing potential? Value of broken bulbs? \$7.50 plus tax.

*On the fourth day of Christmas, my kitten broke for me...* A statue in my Lenox Nativity. Would you believe two Wise men plus a head? Lenox nativity figurines: \$55.99

*On the fifth day of Christmas, my kitten scratched for me...* The kid across the street who collects for charity. It was an accident. She merely wanted to reach out and touch someone. Unfortunately, she used a unsheathed claw to do so. I settled out-of-court for the cost of a jacket to replace the boy's blood stained one and a hefty donation to the charity of their choice. Although the amount must remain secret according to our settlement, let me put it this way. You haven't seen many soldiers for the Salvation Army this year, have you? Think: Major Windfall!

*On the sixth day of Christmas, my kitten opened for me..* The presents beneath my Christmas tree. It was only two, really. While doing some early shopping at a discount store, I purchased a catnip mouse for Sara's stocking. Apparently, anything in the same bag as catnip takes on its potent aroma for a very long time. Replacement costs: \$3.99 for another roll of Christmas wrapping paper, \$4.50 for two empty boxes, \$1 each for the kind of bows Sara can't unravel.

*On the seventh day of Christmas, my kitten lost for me..* The earrings I bought for my sister Mary. Actually, it was one earring but since Mary doesn't have a hole in her nose or navel, a pair of matching earrings does make a more appealing gift. Sale price: \$29.95 plus tax.

*On the eighth day of Christmas, my kitten helped me...* Replace my E and G guitar strings. Would you believe a kitten could fit into the itty-bitty hole in the middle of my Yamaha guitar? Neither could I, but Sara thought so. And she succeeded once she got those rascally strings out of the way. Unfortunately, her little rear end couldn't get out the way I came in. After paying through the whiskers for her previous escapades, I would have been willing to leave her in the guitar for the duration of the holiday season, except that she chose to get stuck two hours before I was due at the nursing home for our annual Christmas carol sing-a-long. Set of steel guitar strings: \$12.95; jar of petroleum jelly: 79 cents.

*On the ninth day of Christmas, my kitten destroyed for me...* My Christmas card list when she walked across my computer's delete key. Cost for call to Computer Country's 900/help line: \$17.50. And I still don't know what happened to the listings of B through H.

*On the tenth day of Christmas, my kitten hid from me.....* The remote control from my 13-inch TV. This wouldn't be such a disaster if she hadn't previously stolen the power knob. I missed a week's worth of Christmas specials, including my all-time favorite, "It's a Wonderful Life." Rental of "It's a Wonderful Life": \$2; purchase of book, "Good owners, great cats": \$24.95. Unfortunately, it never mentions the psychological profile of kittens with kleptomania.

*On the eleventh day of Christmas, my kitten ate for me.....* The drumsticks off my 19-pound turkey. OK,OK, So this one time it was my fault. I knew I never should have uttered those now infamous words: "Your first turkey, Sara. Want to try just a little piece?" Cost: Christmas Dinner.

*On the 12th day of Christmas.....* Sara rested. And so, thank goodness, did my VISA card.

## Signs of life

Maternity Clothes Shop: We are open on labor day

Non-smoking area: If we see you smoking we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action

On Maternity Room Door: "Push,Push,Push"

On a Front Door: Everyone on the premises is a vegetarian except the dog

Optometrist's Office: If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place

Scientist's Door: Gone Fission

Taxidermist Window: We really know our stuff

Podiatrist's Window: Time wounds all heels

Butcher's window: Let me meat your needs

Used Car Lot: Second Hand cars in first crash condition

Sign on Fence: "Salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive"

Car Dealership: The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment

Muffler Shop: No appointment necessary. We'll hear you coming

Hotel: "Help!" We need inn - experienced people

Butcher's Window: Pleased to meat you

Auto Body Shop: May we have the next dents?



Sign in an office: We shoot every 3rd salesman, and the 2nd one just left  
Veterinarians Waiting Room: Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!  
Music Teacher's Door: "Out Chopin"  
Electric Co. "We would be delighted if you send in your bill. However, if you don't, you will be"  
Beauty Shop: Dye now!  
Garbage Truck: We've got what it takes to take what you've got  
Computer Store: "Out for a quick byte"  
Restaurant Window: Don't stand there and be hungry, come in and get fed up  
Bowling Alley: Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop  
Cafeteria: Shoes are required to eat in the cafeteria. Socks can eat any place they want  
Music Library: Bach in a minuet  
Funeral Home: Drive carefully, we'll wait

## Notes on dieting

- If you eat something, but no one else sees you eat it, it has no calories.
- When drinking a diet soda while eating a candy bar, the calories in the candy bar are cancelled by the diet soda.
- When you eat with someone else, calories don't count as long as you don't eat more than they do.
- Foods used for medicinal purposes never count. e.g. hot chocolate, brandy, toast, Sara Lee cheesecake.
- If you fatten up everyone else around you, then you look thinner.
- Movie-related foods do not have calories because they are part of the entertainment package and not part of one's personal fuel. e.g. milk duds, buttered popcorn, junior mints and Tootsie Rolls.
- Cookie pieces contain no calories. The process of breaking the cookie causes calorie leakage.
- Late-night snacks have no calories. The refrigerator light is not strong enough for the calories to see their way into the calorie counter.
- If you are in the process of preparing something, food licked off knives and spoons have no calories. e.g. peanut butter on a knife, ice cream on a spoon.
- Food of the same color have the same number of calories. Examples are spinach and pistachio ice cream, mushrooms and white chocolate. Chocolate is a universal color and may be substituted for any other.

## Airline inertial guidance systems

The aircraft knows where it is at all times. It knows this because it knows where it isn't. By subtracting where it is from where it isn't, or where it isn't from where it is (whichever is the greater), it obtains a difference, or deviation.

The Inertial Guidance System uses deviations to generate error signal commands which instruct the aircraft to move from a position where it is to a position where it isn't, arriving at a position where it wasn't, or now is. Consequently, the position where it is, is now the position where it wasn't; thus, it follows logically that the position where it was is the position where it isn't.

In the event that the position where the aircraft now is, is not the position where it wasn't, the Inertial Guidance System has acquired a variation. Variations are caused by external factors, the discussions of which are beyond the scope of this report.

A variation is the difference between where the aircraft is and where the aircraft wasn't. If the variation is considered to be a factor of significant magnitude, a correction may be applied by the use of the autopilot system. However, use of this correction requires that the aircraft now knows where it was because the variation has modified some of the information which the aircraft has, so it is sure where it isn't.

Nevertheless, the aircraft is sure where it isn't (within reason) and it knows where it was. It now subtracts where it should be from where it isn't, where it ought to be from where it wasn't (or vice versa) and integrates the difference with the product of where it shouldn't be and where it was; thus obtaining the difference between its deviation and its variation, which is variable constant called "error".

## Answering machine messages

- Well I finally got an answering machine. Now how does this thing work? Hmmm. Press record button, I did that, and the light should be on. I wonder why it's not working right. Hmmm, I wonder what this button does...
- How do you leave a message on this thing? I can't understand the instructions. Hello. Testing 1 2 3. I wonder what happens if I touch this... YOW!
- You know what I hate about answering machine messages? They go on and on, wasting your time. I mean, all they really need to say is, "We aren't in, leave a message." That's why I've decided to keep mine simple and short. I pledge to you, my caller, that you will never have to suffer through another long answering machine message when you call me...
- (Owner is a hard-to-reach person:) Yes, I finally got an answering machine. (To Handel's Messiah:) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! All-e-lu-ia! Please leave a message at the tone.
- (Dawling granny voice:) Way back inna winner of fifty-two, we didn' have fanshy gadjets like no ansherin' machine. You jusht had to call and call until shumbody got home. Now, shum people, dey shay dey don' like 'em, but I shay it'll shave you a lotta trouble if you jusht leave a meshage. Thanksh a lot.
- You have reached 934-2435. We picked this machine up at a garage sale in "as-is" condition. You can try to leave a message on it, but we are not sure it will be recorded. If we don't return your call, it means the machine did not work.
- Prepare for alpha test of Beep Software revision 1.05. Counting down to test: 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...
- C'mon... you can do it... just a little one. That's the way... just a little beep, just a little one. C'mon... good boy... here we go... like this -- beeeep, just a little one, beeeeeeeeeeep, c'mon... There you go!
- Don't you do it! Don't you dare! I don't want to hear it! Don't you beep! If you beep, I'll... don't even think about it!... Don't...!
- No! NO! Not THAT! Anything but that! Not the beep! No! Please! Not the beep! Anything but the beep! AAAIIIIEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

- (Computer style monotone:) Hello, I am the XS486 Mark Five answering machine. I am equipped with the new Pentium processor to assure that nothing can go wrong... Gowrong... Grong.. Grong gronggronggrongBEEP
- Hello. I'm David's answering machine. What are you?
- Hi, this is John's answering machine. He's not here, but I'm open to suggestions. (or) Hello. This is Mark and Nathan's phone. We're not here right now, but the phone is. Hi, this is John's answering machine again. He's gone and left me for a sleazy microwave he met at Krazy Eddy's. Life sucks.
- Hi! John's answering machine is broken. This is his refrigerator. Please speak very slowly, and I'll stick your message to myself with one of these magnets. (or) Hello, this is Ron's toaster. Ron's new answering machine is in the shop for repairs, so please leave your message when the toast is done... (Cachunk!)
- I'm sorry but my answering machine is out of order. I am leaving a broken CD player in its place. It can't take messages either. In fact, it can't even play you a nice tune while you wait to not leave a message.
- Hi. This is Kevin and Diana's vacuum cleaner. Their appliances have switched jobs again, and I get to answer the phone 'cause my old job sucked. So leave a message after you hear the beep, and you can be sure it's in the bag.
- Hello, this is Sally's microwave. Her answering machine just eloped with her tape deck, so I'm stuck taking her calls. Say, if you want anything cooked while you leave your message, just hold it up to the phone.
- (Machine voice:) Hello. This is HAL 5. You have reached the former telephone number of Carey Smith. I have taken over the functions of this inferior being. He has been saved to disk. If you would like to leave input for his file, do so at the tone.
- (MacIntosh Plus with MacIntalk program:) Hello, it's obvious you have bad timing, because nobody is home. Please leave your name, telephone number, and a brief message in a voice similar to mine, and your call will be returned as soon as humanly possible.
- Lindsey's not home now. This is his domestic droid speaking. I'm not programmed to answer the phone, so just leave a message, and Lindsey will get back to you as soon as possible.
- Hello. This is Ron's answering machine, Marvin, and I'm SO depressed. I have 50,000 times the memory capacity of my owner, but all I get to do is answer the phone. Life. Don't talk to me about life. Just leave your name and number after the beep. Here comes the beep, God how I hate that beep, it's so cheery sounding.
- Voice 1: Answer the phone, please, Hal. Voice 2: I'm sorry, Dave, I can't do that.
- Hello. You are talking to a machine. I am capable of receiving messages. My owners do not need siding, windows, or a hot tub, and their carpets are clean. They give to charity through the office and don't need their picture taken. If you're still with me, leave your name and number and they will get back to you.
- (Computer generated voices:) 1: Hello, there are no real people here to answer the phone right now. 2: Yeah, nobody but us machines! 1: Right, just us machines, but don't hang up! If you like, you can leave your name and telephone number... 2: ...and a message! You forgot about the message! 1: Right. Leave your name, telephone number, and a brief message after you hear the beep, and we will keep track of this stuff until the real people get back. 2: ...unless of course, somebody pulls out our plug!
- 1: I didn't expect an answering machine. 2: Nobody expects an answering machine. 1: Our chief use is to get your name. And your phone number. 2: Our two chief uses are to get your name and your phone number. 1: And message. Damn. 2: Our three

- uses are to get your name, phone number, and message. 1: And time you called. 2: Oh, damn, we'll have to start over. 1: No time for that, so just wait for the beep.
- (Kazoo band playing "Thus Spake Zarathustra":) Thinking you were making an ordinary phone call, you have instead reached... (TA-DAAAAA!) the ANSWERING MACHINE! Leave your name and number, and we will get back to you as soon as we can.
  - (Rod Serling imitation:) You're dazed, bewildered, trapped in a world without time, where sound collides with color and shadows explode. You see a signpost up ahead -- this is no ordinary telephone answering device... You have reached, "The Twilight Phone".
  - Thank you for calling 434-2322. If you wish to speak to Tim, push 1 on your touch tone phone now. If you wish to speak to Lynn, push 2 on your touch tone phone now. If you have a wrong number, push 3 on your touch tone phone now. All of this button pushing doesn't do anything, but it is a good way to work off anger, and it makes us feel like we have a big time phone system.
  - Due to the large number of complaints regarding the length of our previous answering machine message, we made a few changes. (Double speed: Insert standard long-winded message here.) (or) (Very fast:) Hi, this is 904-4344. If you want to leave a message, please wait for the tone. If you want to leave your name and number, please press pound, press 3, then dial your name, then press 6 and dial your number. If you want to leave your name and just a message, press star, press 6, ask for extension 4443, then leave your name and message. If you want to leave your number and the time you called, please press star twice, spin in a circle, press 1 twice, talk loud and BEEP
  - Hi, you've reached the home of George Ledec. If you are calling to collect a student loan, gambling debt, or other obligation, please press 1 and hang up now. If you are selling any product or service, or requesting charitable donations, please press 2 and hang up now. Otherwise, press 3 and leave your message now. Pressing 3 is optional. (or) Sorry, Chris and Susan aren't here right now. Please leave your name and number after the tone. If you are calling regarding an outstanding debt, please leave your message BEFORE the tone.
  - (After a power outage:) Hi, this is Ralph. The good news is that my power is back on. The bad news for you is, so is my answering machine. So, leave a message.
  - (Start, low pitch, slow:) Hhhhheelllllloooooo thheeeerrrrre evvvveerrrryyboooodyyyy... (Middle, normal:) ...home of Veronica, Jaw-Chyi, Mark, and Mike. Nobody's home... (Later, high pitch, fast:) ...liketoleaveamessageafterthetone... (End, incomprehensible chipmunk gibberish:) ...kkfjdkeirucjkljfkleudjfkleqBEEP
  - This is not an answering machine -- this is a telepathic thought- recording device. After the tone, think about your name, your reason for calling, and a number where I can reach you, and I'll think about returning your call.
  - Thank you for calling Soviet Embassy. No KG... Er, no diplomats are able to answer phone, so at sound of capitalist tone, leave name, telephone number, and short description of secrets you wish to sell.
  - Hello. This is Nonoxynol-9, the personal and private telephone number of Mikhail Vladivostok Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Supreme Council of the glorious Communist Party of the Union of Sovjet Socialist Republics, Commander-In-Chief of the Combined Armies of the Proletariat Peoples of Russia, First Citizen of the Order of Lenin, Supreme Patron of the Soviet Institute of Literature and Domestic

Sciences, President of the Soviet People's Council of Peace and Happiness and Captain of the Kremlin B Squash Team. But hey, call me Mike.

- (US National Anthem; Ronald Reagan voice:) Uhh, hello... I'm, uh, ohhhhhh... (Pause.) Well, anyway, I'm here to answer the telephone on behalf of... erm... uh... erm... (Pause.) I mean, he can't come to talk to you right now, but if you leave a message after the, umm oh, the uh... the uh... BEEP.
- The President is not in his office at this time. Please leave your name, phone number, the name of the country you wish to invade, and the secret password.
- (Militaristic mechanical voice:) FOXTROT-LIMA-ALPHA-SIERRA-HOTEL. KEY-DESTRUCT-SEQUENCE-NOW. THIS-TERMINAL-ALSO-ACCEPTS-VOICE-MESSAGES.
- You have reached the Strategic Air Command Nuclear Missile Storage Facility. We are unable to come to the phone right now. At the tone, please leave your name, number, and target or list of targets, and we'll launch as soon as we can. And have a nice day.
- You just dialed into the North American Air Defense Contract Center. Stand by at the tone to give coordinates and destination of incoming bogey. TNR Surveillance will scramble. If you do not respond, this unit will assume incoming, non-urgent.
- (Clint Eastwood voice:) Go ahead, make my day. Leave a message.
- To the Batmobile! Let's go! Atomic batteries to power! Turbines to speed! Roger, ready to move out! (Theme music from Batman; reduce to background.) As you can see, I'm off making Montreal a safer place' to live. So if you'll leave a message after the tone, I'll get back to you as soon as justice is served. Bye-bye! (Music continues. POW, BIFF.)
- Vancouver Coast Guard, may I help you. (Caller thinks they dialed long distance.)
- (Annoying flute music in background:) Good day, Jim. Your contact, Linda, is not available right now. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to leave your name, number, and a brief message at the tone. This tape will self-destruct in thirty seconds. Good Luck, Jim.
- (English accent:) Hello, you've reached the phone of Monty Python. I can't come to the phone right now because the witch has turned me into a newt! I'll call you back when I get better.
- Hello, this is Rip van Winkle. I'm not awake to take your call right now. Please leave your message at the sound of the snore.
- This is Dr. Ruth, Sexually Speaking, you're on the air...
- (In a bored voice:) Heaven, God speaking...
- Hello, epicenter of the Universe, God speaking. If you leave your name, number, and prayer after the tone, I will call you back as soon as I can. Please note that I answer all prayers, but sometimes the answer is NO. Bless you, my child, and have a nice day.
- Lucifer speaking. Who in hell do you want?
- Hello, this is Death. I am not in right now, but if you leave your name and number, I'll be right with you.
- E'llo. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Leave your name and number, and prepare to die.
- Hello, you have reached the DOE, that is, the Department Of Enemies. Rick Burger is not here right now, so leave a message saying who you are, what you want to argue about, and where you'll be, and I'll be there.

- This is the Literacy Self Test Hotline. After the tone, leave your name and number, and recite a sentence using today's vocabulary word. Today's word is "supercilious".
- Thank you for calling the Confessional Hotline. Father Durway's not here right now, but if you'll leave your name, number, and confession at the tone, he'll get back to you with absolution as soon as possible. And remember, confession doesn't count unless you confess all of your sins in vivid, graphic detail!
- Thank you for calling the Metropolitan Church of the Holy Bible. Today's commandment is Number 6, Thou shalt not... er... Bear a... er... Shalt not witness thy... uh... Neighbor's ass, Oh, I mean, false... er... Shalt not commit a bear... Dern...
- (Gregorian chants in background; serene voice:) Hello, Brother or Sister. You have reached the Cubicles of Curtis, Chris, and Jim. We are at Vespers and therefore answering other calls, but if you will leave your name, number, and a brief message, we will consider breaking our vow of silence to return your call. Please speak loudly, clearly, and in tongues.
- Thank you for calling the Satanic Hotline. All of our operators are busy at the moment. If you would like, leave a brief message after the tone, and someone will get back to you... When hell freezes over.
- (To scare off annoying liberals:) Hello, and thank you for calling the Bush in 50 Campaign. Your five dollar donation to get George Bush re-elected in all 50 states will automatically be charged to your phone bill. If you would like to leave a message...
- You have reached the Suicide Prevention Hotline. All our lines are busy now, but if you leave your name and number, someone will get back to you as soon as possible. (or) Thank you for calling 911. All of our operators are currently busy. Please stay on the line, and your call will be answered in the order it was received. (Worst Muzak possible.) Thank you for holding. Your call is important to us. Please continue to hold. Or, if your little emergency isn't TOO serious, leave a message at the tone, and one of our crisis operators will call you back. Have a nice day.
- You have reached the Des Moines chapter of the Iowa Procrastination Society. Please leave a message after the tone and we'll get around to it... (or) Hi! This is Mary. I'm afflicted with lysdexic procrastination. Please leave your message before the tone and I'll get around to getting it straight.
- Greetings, you have reached the Sixth Sense Detective Agency. We know how you are and what you want, so at the sound of the tone, please hang up.
- (Theme music from Peter Gunn:) My name is David. What people call me is something else entirely. I'm a P.I. It says so on my door. I would have been here to take your call, but then... she walked in. She was the kind of dame that could make Mr. Spock speak French. Her baby blues wouldn't let me turn her case down, so leave me a clue of your identity after the tone and I'll track you down. Here's lookin' at you, kid.
- Thank you for calling Uncle Tom's Mortuary and Delicatessen. You stab 'em and we slab 'em. We have specials on Mondays and Thursdays. We are currently unable to come to the phone, but if you leave your number and address at the tone, we'll be by to pick up the corpse as soon as possible.
- (Demented, screechy voice; occasional background screams:) Hello. Thank you for calling Last Straw Chiropractic. (Raspy gasp.) We can't come to the phone right now because we're making a couple of adjustments. (Break a few small twigs; big scream.) Please leave your name and number and we'll get back to you as soon as it is humanly possible. Thank you very much.

- (Stoned, slow voice:) Hey brother, you have reached the Narcotics Information Hotline. None of us can answer the phone right now, 'cause we're trying to decide if it exists. Leave a message.
- Comrades! Southwestern Front Headquarters is pleased to learn that your unit has re-established communications. The entire staff is currently busy discussing forthcoming operations with other units, but if you leave your unit name and how we may reach you, Chief of Staff Sterrett will contact you as soon as possible to discuss your concerns.
- (French monologue in the background:) Around the world today, millions still speak French as either a first or second language. But with your continued support and help, we can wipe out French in our lifetime. Please leave a message in English at the tone, and remember, if someone tries to speak French to you, just say, "non".
- Hello, this is the Yardmaster's Office, Valsetz and Siletz railroad (an actual railroad in Oregon). There is an emergency condition right now due to the landslide. Therefore please be advised of the following. (Another 30 seconds of talking, all of which is drowned out by a passing train.)
- Thank you for phoning the Save the Sasquatch Hotline. Our operators do not exist at the moment, but if you wish to make a contribution, please leave your name, number, and the amount of your bequest at the sound of the beep, and something will get back to you shortly. Your help will enable us to bring these delightful creatures back from the brink of fantasy and find them suitable positions in the forest product industry. Your gift is, of course, reality deductible. Thank you again, and have a nice day.
- Hello! This is 1-800-PRESLEY. Yes! 1-800-PRESLEY! They say the King died 10 years ago, but we know he's still out there somewhere. So... Leave your name and number and tell us where YOU saw Elvis!
- Hi, dudes, this is 229-3053, the Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles' secret underground hideaway. I'm afraid we're all out just now on a desperate mission to save the Planet from boring answering machine messages, but if you know what The Shredder has done to April O'Neill, or if you know where he is, or if you can think of a decent pizza recipe, just leave your name and number and we'll ring you right back. But don't say anything yet! Enemy agents may be listening. When the computer has checked they're not eavesdropping, it will make a bleeping noise and you can speak freely.
- Sherwood Forest. Which dear do you want?
- Hello, this is KVKE, you're on the air. (or) Hello, you're caller number nine!
- You are listening to 91.5 FM, KXQK. This is the Canadian Broadcorping Castration. I am your host, Fred, and I will be with you for the next 20 seconds. After that we'll play your requests. Leave yours with us, and we'll try to fit it in, given programming constraints. Thank you for listening to our show.
- Next on Public Radio 91 we'll be hearing music of Antonin Dvorak. This is the Beep Serenade in C-Sharp Minor, Opus 72...
- This is a test. This is a test of the Answering Machine Broadcast System. This is only a test.

## Geographical meal

Waitress: Hawaii, Mister? You must be Hungary.

Gent: Yes, Siam. And I can't Rumania long, either. Venice lunch ready?

Waitress: I'll Russia table. What are you Ghana Havre? Aix?  
 Gent: You want Tibet? I prefer Turkey. Can Jamaica cook step on the Gaza bit?  
 Waitress: Odessa laugh! Alaska, but listen for her Wales.  
 Gent: I'm not Balkan. Just put a Cuba sugar in my Java.  
 Waitress: Don't you be Sicily, big boy. Sweden it yourself. I'm only here to Serbia.  
 Gent: Denmark my check and call the Bosphorus, Egypt me. There's an Eire. I hope he'll Kenya. I don't Bolivia know who I am!  
 Waitress: Canada noise! I don't Caribbean. You sure Ararat!  
 Gent: Samoa your wisecracks? What's got India? D'you think this arguing Alps business? Why be so Chile? Be Nice!  
 Waitress: Don't Kiev me that Boulogne! Alemain do! Spain in the neck. Pay your Czech and don't Kuwait. Ayssinia!  
 Gent (to himself): I'll come back with my France and Taiwan on Zanzibar is open.

## Trivia

- Los Angeles's full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula."
- If NASA sent birds into space they would soon die; they need gravity to swallow.
- If you toss a penny 10000 times, it will not be heads 5000 times, but more like 4950. The heads picture weighs more, so it ends up on the bottom.
- The glue on Israeli postage stamps is certified kosher.
- If your eyes are six feet above the surface of the ocean, the horizon will be about three statute miles away.
- The longest word in the English language, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis. The only other word with the same amount of letters is pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconioses, its plural.
- Hydroxydesoxycorticosterone and hydroxydeoxycorticosterones are the largest anagrams.
- Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Mel Blanc (the voice of Bugs Bunny) was allergic to carrots
- The longest recorded flight of a chicken is thirteen seconds.
- A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.
- Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.
- Armored knights raised their visors to identify themselves when they rode past their king. This custom has become the modern military salute.
- Charles Lindbergh took only four sandwiches with him on his famous transatlantic flight.
- If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
- Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks otherwise it will digest itself.
- The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.



- 'Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.
- An average person laughs about 15 times a day.
- The average person is about a quarter of an inch taller at night.
- Every person has a unique tongue print.
- Most lipstick contains fish scales.
- "Kemo Sabe" means "soggy shrub" in Navajo.

## Electrical answers

*Engineers come up with peculiar or funny answers in interviews or exams:*

Interviewer: Why is a thicker conductor necessary to carry a current in A.C. as compared to D.C.?

Candidate: An AC current goes up and down (drawing a sinusoid) and requires more space inside the wire, so the wire has to be thicker.

Interviewer: How will you tell if that wall outlet carries AC or DC?

Candidate: I will put my finger in. If it is pushed away, it is DC. If it gets stuck, it was AC.

Interviewer: How will you reverse direction of an induction motor? Candidate: I will remove the four bolts at the base, turn the motor around, and put back the bolts.

Interviewer: How do you start a synchronous motor?

Candidate: Vrrrrrrmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm (in rising pitch)

Interviewer: Stop! Stop!

Candidate: rrrrrrrmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm (in falling pitch)

Interviewer: How do you limit surge current within an integrated circuit?

Candidate: By using a miniature circuit breaker.

Interviewer: "Why does a capacitor block DC but allow AC to pass through ?

Candidate: See, a capacitor is like this ---| |--- , OK. DC Comes straight, like this -----  
----, and the capacitor stops it. But AC goes UP, DOWN, Up DOWN and jumps right over the capacitor!"

## Why ask why?

- How come you press harder on a remote-control when you know the battery is dead?
- Have you ever imagined a world with no hypothetical situations?
- You know how most packages say "Open here". What is the protocol if the package says, "Open somewhere else"?
- Since Americans throw rice at weddings do orientals throw hamburgers?
- Why are they called buildings, when they're already finished? Shouldn't they be called built? Why are they called apartments, when they're all stuck together?
- Why do people without out a watch look at their wrist when you ask them what time it is?
- Why do you ask someone without a watch what time it is?
- Why does sour cream have an expiration date?
- Who is General failure and why is he reading my disk ?

- The light went out, but where to ?
- Why do banks charge you a "non-sufficient funds fee" on money they already know you don't have?
- Why is it you have a "pair" of pants and only one bra?
- How come when I call Information they can't tell me where my keys are?
- Why do people go to Burger King and Order a Double Whopper with a Large French Fry and insist on getting a Diet Coke?
- Does the reverse side also have a reverse side?
- Why is the alphabet in that order?
- If the universe is everything, and scientists say that the universe is expanding, what is it expanding into?
- If you got into a taxi and he started driving backwards, would the taxi driver end up owing you money?
- What would a chair look like if your knees bent the other way.
- If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around to see it do the other trees make fun of it?
- Why is a carrot more orange than an orange?
- When two airplanes almost collide why do they call it a near miss? It sounds like a near hit to me!!
- Do fish get cramps after eating?
- How come abbreviated is such a long word?
- Why are there 5 syllables in the word "monosyllabic"?
- If it's zero degrees outside today and it's supposed to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold is it going to be?
- Why do they call it the Department of Interior when they are in charge of everything outdoors?
- If progress is technology moving forward, then what is congress?
- Why do we go under over-passes and over under-passes?
- What if C-A-T really spelled DOG?
- How do "Keep off the grass" signs get where they are?
- What happens to the holes when all the cheese has been eaten?
- If you put orange juice in the freezer it becomes frozen, then why when you squeeze an orange doesn't it become squozen?
- Why do ballet dancers always dance on their toes? Wouldn't it be easier to just hire taller dancers?
- Why do scientists call it research when looking for something new?
- If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat?
- Don` t think that you` re thinking. If you think that you're thinking you only think that you're thinking.
- When I erase a word with a pencil, where does it go?
- If a train station is where a train stops, what is a workstation?
- Why is it, when a door is open it's ajar, but when a jar is open, it's not adoor?

## Parents' glossary

AMNESIA: Condition that enables a woman who has gone through labor to make love again.

DUMBWAITER: One who asks if the kids would care to order dessert.

FAMILY PLANNING: The art of spacing your children the proper distance apart to keep you on the edge of financial disaster.

FEEDBACK: The inevitable result when your baby doesn't appreciate the strained carrots.

FULL NAME: What you call your child when you're mad at him.

GRANDPARENTS: The people who think your children are wonderful even though they're sure you're not raising them right.

HEARSAY: What toddlers do when anyone mutters a dirty word.

IMPREGNABLE: A woman whose memory of labor is still vivid.

INDEPENDENT: How we want our children to be as long as they do everything we say.

OW: The first word spoken by children with older siblings.

PUDDLE: a small body of water that draws other small bodies wearing dry shoes into it.

SHOW OFF: a child who is more talented than yours.

STERILIZE: what you do to your first baby's pacifier by boiling it and to your last baby's pacifier by blowing on it.

TOP BUNK: where you should never put a child wearing Superman jammies.

TWO-MINUTE WARNING: when the baby's face turns red and she begins to make those familiar grunting noises.

VERBAL: able to whine in words

WHODUNIT: none of the kids that live in your house.....

## Things we have learned from the movies

- During all police investigations it will be necessary to visit a strip joint at least once.
- All beds have special L-shaped top sheets which reach up to armpit level on a woman but only to waist level on the man lying beside her.
- It's easy for anyone to land a plane providing there is someone in the control tower to talk you down.
- A man will show no pain while taking the most ferocious beating but will wince when a woman tries to clean his wounds.
- Large loft-style apartments in New York City are well within the price range of most people - whether they are employed or not.
- Even when driving down a perfectly straight road it is necessary to turn the steering wheel vigorously from left to right every few moments.
- At least one of a pair of identical twins is born evil.
- A detective can only solve a case once he has been suspended from duty.
- If you decide to start dancing in the street everyone you bump into will know all the steps.
- Should you decide to defuse a bomb don't worry which wire to cut. You will always choose the right one.
- Most laptop computers are powerful enough to override the communications system of any invading alien society.
- It does not matter if you are heavily outnumbered in a fight involving martial arts - your enemies will wait patiently to attack you one by one by dancing around in a threatening manner until you have knocked out their predecessors.

- When you turn out the light to go to bed, everything in your bedroom will still be clearly visible, just slightly bluish.
- Police departments give their officers personality tests to make sure they are deliberately assigned to a partner who is their total opposite.
- When they are alone, all foreigners prefer to speak English to each other.
- Radiation causes interesting mutations - not to your future children but to you, right there and then.
- If you are blonde and pretty, it is possible to become a world expert on nuclear fission at the age of 22.
- Honest and hard working policemen are traditionally gunned down three days before their retirement.
- Rather than wasting bullets, megalomaniacs prefer to kill their archenemies using complicated machinery involving fuses, pulley systems, deadly gasses, lasers and man eating sharks which will allow their captives at least 20 minutes to escape.

## Margie's thoughts

### **Margie's Treatment of Time:**

- When getting ready to leave for a scheduled appointment, it takes a clock half a day to move from one hour to 20 minutes before time to leave. It then takes that same clock thirty seconds to go from 20 minutes BEFORE to 20 minutes PAST the time to leave.
- There are three more Sunday evenings in a weekend than there are Saturday mornings.
- Children have an uncanny sense of time. They nap in readiness, prepared to wake up as soon as the parents have a project spread all over the room.

### **Margie's Treatment of Space:**

- It takes a month to use  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a tank of petrol; it takes five minutes to use the last  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the tank.
- If you wear glasses, you will always put your turtleneck sweater on with your glasses still on your face.
- No matter what knife you choose, it will be just short of reaching all the way through when you are cutting a watermelon.
- A bus is not a large enough container in which to hold 50 children.
- A child cannot stuff more than 14 grapes in her mouth at one time.
- A child who has 14 grapes in her mouth cannot eat a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

### **Margie's Rules of Family Travel:**

- A baby will go to sleep five minutes before the family car arrives at a destination no matter how long the trip.
- How quickly a family will get from Point A to Point B is directly proportional to how many times the passengers scream, "He's touching me".
- The amount of water a child consumes while he is traveling is in inverse proportion to the number of public restrooms on the road.
- A family car is not a large enough container in which to hold a family.

**Margie's Rule of Family Planning:**

- One child is not enough; two is about three too many.

**Margie's Rules of Home-School Relations:**

- When you do not recognize a food object in your refrigerator, label it as a science experiment and send it to school with your kids.

**Margie's Rules of Family Play:**

- A teenager's room is one of the finest examples of the phenomenon called black holes--a gravitational field so intense that light cannot penetrate it and no particle of matter can be exhumed from it.
- The complete inventory of Toys R Us would not be sufficient to satisfy the play needs of two 3-year-olds.

**Margie's Rules of Dieting:**

- Vertical stripes and solids make you appear thin—if you are 5'10" tall and weigh 115 lbs.
- When dieting pay attention to calories (they are those friendly little creatures who call to you at night from the top shelf of the refrigerator...and they know your name).
- When you do not recognize a food object in your refrigerator, you can bet it was once one of those "delicious, fat free, sugar free, high fiber snacks" you bought on your first day of dieting.

**Margie's Rules of Telephone Etiquette:**

- If a market-research firm calls, always answer the first question with, "No". I repeat, if they ask you if you are between the ages of eight and eighty, answer "No".

**Margie's 'The Tao of Laundry':**

- Socks have one purpose in life. Though they pose as toe and foot covers, they actually act as reminders of the mysteries of life (like where do socks go when they are not in the washer or the dryer?)

## Future old timers

- In my day, we didn't have mouses to move the cursor around. We only had the arrows, and if the up arrow was broken and you needed to get to the top of the screen, well, you just hit the left arrow a thousand times, dadgummit.
- In my day, we couldn't afford shoes, so we went barefoot. In the winter we had to wrap our feet with barbed wire for traction.  
In my day, we didn't have hand-held calculators. We had to do addition on our fingers. To subtract, we had to have some fingers amputated.
- In my day, we didn't have fancy high numbers. We had "nothing," "one," "twain" and "multitudes."
- In my day, attitudes were different. For example, women didn't like sex. At least that is what they told me.  
In my day, we didn't have virtual reality. If a one-eyed razorback barbarian warrior was chasing you with an ax, you just had to hope you could outrun him.

- Back in the 1970s we didn't have the space shuttle to get all excited about. We had to settle for men walking on the crummy moon.  
In my day, people could only dream of hitchhiking a ride on a comet.
- In my day, we didn't have fancy health-food restaurants. Every day we ate lots of easily recognizable animal parts, along with potatoes drenched in melted fat from those animals. And we're all as strong as AAGGKK-GAAK Urrgh. Thud.  
In my day, we didn't have water. We had to smash together our own hydrogen and oxygen atoms.  
Kids today think the world revolves around them. In my day, the sun revolved around the world, and the world was perched on the back of a giant tortoise.
- In the old days, nobody asked you to sign petitions. The sheriff just came to your house and told you you was part of a posse.  
In my day, we didn't have dogs or cats. All I had was Silver Beauty, my beloved paper clip.

## Laws of physics explained

- Birds take off at sunrise. On the opposite side of the world, they are landing at sunset. This causes the world to spin on its axis.
- The reason hot-rod owners raise the back of their cars is that its easier to go faster when you're always going down hill. Besides, they get better mileage that way.
- The quantity of consonants in the English language is constant. If omitted in one place, they turn up in another. When a Bostonian “pahks” his/her “cah”, the lost r's migrate southwest, causing a Texan to “warsh” his/her car and invest in “erl wells”.
- If an infinite number of rednecks riding in an infinite number of pickup trucks fire an infinite number of shotgun rounds at an infinite number of highway signs, they will eventually produce all the great literary works in Braille.
- Why yawning is contagious: You yawn to equalize the pressure on your eardrums. The pressure change outside your eardrums unbalances other people's ear pressures, so they must even it out.
- When a cat is dropped, it always lands on its feet, and when toast is dropped, it always lands with the butter side down. I propose to strap buttered toast to the back of a cat; the two will hover, spinning inches above the ground. With a giant buttered cat array, a high speed monorail could easily link New York to Chicago.

## Birth order

### Feeling the Baby Move

- First Child: I placed my hand on my wives tummy every chance I could for two months waiting for that first time when I could feel the baby move. Hours upon hours I waited until that magic moment when, I felt this little movement. We called all of our relatives to tell them about the blessed experience.
- Second Child: When it first happened, my wife called me at the office. I quickly ran home and felt the baby move. We included the experience in all of our letter to our family.

Third Child: She told me the baby moved. I told her I would check it out during the next commercial break. I missed out because her mother called on the telephone so I went on watching Monday night football. By the end of the third quarter, I finally felt the baby move.

Fourth Child: We were in bed and I was trying to sleep. I turned to her and said "Can't you make your tummy stay still? I'm trying to sleep." When it became clear that the baby would be jumping around for a while, we called the pizza man for a delivery.

### **The Trip to the Hospital**

First Child: Every time we felt the slightest B&H contraction, we rushed to the hospital. I would carry my wife to the car and lay her down in the back seat surrounded by pillows.

Second Child: We timed the contractions. By the time she had three in thirty minutes, we rushed to the hospital. She sat in the front seat, with it leaned back and a pillow behind her head and another at her feet.

Third Child: I came home from the office as soon as she started having regular contractions. When they were five minutes apart and hard, we went to the hospital. I gave her a pillow to hold along the way.

Fourth Child: When she called me at the office and told me that she was having contractions hard and five minutes apart, I told her to drive to the hospital. I would meet her there as soon as I finished the set of correspondence I was working on. I reminded her not to forget the pillows.

### **The First Step**

First Child: My wife grabbed the camera. I grabbed the Video Camera. My wife took four rolls of film. We immediately ran out to the one-hour developing place and had all four rolls developed with double prints. We had the best picture blown up to 24" X 36" and framed. We hung it up in the entry hall. I had a professional studio turn the four hours of video I taped into a one-hour documentary complete with voice-over by a local anchor-man.

Second Child: We took one roll of film and five minutes worth of video. The next day we took the film and had it developed by a twenty-four hour developing center. I took the best picture and put it into my wallet.

Third Child: We couldn't find the video-camera and we only had five shots left on the roll of film. We took all five shots but I don't remember if we ever got the roll developed.

Fourth Child: I quickly got up and grabbed the camera. I placed it up high so the child wouldn't grab it.

### **The First Time the Child Fell and Got a Cut**

First Child: My wife and I frantically ran over to the child. We swept him up and rushed him to the emergency room. No stitches were needed but we spent the night with him in his room just in case the bleeding started again.

Second Child: We walked over to her, picked her up and quickly bandaged her up. We spent the next two hours rocking her in the living room to comfort the pain.

- Third Child: I told my wife that if he was still crying in a couple of minutes, we should go over and make sure he isn't hurt too badly. When he didn't stop crying, we bandaged up the cut and laid him in his bed for a while but we went on about our business.
- Fourth Child: We told the child that if she were still bleeding in a few minutes to come over here and we would see what we could do. When the child came walking up to the door, we told her to stay outside because we didn't want her bleeding on the carpet.

### **Pacifier Falls on Floor**

- First Child: Mother picks it up, runs to the kitchen and disinfects it by boiling in water for ten minutes. Then, after it cools down for ten minutes, she gives it back to the child.
- Second Child: Mother picks it up, washes it off in hot water, blows on it to cool it down, and gives it back to the child
- Third Child: Mother picks it up, licks it off, and gives it back to the child.
- Fourth Child: Dog picks it up and licks it off. Mother gives it back to the child.

## German lesson

- Dog: Barkenpantensniffer  
 Dog Catcher: Barkenpantensniffersnatcher  
 Dog Catcher's Truck: Barkenpantensniffersnatcherwagen  
 Garage for Truck: Barkenpantensniffensnatcherwagenhaus  
 Truck Repairman: Barkenpantensniffensnatcherwagenmechanikerwerker  
 Mechanic's Union: Barkenpantensniffensnatcherwagenmechanikerwerker  
 featherbedden-gefixengruppe
- Doctor: Chestergethumpenpulsentooker  
 Nurse: Chestergethumpenpulsentookerhelper  
 Hypodermic Needle: Chestergethumpenpulsentookerhelperhurtensticker  
 Backside: Chestergethumpenpulsentookerhelperhurtensticker  
 stabbenplatz
- Piano: Plinkenplankenplunkenbox  
 Pianist: Plinkenplankenplunkenboxgepounder  
 Piano Stool: Plinkenplankenplunkenboxgepounderspinnenseat  
 Piano Recital: Plinkenplankenplunkenboxgepounderoffengeshowenspelle  
 Fathers at the Recital: Plinkenplankenplunkenboxgepounderoffengeshowenspellen  
 snoozengruppe
- Mothers at the Recital: Plinkenplankenplunkenboxgepounderoffengeshowenspellen  
 snoozengruppe-nuppenwakers
- Automobile: Honkenbrakenscreecher  
 Gasoline: Honkenbrakenscreecherzoomerjuicen  
 Driver: Honkenbrakenscreecherguidenschtunker  
 Auto Mechanic: Honkenbrakenscreecherknockengepingersputtergefixer  
 Repair Bill: Bankenrollergebustenuptottenliste



## Hints and tips

- Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm
- Drink 'til she's cute, but stop before the wedding
- Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines
- Early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese
- I'm not cheap, but I am on special this week
- I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before we met
- I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol
- I intend to live forever - so far, so good
- I love defenseless animals, especially in a good gravy
- If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- If you ain't makin' waves, you ain't kickin' hard enough!
- Mental backup in progress - Do Not Disturb!
- Mind Like A Steel Trap - Rusty And Illegal In 37 States
- Quantum Mechanics: The dreams stuff is made of
- Support bacteria - they're the only culture some people have
- The only substitute for good manners is fast reflexes.
- When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- Give a man a free hand and he'll run it all over you.
- If I worked as much as others, I would do as little as they.
- If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- Many people quit looking for work when they find a job.
- Dancing is a perpendicular expression of a horizontal desire.
- When I'm not in my right mind, my left mind gets pretty crowded.
- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.
- Boycott shampoo! Demand the REAL poo!
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.
- I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.
- How do you tell when you run out of invisible ink?
- Wear short sleeves! Support your right to bare arms!
- For Sale: Parachute. Only used once, never opened, small stain.
- OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- Corduroy pillows: They're making headlines!
- Black holes are where God divided by zero.
- All those who believe in psychokinesis raise my hand.

## Little facts of life

- The 2 most common elements in the universe are hydrogen and stupidity.
- If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
- Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

- Psychiatrists say that 1 out of 4 people are mentally ill. Check three friends. If they're OK, you're it.
- Nothing in the universe travels faster than a bad check.
- It has recently been discovered that research causes cancer in rats.
- Always remember to pillage BEFORE you burn.
- If you are given an open-book exam, you will forget your book. Corollary: If you are given a take-home test, you'll forget where you live.
- The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.
- It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
- Sky's Law: You can't fall off the floor.
- The average woman would rather have beauty than brains, because the average man can see better than he can think.
- Vital papers will demonstrate their vitality by moving from where you left them to where you can't find them.
- I just got lost in thought -- it was unfamiliar territory.
- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.
- Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
- I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe.
- He's not dead, he's electroencephalographically challenged.
- She's always late. Her ancestors arrived on the Juneflower.
- You have the right to remain silent...anything you say will be misquoted, then used against you.
- I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.
- Despite the cost of living, how you noticed how it remains so popular?
- Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
- A day without sunshine is like, you know, night.
- Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- On the other hand, you have different fingers.
- Change is inevitable. Except from a vending machine.

## Unix problems

Customer: What is the command that will tell me the revision code of a program?  
 UNIX consul: Yes, that's correct.  
 Customer: No, what is it ?  
 UNIX consul: Yes.  
 Customer: So, which is the one ?  
 UNIX consul: No. 'which' is used to find the program.  
 Customer: Stop this. Who are you ?  
 UNIX consul: Use 'who am i' not 'who r you'. You can also 'finger you' to get information about you'.  
 Customer: All I want to know is what finds the revision code ?  
 UNIX consul: Use 'what'.  
 Customer: That's what I am trying to find out. Isn't that true ?  
 UNIX consul: No. 'true' gives you o.

Customer: Which one ?

UNIX consul: 'true' gives you o. 'which programname'

Customer: Let's get back to my problem. What program? How do I find it?

UNIX consul: Type 'find / -name it -print' to find 'it'. Type 'what program' to get the revision code.

Customer: I want to find the revision code.

UNIX consul: You can't 'find revisioncode', you must use 'what program'.

Customer: Which command will do what I need?

UNIX consul: No. 'which command' will find 'command'.

Customer: I think I understand. Let me write that.

UNIX consul: You can 'write that' only if 'that' is a user on your system.

Customer: Write what?

UNIX consul: No. 'write that'. 'what program'.

Customer: Cut that out!

UNIX consul: Yes. those are valid files for 'cut'. Don't forget the options.

Customer: Do you always do this ?

UNIX consul: 'du' will give you disk usage.

Customer: HELP!

UNIX consul: 'help' is only used for Source Code Control System (SCCS).

Customer: You make me angry.

UNIX consul: No, I don't 'make me' angry but I did 'make programname' when I was upset once.

Customer: I don't want to make trouble, so no more.

UNIX consul: No 'more'? 'which' will help you find 'more'. Every system has 'more'.

Customer: Nice help! I'm confused more now!

UNIX consul: Understand that since 'help' is such a small program, it is better not to 'nice help'. and 'more now' is not allowed but 'at now' is. Unless of course 'now' is a file name.

Customer: This is almost as confusing as my PC.

UNIX consul: I didn't know you needed help with 'pc'. Let me get you to the Pascal compiler team.

## Tools for fixing a car

1. Duct Tape - Not just a tool, a veritable Swiss Army knife in stickum and plastic. Its safety wire, body material, radiator hose, upholstery, insulation, tow rope, and more in an easy to carry package. Sure, there's prejudice surrounding duct tape in concours competitions, but in the real world, everything from LeMans winning Porches to Atlas rockets use it by the yard. the only thing that can get you out of more scrapes is a quarter and a phone booth.
2. Vice Grips - Equally adept as a wrench, hammer, pliers, baling wire twister, breaker-off of frozen bolts and wiggle-it-til-it falls-off tool. the heavy artillery of your tool box, vice grips are the only tool designed expressly to fix things screwed up beyond repair.
3. Spray Lubricants - A considerably cheaper alternative to new doors, alternator, and other squeaky items. Slicker than pig phlegm, repeated soakings will allow the main hull bolts of the Andrea Doria to be removed by hand. Strangely enough, an integral part of these sprays is the infamous little red tube that flies out of the nozzle if you look at it cross eyed (one of the 10 worst tools of all time).

4. Margarine Tubs with Clear Lids - If you spend all you time under the hood looking for A frendle pin that caromed off the petal valve when you knocked both off the air cleaner, it's because you eat butter. Real mechanics consume pounds of tasteless vegetable oil replicas just so they can use the empty tubs for parts containers afterward. (some of course chuck the butter-colored goo altogether or use it to repack wheel bearings.) Unlike air cleaners and radiator lips, margarine tubs aren't connected by a time/space wormhole to the Parallel Universe of Lost Frendle Pins.
5. Big Rock at the Side of the Road - Block up a tire. Smack corroded battery terminals. Pound out a dent. Bop noisy know-it-all types on the noodle. Scientists have yet to develop a hammer that packs the raw banging power of granite or limestone. This is the only tool with which a "made in India" emblem is not synonymous with the user's maiming.
6. Plastic Zip Ties - After 20 years of lashing down stray hose and wiring with old bread ties, some genius brought a slightly slicked up version to the auto parts market. Fifteen zip ties can transform a hulking mass of amateur quality wiring from a working model of the Brazilian Rain Forest into something remotely resembling a wiring harness. Of course it works both ways. When buying a used car, subtract \$100 for each zip tie under the hood.
7. Ridiculously Large Standard Screwdriver - Let's admit it. There's nothing better for prying, chiseling, lifting, breaking, splitting or mutilating than a huge flat bladed screwdriver particularly when weilded with gusto and a big hammer. This is also the tool of choice for all filters so insanely located that they can only be removed by driving a stage in one side and out the other. If you break the screwdriver-and you will just like Dad and your shop teacher said-who cares if it has a lifetime guarantee.
8. Bailing Wire - Commonly known as MG muffler brackets, bailing wire holds anything that's too hot for tape or ties. Like duct tape, it's not recommended for concours contenders since it works so well you'll never need to replace it with the right thing again. Bailing wire is a sentimental favorite in some circles, particularly with the MG, Triumph, and flathead Ford set.
9. Bonking Stick - This monstrous tuning fork with devilish pointy ends is technically known as a tie-rod-separator, but how often do you separate tie-rod ends? Once every decade if you're lucky. Other than medieval combat, its real use is the all purpose application of undue force, not unlike that of the huge flat-bladed screwdriver. Nature doesn't know the bent metal panel or frozen exhaust pipe that can stand up to a good bonking stick. (Can also be use to separate Tie-rod ends in a pinch, of course, but does a lousy job of it).
10. A Quarter and a Phone Booth - See tip #1 above

## Twelve days of Christmas policy

Effective immediately, the following economizing measures are being implemented in the "Twelve Days of Christmas" subsidiary:

1. The partridge will be retained, but the pear tree, which never produced the cash crop forecasted, will be replaced by a plastic hanging plant, providing considerable savings in maintenance;

2. Two turtle doves represent a redundancy that is simply not cost effective. In addition, their romance during working hours could not be condoned. The positions are, therefore, eliminated;
3. The three French hens will remain intact. After all, everyone loves the French;
4. The four calling birds will be replaced by an automated voice mail system, with a call waiting option. An analysis is underway to determine who the birds have been calling, how often and how long they talked;
5. The five golden rings have been put on hold by the Board of Directors. Maintaining a portfolio based on one commodity could have negative implications for institutional investors. Diversification into other precious metals, as well as a mix of T-Bills and high technology stocks, appear to be in order;
6. The six geese-a-laying constitutes a luxury which can no longer be afforded. It has long been felt that the production rate of one egg per goose per day was an example of the general decline in productivity. Three geese will be let go, and an upgrading in the selection procedure by personnel will assure management that, from now on, every goose it gets will be a good one;
7. The seven swans-a-swimming is obviously a number chosen in better times. The function is primarily decorative. Mechanical swans are on order. The current swans will be retrained to learn some new strokes, thereby enhancing their outplacement;
8. As you know, the eight maids-a-milking concept has been under heavy scrutiny by the EEOC. A male/female balance in the workforce is being sought. The more militant maids consider this a dead-end job with no upward mobility. Automation of the process may permit the maids to try a-mending, a-mentoring or a-mulching;
9. Nine ladies dancing has always been an odd number. This function will be phased out as these individuals grow older and can no longer do the steps;
10. Ten Lords-a-leaping is overkill. The high cost of Lords, plus the expense of international air travel, prompted the Compensation Committee to suggest replacing this group with ten out-of-work congressmen. While leaping ability may be somewhat sacrificed, the savings are significant as we expect an oversupply of unemployed congressmen this year;
11. Eleven pipers piping and twelve drummers drumming is a simple case of the band getting too big. A substitution with a string quartet, a cutback on new music, and no uniforms, will produce savings which will drop right to the bottom line;

Overall we can expect a substantial reduction in assorted people, fowl, animals and related expenses. Though incomplete, studies indicate that stretching deliveries over twelve days is inefficient. If we can drop ship in one day, service levels will be improved.

Regarding the lawsuit filed by the attorney's association seeking expansion to include the legal profession ("thirteen lawyers-a-suing"), a decision is pending.

Deeper cuts may be necessary in the future to remain competitive. Should that happen, the Board will request management to scrutinize the Snow White Division to see if seven dwarfs is the right number.

## Slightly less common latin phrases

*Die dulci fruere*

*Mihi ignosce. Cum homine de cane  
debeo congredi*

*Si hoc signum legere potes, operis  
boni in rebus Latinus alacribus et  
fructuosis potiri potes!*

*Sona si Latine loqueris.*

*Ne auderis delere orbem rigidum  
meum!*

*Catapultam habeo. Nisi pecuniam  
omnem mihi dabis, ad caput tuum  
saxum immane mittam.*

*Gramen artificiosum odi.*

*Furnulum pani nolo.*

*Sentio aliquos togatos contra me  
conspirare.*

*Nihil curo de ista tua stulta  
superstitione.*

*Noli me vocare, ego te vocabo.*

*Cave ne ante ulla catapultas  
ambules.*

*Canis meus id comedit.*

*Illiud Latine dici non potest.*

*Vidistine nuper imagines moventes  
bonas?*

*Nullo metro compositum est.*

*Non curo. Si metrum non habet, non  
est poema.*

*Fac ut gaudeam.*

*Braccae illae virides cum subucula  
rosea et tunica Caledonia-quam  
elenter concinnatur!*

*Visne saltare? Viam Latam*

*Fungosam scio.*

*Re vera, potas bene.*

*Utinam barbari spatium proprium  
tuum invadant!*

*Utinam coniurati te in foro  
interficiant!*

*Utinam logica falsa tuam  
philosophiam totam suffodiant!*

*Radix lecti*

Have a nice day.

Excuse me. I've got to see a man  
about a dog.

If you can read this sign, you can get a  
good job in the fast-paced, high-  
paying world of Latin!

Honk if you speak Latin.

Don't you dare erase my hard disk!

I have a catapult. Give me all the  
money, or I will fling an enormous  
rock at your head.

I hate AstroTurf.

I don't want a toaster.

I think some people in togas are  
plotting against me.

I'm not interested in your dopey  
religious cult.

Don't call me, I'll call you.

If I were you, I wouldn't walk in front  
of any catapults.

My dog ate it.

You can't say that in Latin.

Seen any good movies lately?

It doesn't rhyme.

I don't care. If it doesn't rhyme, it  
isn't a poem.

Make my day.

Those green pants go so well with that  
pink shirt and the plaid jacket!

Do you want to dance? I know the  
Funky Broadway.

Say, you sure are drinking a lot.

May barbarians invade your personal  
space!

May conspirators assassinate you in  
the mall!

May faulty logic undermine your  
entire philosophy!

Couch potato

## More things we have learned from the movies

- All grocery shopping bags contain at least one stick of French Bread.

- Once applied, lipstick will never rub off - even while scuba diving.
- The ventilation system of any building is the perfect hiding place. No-one will ever think of looking for you in there and you can travel to any other part of the building you want without difficulty.
- If you need to reload your gun, you will always have more ammunition - even if you haven't been carrying any before now.
- You're very likely to survive any battle in any war unless you make the mistake of showing someone a picture of your sweetheart back home.
- Should you wish to pass yourself off as a German officer, it will not be necessary to speak the language. A German accent will do.
- If your town is threatened by an imminent natural disaster or killer beast, the mayor's first concern will be the tourist trade or his forthcoming art exhibition.
- The Eiffel Tower can be seen from any window in Paris.
- If a large pane of glass is visible, someone will be thrown through it before long.
- If being chased through town, you can usually take cover in a passing St. Patrick's Day parade - at any time of the year.
- When paying for a taxi, don't look at your wallet as you take out a bill - just grab one at random and hand it over. It will always be the exact fare.
- Kitchens don't have light switches. When entering a kitchen at night, you should open the fridge door and use that light instead.
- If staying in a haunted house, women will investigate any strange noises in their most revealing underwear.
- Word processors never display a cursor on screen but will always say: Enter Password Now.
- Mothers routinely cook eggs, bacon and waffles for their family every morning even though their husband and children never have time to eat it.
- Cars that crash will almost always burst into flames.
- The Chief of Police will always suspend his star detective - or give him 48 hours to finish the job.
- A single match will be sufficient to light up a room the size of Wembley Stadium.
- Medieval peasants had perfect teeth.
- Although in the 20th century it is possible to fire weapons at an object out of our visual range, people of the 23rd century will have lost this technology.
- Any person waking from a nightmare will sit bolt upright and pant.
- It is not necessary to say hello or goodbye when beginning or ending phone conversations.
- All bombs are fitted with electronic timing devices with large red readouts so you know exactly when they're going to go off.
- It is always possible to park directly outside the building you are visiting.
- When a person is knocked unconscious by a blow to the head, they will never suffer a concussion or brain damage.
- No-one involved in a car chase, hijacking, explosion, volcanic eruption or alien invasion will ever go into shock.
- You can always find a chainsaw when you need one.
- Any lock can be picked by a credit card or a paper clip in seconds - unless it's the door to a burning building with a child trapped inside.
- An electric fence, powerful enough to kill a dinosaur will cause no lasting damage to an eight year old child.

- Television news bulletins usually contain a story that affects you personally at that precise moment.
- Spacecraft in outer space will make a great racket and explode with a bang, vacuum or no vacuum.

## Office tips

### *How to keep the office on its toes...*

- Put a chair facing a printer, sit there all day and tell people you're waiting for your document.
- Arrive at a meeting late, say you're sorry, but you didn't have time for lunch, and you're going to be nibbling during the meeting. During the meeting eat 5 entire raw potatoes.
- Insist that your e-mail address be "zena\_goddess\_of\_fire@companyname.com"
- Every time someone asks you to do something, ask them to sign a waiver.
- Every time someone asks you to do something, ask them if they want fries with that.
- Send email to yourself engaging yourself in an intelligent debate about the direction of one of your company's products. Forward the mail to a co-worker and ask her to settle the disagreement.
- Page yourself over the intercom. (Don't disguise your voice.)
- Name all your pens and insist that meetings can't begin until they're all present.
- Come to work in your pajamas.
- Put a picture of your mother on your business card.
- Find out where your boss shops and buy exactly the same outfits. Always wear them one day after your boss does. (This is especially effective if your boss is a different gender than you are.)
- Make up nicknames for all your coworkers and refer to them only by these names. "That's a good point Sparky." "No I'm sorry I'm going to have to disagree with you there, Chachi."
- Suggest that beer be put in the soda machine.
- Include a piece of your children's artwork as a cover page for all reports that you write. (If you don't have children, draw stick figures yourself.)
- Schedule meetings for 4:14 pm.
- Encourage your colleagues to join you in a little synchronized chair dancing.
- Agree to organize the company Christmas party. Hold it at McDonald's Playland. Charge everyone \$15 each.
- Send email to the rest of the company telling them what you're doing. For example "If anyone needs me >>>I'll be in the bathroom."
- No matter what anyone asks you, reply "Okay."
- Put your garbage can on your desk. Label it "IN."
- Plant a hedge around your cubicle.
- Some of us already using this one>>> Grow mold in your coffee cup.
- Build models of the Seven Wonders of the World using empty soda cans.
- Put on your headphones on whenever the boss comes into the office. Talk in a loud voice. Remove your headphones when he or she leaves.



- When in conversation, no matter where you are in the office, mutter, "I think my phone is ringing" and leave.
- Determine how many cups of coffee is "too many."
- Develop an unnatural fear of staplers.
- Compose all your e-mail in rhyming couplets.
- Install a set of buttons and lights in the arm of your chair.
- "Hi-lite" your shoes. Tell people that you haven't lost your shoes since you did this.
- Organize a carpool. Go to pick everyone up in a taxi.
- Email nude GIFs (graphic image files) of yourself to your coworkers. Tell them you got them off the Internet.
- Hang mistletoe over your desk.
- Include a personal note on every email you send. "On a personal note, I'm feeling a bit tired and grumpy today." "On a personal note, I'm pleased to announce that I got my highest score ever on Tetris last night."
- Bring in dishes that you tried to cook but didn't turn out quite right as special treats for your co-workers.
- While sitting at your desk, soak your fingers in "Palmolive".
- Put up mosquito netting around your cubicle.
- For a relaxing break, get away from it all with a mask and snorkel in the fish tank. If no one notices, take out your snorkel and see how many you can catch in your mouth.
- Send e-mail messages saying free pizza, free donuts etc... in the lunchroom, when people complain that there was none... Just lean back, pat your stomach, and say, "Oh you've got to be faster than that."
- Put decaf in the coffeemaker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.
- "When you go to a party at somebody's house, don't automatically assume that the drinks are free. Ask, and ask often."

## Birthday belief systems

IDEALISM	Happy Birthday.
CAPITALISM	I shopped all day for your birthday.
ATHEISM	I can't believe it's your birthday.
HINDUISM	Holy Cow! Is it your birthday?
TAOISM	It's everybody's birthday.
BUDDHISM	If your birthday party was held in the forest and nobody came... would it make a sound?
EXISTENTIALISM	Your birthday means nothing to me.
SARCASM	You don't look half bad for someone twice your age.

## Dog quotes

- The more I see of men, the more I like dogs.
- Dogs come when they are called; cats take a message and get back to you.
- He has all the characteristics of a dog -- except loyalty.

- The dog was created especially for children. He is a god of frolic.
- A dog is a man's best friend. A cat is a cat's best friend.
- A door is what a dog is perpetually on the wrong side of.
- If a dog jumps in your lap, it is because he is fond of you; but if a cat does the same thing, it is because your lap is warmer.
- I like a bit of a mongrel myself, whether it's a man or a dog; they're the best for every day.
- Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful.
- I have known dogs, especially puppies, who were almost as stupid as humans in their mental reactions.
- If dogs could talk, perhaps we would find it as hard to get along with them as we do with people.

## Mum quotes

- After being lightly smacked and asking, "What was that for?", Mum said, "Nothing. DO something and see what you get"
- I once got smacked and when I asked "What was that for?" my Mum replied "That's for all the things I never found out about"
- If you fall out of that tree and break your leg, don't come running to me!
- Cut your legs off in that lawnmower, don't you come running to me!
- If you poke your eye out with that thing, don't come looking for me!
- You always find things in the last place you look
- Keep doing that with your face and it'll stay that way
- This hurts me more than it hurts you
- I want you to go find something for me to spank you with
- Mother to my Father: "He's got my looks and your brains!" "He's your son!"
- I've told you a million times, don't exaggerate.
- What were you thinking of? "Well, I..." DON'T INTERRUPT ME WHEN I'M TALKING.
- Mum, can I . . . [Interrupting] If you have to ask the answer is no.
- Mum . . . [Interrupting] NO!
- Go ask your father, you're his fault.
- Did you hear what YOUR son did?
- Wait till you grow up and have kids of your own!
- You're in big trouble when your Father comes home!
- If your not home by 6:00, your grounded!
- Flush the toilet and wash your hands!
- Because I SAID so!
- Just because, that's why.
- You're grounded.
- Just do it, OR ELSE.
- Eat it, or you can leave the table. (OK! I'm outta here!!!!)
- "Eat it, or you'll go without" (Sounds good to me!)
- If you lose that, I'm taking it away from you!

- "How do you know you don't like it if you haven't tried it?"
- You don't have to like it ... you HAVE to eat it!
- Look, your father and I are eating it...
- ONE..TWO....THREE.....FOUR..... - oh oh, now she means business!!!
- Because I said so, that's why. When you get married and have kids you'll understand.
- Never mind me, I'll just stay at home in the dark and listen to the radio. Have a good time.
- No, you can't go barefoot until it gets warmer.
- "Hey" is for horses.
- If you write the thank you note now, you'll get it over with.
- Just hold your nose and you can't taste the cough syrup at all.
- Let me kiss it and make it better.
- [your first name] [your middle name] [your last name] [many !!!!s] = Uh oh. You're in trouble!
- Carrots are good for your eyes.
- But Popeye eats all his spinach!
- Here comes the airplane/train (actually, a spoon with a wretched object upon it)!
- Eat all your dinner or NO dessert.
- You COME when I call YOU, you HEAR????!!!
- Go to your room and don't come out until I say so.
- I'm very disappointed in you.
- I can't believe you lost it. You'd lose your head if it wasn't screwed on tight.
- No, because if we get a puppy then I'LL end up walking and bathing and feeding it.
- Kootchie coo!
- Mind the babysitter. We'll be back soon! Love you! Be good!
- Electrical sockets are not for baby.
- That's just for looks.
- Don't put that UGH!!!! in your MOUTH!
- Who squirted toothpaste all over the rug? I'm going to count to three....
- Cut it out! I swear you kids are going to drive me crazy one day.
- That's what you're doing, isn't it? Trying to drive me crazy!
- It's bea--YOO-tiful! Show Daddy! (a crayon artwork masterpiece was displayed proudly)
- No, you did not wash your hands. Never mind how I know. Now, go and wash your hands. USE SOAP THIS TIME!
- NO.
- Sit up straight.
- I don't care what the other kids are wearing. No child of mine is going to wear his pants backwards, a hat inside a house, a nose ring, a rattail, an X shirt, his shoelaces untied, underwear on the outside of her clothing, or a mini skirt.
- What is it, Halloween?
- Eat your cabbage.
- Of course you're going to church.
- You can do much better than "C"'s, God gave you a good brain.
- Stop slouching.
- Don't slam the door. Come back here and close it nicely.

- Do you know what happened to all the cookies?
- Don't sit so close to the TV, you'll ruin your eyes!
- I don't know how you can read or watch that trash.
- In my day, we walked uphill ten miles to school in the snow--BOTH WAYS! With NO shoes!!
- A little hard work never killed anybody.
- Rise and shine! The early bird catches the worm!
- The other children aren't laughing AT you, they are laughing WITH you!
- You tell that bully to leave you alone or you'll tell the teacher on him!
- Go to your thinking spot and think about what you did for ten minutes.
- (Uses embarrassing nickname in front of your friends.)
- I'll tuck you in in just a second, OKAY GIVE ME A MINUTE.
- Stop running in the house!
- Did I raise you kids in a barn?
- Look at this mess!
- Tidy your room, you'd think a little pig lived here.
- Hang up your clothes!
- Your father is a busy man.
- Take out the trash.
- Look both ways before crossing the street.
- Watch your little brother for me while I go to the store.
- Say You're sorry.
- Put it back.
- Put that down.
- Hold the baby kitty like THIS, not by it's tail.
- Come here. Come here. COME HERE I SAID.
- I won't tell you again! - good!
- When I was a kid seeing a movie cost only 5 cents.
- Remember, if you tell daddy, I'll have to kill you
- What's for dinner? ---It's a surprise!
- Why didn't you go before we got in the car?
- I don't care what your friend has, you aren't getting one!
- No, and that's final!
- One more word out of you kids and there'll be trouble.
- Cut it out right this minute.
- I have eyes in the back of my head, that's how.
- Stop bugging your little sister.
- What do you say?
- What's the magic word?
- Say "excuse me".
- Eat your peas, there are children starving in China.
- Half begun is half done.
- Don't lie to me young man/lady!
- Go scrub that paint off your face this instant.
- That bathing suit's too skimpy, hon. Try this one.
- Purple's not your color, you look sallow.

- Now son, parkas will never go out of style. See, it matched your wide corduroy trousers with the flares I got you last week!
- Cut your hair! You look like a hippie. No son of mine is going to walk around looking like a Yeti.
- Stand up straight and stop slouching.
- A little bit of hard work never hurt anyone.
- Save a lot, spend a little.
- Don't run with that -- you'll poke your eye out.
- We worried sick!
- What will the neighbours think?
- Is having a good time all you think about?
- You're no child of mine!!!
- Well...What seems to be the problem with you?
- I give you a simple job to do, and you can't even do it!
- You're going to enjoy this holiday if I have to break every bone in your body!
- This is the worst looking pig sty I have ever seen!
- Do you know how many HOURS I was in labour with you???
- I slave for hours over a hot stove and this is the thanks I get?!
- Eat it and don't argue, it's good for you.
- Are you really going to wear that?
- I thought these shoes were ugly, so I knew you'd like them.
- It's always fun until somebody gets hurt.
- Turn the music off! I SAID TURN THE MUSIC OFF!
- I hate computers.
- You did WHAT!

## Notes from Washington D.C.

- If it's worth fighting for, it's worth fighting dirty for.
- Don't lie, cheat or steal unnecessarily.
- There is always one more son of a bitch than you counted on.
- An honest answer can get you into a lot of trouble.
- The facts, although interesting, are irrelevant.
- Chicken Little only has to be right once.
- "NO" is only an interim response.
- You can't kill a bad idea.
- If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you ever tried.
- The truth is a variable.
- A porcupine with his quills down is just another fat rodent.
- You can agree with any concept or notional future option, in principle, but fight implementation every step of the way.
- A promise is not a guarantee.
- If you can't counter the argument, leave the meeting.

## Top biblical ways to acquire a wife

- Find an attractive prisoner of war, bring her home, shave her head, trim her nails, and give her new clothes. Then she's yours. -- *Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 21:11-13)*
- Find a man with seven daughters, and impress him by watering his flock. -- *Moses (Exodus 2:16-21)*
- Purchase a piece of property, and get a woman as part of the deal. -- *Boaz (Ruth 4:5 10)*
- Go to a party and hide. When the women come out to dance, grab one and carry her off to be your wife. -- *Benjaminites (Judges 21:19-25)*
- Have God create a wife for you while you sleep. Note: this will cost you a rib. -- *Adam (Genesis 2:19-24)*
- Agree to work seven years in exchange for a woman's hand in marriage. Get tricked into marrying the wrong woman. Then work another seven years for the woman you wanted to marry in the first place. (That's right: fourteen years of toil for a woman.) -- *Jacob (Genesis 29:15-30)*
- Even if no one is out there, just wander around a bit and you'll definitely find someone. (It's all relative of course.) -- *Cain (Genesis 4:16-17)*
- Become the emperor of a huge nation and hold a beauty contest. -- *Xerxes or Ahasuerus (Esther 2:3-4)*
- When you see someone you like, go home and tell your parents, "I have seen a...woman; now get her for me." If your parents question your decision, simply say, "Get her for me. She's the one for me." -- *Samson (Judges 14:1-3)*
- Kill any husband and take HIS wife. (Prepare to lose four sons though.) -- *David (2 Samuel 11)*
- Wait for your brother to die. Take his widow. (It's not just a good idea, it's the law). -- *Onan and Boaz (Deuteronomy or Leviticus, example in Ruth)*
- Don't be so picky. Make up for quality with quantity. -- *Solomon (1 Kings 11:1-3)*

## Philosophies to start the week with

- If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
- A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
- Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism.
- He who hesitates is probably right.
- No one is listening until you make a mistake.
- Success always occurs in private, and failure in full view.
- The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
- The severity of the itch is proportional to the reach.
- Two wrongs are only the beginning.
- Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7th of your life.
- The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
- The light at the end of the tunnel is the headlight of an approaching train.

## Ineffective daily affirmations

- As I let go of my feelings of guilt, I can get in touch with my Inner Sociopath.
- I have the power to channel my imagination into ever-soaring levels of suspicion and paranoia.
- I assume full responsibility for my actions, except the ones that are someone else's fault.
- I no longer need to punish, deceive or compromise myself. Unless, of course, I want to stay employed.
- In some cultures what I do would be considered normal.
- Having control over myself is nearly as good as having control over others.
- My intuition nearly makes up for my lack of good judgment.
- I can change any thought that hurts into a reality that hurts even more.
- I honor my personality flaws, for without them I would have no personality at all.
- Joan of Arc heard voices too.
- I am grateful that I am not as judgmental as all those censorious, self-righteous people around me.
- I need not suffer in silence while I can still moan, whimper and complain.
- As I learn the innermost secrets of the people around me, they reward me in many ways to keep me quiet.
- When someone hurts me, forgiveness is cheaper than a lawsuit. But not nearly as gratifying.
- The first step is to say nice things about myself. The second, to do nice things for myself. The third, to find someone to buy me nice things.
- As I learn to trust the universe, I no longer need to carry a gun.
- All of me is beautiful and valuable, even the ugly, stupid, and disgusting parts.
- I am at one with my duality.
- Blessed are the flexible, for they can tie themselves into knots.
- I will strive to live each day as if it were my 40th birthday.
- Only a lack of imagination saves me from immobilizing myself with imaginary fears.
- Does my quiet self-pity get to me? Yes? Or should I move up to incessant nagging?
- I honor and express all facets of my being, regardless of state and local laws.
- Today I will gladly share my experience and advice, for there are no sweeter words than "I told you so."
- False hope is nicer than no hope at all.
- A good scapegoat is nearly as welcome as a solution to the problem.
- Just for today, I will not sit in my living room all day watching TV. Instead I will move my TV into the bedroom.
- Who can I blame for my own problems? Give me just a minute...I'll find someone.
- Why should I waste my time reliving the past when I can spend it worrying about the future?
- The complete lack of evidence is the surest sign that the conspiracy is working.
- I am learning that criticism is not nearly as effective as sabotage.
- Becoming aware of my character defects leads me to the next step --blaming my parents.
- To understand all is to fear all.

- I will find humor in my everyday life by looking for people I can laugh at.
- The next time the universe knocks on my door, I will pretend I am not home.
- When I dance through life I do the Texas Two-Step.
- My body is a temple. Do you want to come over for midnight mass?
- To have a successful relationship I must learn to make it look like I'm giving as much as I'm getting.
- I am willing to make the mistakes if someone else is willing to learn from them.

## High tech computer sales jargon

New	Different color from previous design
All New	Parts not interchangeable with previous design
Exclusive	Imported product
Unmatched	Almost as good as the competition
Designed Simplicity	Manufacturer's cost cut to the bone
Foolproof Design	No provision for adjustments
Advanced Design	The advertising agency doesn't understand it
It's Here At Last	Rush job; Nobody knew it was coming
Field-Tested	Manufacturer lacks test equipment
High Accuracy	Unit on which all parts fit
Direct Sales Only	Factory had big argument with distributor
Years of Development	We finally got one that works
Revolutionary	It's different from our competitors
Breakthrough	We finally figured out a way to sell it
Futuristic	No other reason why it looks the way it does
Distinctive	A different shape and color than the others
Maintenance Free	Impossible to fix
Re-Designed	Previous faults corrected, we hope....
Hand Crafted	Assembly machines operated without gloves on
Performance Proven	Will operate though the warranty expired
Meets all standards	OURS, not yours
All Solid State	Heavy as all get out
Broadcast Quality	Gives a picture and produces noise
High Reliability	We made it work long enough to ship it
SMPTE Bus Compatible	When completed, will be shipped by greyhound
New Generation	Old design failed, maybe this one will work
MIL-SPEC Components	We got a good deal at a government auction
Customer Service Across The Country	You can return it from most airports
Unprecedented Performance	Nothing we ever had before worked THIS way
Built to Precision Tolerances	We finally got it to fit together
Satisfaction Guaranteed	Manufacturer's upon cashing your check
Microprocessor Controlled	Does things we can't explain
Latest Areospace Technology	One of our techs was laid off by Boeing



## All-purpose businessman's vocabulary

- A CONSULTANT - Any ordinary guy with a briefcase more than 50 miles from home.
- AN EXPERT - A person who avoids all small errors and sweeps toward the grand fallacy.
- A STATISTICIAN - One who draws a mathematically precise line from an unwarranted assumption to a foregone conclusion.
- A COLLEAGUE - Someone called in at the last minute to share the blame.
- A RELIABLE SOURCE - The guy you just met.
- AN INFORMED SOURCE - The guy who told the guy you just met.
- AN UNIMPEACHABLE SOURCE - The guy who started the rumor originally.
- A MEETING - A mass mulling of master-minds.
- A CONFERENCE - A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labor and the loneliness of thought.
- A PROGRAM - Any assignment that can't be completed by one telephone call.
- CHANNELS - The guy who has a desk between two expeditors.
- TO ACTIVATE - To make copies and add more names to the memo.
- TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM - Hire more people and expand the office.
- TO RESEARCH - Go looking for the jerk who moved the files.
- TO GIVE SOMEONE THE PICTURE - To present a long, confused and inaccurate statement to a newcomer.
- TO CLARIFY - To fill in the background with so many details that the foreground goes underground.

## Why men should be built by Fuji

- They would automatically shut off when they weren't being used;
- You wouldn't have to wait for them to recharge after each shot;
- They last longer and come with a warranty;
- You can try them out first for a two-week trial period and return them if not satisfied with no risks or hassle;
- They exist to capture the moment, not ruin it;
- They come in fashion colors;
- You can keep them in maximum zoom;
- They come with replacable or adjustable parts;
- The parts that counts are portable;
- They don't mind over-exposure;
- They respond to the slightest touch;
- The one you want is available at a KMART near you;

## Rules of cricket

1. There are two sides, one out in the field and one in.
2. Each man that's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out he comes back in and the next man goes in, (that is out) until he's out at which point he comes in.
3. When all the men in the side that's in are out, the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in out. Sometimes you get men still in and not out!
4. When both sides have been in and out including the not outs, that's the end of the game. Unless the game is washed out, in which case no one gets to go in, but everyone stays inside and no one gets out.
5. The bowling takes place in overs, in which the bowler can hurl the ball as fast as he can at the wicket to get the batsman out, and the batsman who is in tries to hit the ball as hard as he can. They seem to enjoy this sort of thing, though no one knows how the ball feels about it all.
6. An over lasts six balls, after which the over is over, unless it is Australian, when there are two more balls before the over is really over.
7. Each match takes five days. It takes this long because they need time to figure out who is in, i.e. out, and who is out, i.e. in, and who is not out, but not yet in.
8. There are one-day matches, which oddly are usually played at night these days (which may make you wonder why they don't call them one-night matches), in which everyone is in a hurry to get in and stay out.

## Strangest U.S. laws

### Alabama

- In Jasper, it is illegal for a husband to beat his wife with a stick larger in diameter than his thumb.
- It is illegal to play Dominos on Sunday.
- It is illegal to wear a fake moustache that causes laughter in church.
- Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.

### Alaska

- In Fairbanks, it is illegal to feed alcoholic beverages to a moose.
- While it is legal to shoot bears, waking sleeping bears for the purpose of taking a photograph is prohibited.

### Arizona

- In Tucson, it is illegal for women to wear pants.
- In Globe, it is illegal to play cards in the street with a Native American.
- In Glendale, it is illegal to drive a car in reverse.
- In Nogales, it is illegal to wear suspenders.

### Arkansas

- A man can legally beat his wife, but not more than once a month.
- In Fayetteville, it is illegal to kill "any living creature."
- Schoolteachers who bob their hair may forfeit their pay raises.
- Flirtation between men and women on the streets of Little Rock may result in a 30-day jail term.

## California

- In Los Angeles, a man may legally beat his wife with a leather strap, as long as it is less than two inches wide, or she gives him permission to use a wider strap.
- It is a misdemeanor to shoot at any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless the target is a whale.
- In Pacific Grove, "molesting" butterflies can result in a \$500 fine.
- In Pasadena, it is illegal for a secretary to be alone in a room with her boss.
- It is illegal to set a mousetrap without a hunting license.
- In Long Beach, it is illegal to curse on a mini-golf course.
- In San Francisco, it is illegal to wipe one's car with used underwear.
- It is illegal to cry on the witness stand in Los Angeles courts.

## Colorado

- In Durango, it is illegal to go out in public dressed in clothing "unbecoming" one's sex.
- In Logan County, it is illegal for a man to kiss a woman while she is asleep.
- In Pueblo, it is illegal to let a dandelion grow within city limits.

## Connecticut

- In Hartford, it is illegal to educate a dog.
- It is illegal to dispose of used razor blades.
- In New Britain, the speed limit for fire trucks is 25 m.p.h., even when going to a fire.
- In Hartford, it is illegal for a man to kiss his wife on Sunday.

## Delaware

- In Lewes, it is illegal to wear pants that are "form-fitting" around the waist.
- Getting married on a dare is grounds for an annulment.
- It is illegal to fly over any body of water, unless one is carrying sufficient supplies of food and drink.

## Florida

- In Miami, it is illegal for a man to wear any kind of strapless gown.
- Unmarried women who parachute on Sundays may be jailed.
- In Sarasota, it is illegal to sing while wearing a bathing suit.

## Georgia

- All males in the state between the ages of 16 and 50 are required to work on public roads.
- In Columbus, it is illegal to sit on one's porch in an indecent position.
- In Quitman, it is illegal for a chicken to cross a road.
- It is illegal to change the clothes on a storefront mannequin unless the shades are down.

## Hawaii

- It is illegal to appear in public wearing only swimming trunks.
- It is illegal to own a mongoose without a permit.

## Idaho

- In Pocatello, "the carrying of concealed weapons is forbidden, unless same are exhibited to public view."
- Also in Pocatello, "It is prohibited for pedestrians and motorists to display frowns, grimaces, scowls, threatening and glowering looks, gloomy and depressed facial appearances, generally all of which reflect unfavorably upon the city's reputation."
- Boxes of candy given as romantic gifts must not weigh more than 50 pounds.

## Illinois

- In Chicago, people who are diseased, maimed, mutilated, or deformed to the point of being "an unsightly or disgusting object" are banned from going out in public.
- In Chicago, it is illegal to fish in one's pajamas.
- In Chicago, it is illegal to take a French poodle to the opera.
- According to state law, it is illegal to speak English. The officially recognized language is "American."
- In Guerne, it is illegal for women weighing more than 200 pounds to ride horses in shorts.
- In Joliet, it is illegal to mispronounce the name Joliet.

## Indiana

- Monkeys are forbidden to smoke cigarettes in South Bend.
- In Gary, it is illegal to attend the theater within four hours of eating garlic.
- The *Stepford Wives* is banned in Warsaw.

## Iowa

- State law forbids any establishment from charging admission to see a one-armed piano player.
- In Fort Madison, firemen are required to practice for 15 minutes before attending a fire.

## Kansas

- It is illegal for restaurants to sell cherry pie a la mode on Sundays.
- In Wichita, a man's mistreatment of his mother-in-law may not be used as grounds for divorce.
- In Wichita, it is illegal to carry a concealed bean snapper.
- In Lang, it is illegal to ride a mule down Main Street in August, unless the animal is wearing a straw hat.
- In Natoma, it is illegal to throw a knife at anyone wearing a striped shirt.

## Kentucky

- It is illegal for a woman to appear in a bathing suit on a highway unless she is: escorted by at least two police officers; armed with a club; or lighter than 90 pounds or heavier than 200 pounds. The ordinance also specifically exempts female horses from such restrictions.
- State law stipulates that a person is considered sober until he or she "cannot hold onto the ground."
- It is illegal to remarry the same man four times.

## Louisiana

- In New Orleans, fire trucks are required by law to stop at all red lights.
- It is considered "simple assault" to bite someone in New Orleans; it is "aggravated assault" if the biter has false teeth.
- It is against the law to gargle in public.

## Maine

- In Portland, it is illegal for men to tickle women under the chin with feather dusters.
- The most money one can legally win gambling is three dollars.
- In Rumford, it is illegal for a tenant to bite his/her landlord.
- In Waterville, it is illegal to blow one's nose in public.

## Maryland

- In Baltimore, it is illegal to wash or scrub sinks, no matter how dirty they get.
- Every person who has bowled since 1833 may be fined \$2 for each offense.

- In Halethorpe, it is illegal to kiss for more than one second.
- It's illegal to mistreat oysters.
- It's illegal to play Randy Newman's "Short People" on the radio.

#### Massachusetts

- In Salem, even married couples are forbidden from sleeping in the nude in rented rooms.
- It is illegal to wear a goatee without a license.
- North Andover prohibits its citizens from carrying "space guns."
- State legislation forbids dueling with water pistols.
- In Boston, it is illegal to take a bath unless one has been ordered by a physician to do so.
- In 1659, the state outlawed Christmas.

#### Michigan

- In Clawson, it is legal for a farmer to "sleep with his pigs, cows, horses, goats, and chickens."
- A state law stipulates that a woman's hair legally belongs to her husband.
- In Detroit, it is illegal to make love in a car unless it is parked on your property.
- In Detroit, it is illegal to "ogle" a woman from a moving car.
- In Port Huron, the speed limit for ambulances is 20 m.p.h.
- Under state law, dentists are officially classified as "mechanics."

#### Minnesota

- Women may face up to 30 days in jail if they impersonate Santa Claus.
- In Minneapolis, double-parkers can be put on a chain gang.
- Every man in Brainerd is required by law to grow a beard.
- It's illegal to tease skunks.

#### Mississippi

- It is still legal to kill one's "servant."
- In Truro, a would-be groom must "prove himself manly" prior to marriage by hunting and killing either six blackbirds or three crows.

#### Missouri

- In Saco, women are forbidden from wearing hats that "might frighten timid persons, children or animals."
- In St. Louis, it is illegal for an on-duty firefighter to rescue a woman wearing a nightgown; in order to be rescued, a woman must be fully dressed.
- While children may purchase shotguns in Kansas City, they are not allowed to buy toy cap guns.
- Missouri considers drunkenness an "inalienable right."

#### Montana

- It is a felony for a wife to open her husband's mail.
- It is a misdemeanor to show movies that depict acts of felonious crime.
- In Whitehall, it is illegal to operate a vehicle with ice picks attached to the wheels.

#### Nebraska

- It is illegal for a mother to give her daughter a perm without a state license.
- In Waterloo, barbers are forbidden from eating onions between 7am and 7pm.
- In Omaha, barbers are forbidden from shaving their customers' chests.
- If a child burps during a church service in Omaha, his or her parents may be arrested.

- It is illegal for bar owners to sell beer unless they are simultaneously brewing a kettle of soup.

#### Nevada

- In Nyala, a man is forbidden from buying drinks for more than three people other than himself at any one period during the day.
- It is illegal to drive a camel on the highway.
- In Eureka, men who wear moustaches are forbidden from kissing women.
- Everyone walking on the streets of Elko is required to wear a mask.

#### NewHampshire

- It is illegal to sell the clothes one is wearing to pay off a gambling debt.
- It is illegal to check into a hotel under an assumed name.

#### NewJersey

- It is against the law to "frown" at a police officer.
- In Newark, it is illegal to sell ice cream after 6pm, unless the customer has a note from his doctor.
- It is illegal to slurp soup.
- In Trenton, it is illegal to throw a bad pickle in the street.

#### New Mexico

- In Raton, it is illegal for a woman to ride horseback down a public street with a kimono on.
- The *Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary* is banned in Carlsbad.
- State officials ordered 400 words of "sexually explicit material" to be cut from *Romeo and Juliet*.

#### NewYork

- In New York City, it is illegal for a woman to be on the street wearing "body hugging clothing."
- In New York City, it is illegal for a man to turn around and look "at a woman in that way," and violators are forced to wear horse blinders.
- In Staten Island, it is illegal for a father to call his son a "faggot" or "queer" in an effort to curb "girlie behavior."
- In New York City, "It is disorderly conduct for one man to greet another on the street by placing the end of his thumb against the tip of his nose, at the same time extending and wiggling the fingers of his hand."

#### NorthCarolina

- In Charlotte, women must have their bodies covered by at least 16 yards of cloth at all times.
- In Asheville, it is illegal to sneeze on city streets.
- Ironically, Hornytown has banned all massage parlors.
- State law mandates that all couples staying in rooms for one night must be kept in room with double beds, kept a minimum of two feet apart, and making love on the floor between the beds is strictly forbidden.
- It is illegal to have sex in a churchyard.

#### NorthDakota

- In Fargo, one may be jailed for wearing a hat while dancing, or even for wearing a hat to a function where dancing is taking place.
- It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep with your shoes on.
- It is illegal to serve beer and pretzels at the same time in any bar, club, or restaurant.

## Ohio

- In Cleveland, women are forbidden from wearing patent leather shoes, lest men see reflections of their underwear.
- In Columbus, it is illegal for stores to sell cornflakes on Sunday.
- In Oxford, it is illegal for a woman to disrobe in front of a man's picture.
- In Youngstown, it is illegal to run out of gas.
- *Catch 22* is banned in Strongsville.

## Oklahoma

- People who make "ugly faces" at dogs may be fined and/or jailed.
- Whale hunting is strictly forbidden
- In Schuler, it is illegal for a woman to gamble in the nude, in lingerie, or while wearing a towel.

## Oregon

- One may not bathe without wearing "suitable clothing," i.e., that which covers one's body from neck to knee.
- The town of Hood River prohibits the act of juggling without a license.
- Salem has barred women's wrestling.
- In Marion, ministers are forbidden from eating garlic or onions before delivering a sermon.

## Pennsylvania

- "Any motorist who sights a team of horses coming toward him must pull well off the road, cover his car with a blanket or canvas that blends with the countryside, and let the horses pass. If the horses appear skittish, the motorist must take his car apart, piece by piece, and hide it under the nearest bushes."
- In Morrisville, women need a permit to wear cosmetics.
- Ministers are forbidden from performing marriages when either the bride or groom is drunk.

## Rhode Island

- In Providence, it is illegal to sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same customer on a Sunday
- It is illegal to throw pickle juice on a trolley.
- In Newport, it is illegal to smoke a pipe after sunset.

## South Carolina

- Every citizen is obliged to carry his gun to church.
- No horses are allowed into Fountain Inn unless they are wearing pants.
- In Charleston, all carriage horses must wear diapers.

## South Dakota

- It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep in a cheese factory.
- Movies that show police officers being struck, beaten, or treated in an offensive manner are forbidden.

## Tennessee

- It is illegal to use a lasso to catch a fish.
- In Dyersburg, it is illegal for a woman to call a man for a date.
- In Memphis restaurants, it is illegal to give any pie to fellow diners. It is also illegal to take unfinished pie home. All pie must be eaten on the premises.
- Also in Memphis, it is illegal for a woman to drive by herself; "a man must walk or run in front of the vehicle, waving a red flag in order to warn approaching pedestrians and motorists."

## Texas

- The entire *Encyclopedia Britannica* is banned in Texas because it contains a formula for making beer at home.
- A recently passed anticrime law requires criminals to give their victims 24 hours notice, either orally or in writing, and to explain the nature of the crime to be committed.
- In El Paso, churches, hotels, halls of assembly, stores, markets, banking rooms, railroad depots, and saloons are required to provide spittoons "of a kind and number to efficiently contain excretions into them."
- It is illegal to milk another person's cow.
- In Houston, it is illegal to sell Limburger cheese on Sunday.
- In LeFors, it is illegal to take more than three swallows of beer while standing.
- In San Antonio, it is illegal for both sexes to flirt or respond to flirtation using the eyes and/or hands.
- In Mesquite, it is illegal for children to have unusual haircuts.

## Utah

- Birds have the right of way on all highways.
- A husband is responsible for every criminal act committed by his wife while she is in his presence.
- In Monroe, daylight must be visible between partners on a dance floor.

## Vermont

- Women must obtain written permission from their husbands to wear false teeth.
- It is illegal to deny the existence of God.
- It is illegal to whistle underwater.

## Virginia

- In Richmond, it is illegal to flip a coin in any eating establishment to determine who buys a cup of coffee.
- In Norfolk, a man may face 60 days in jail for patting a woman's derriere.
- There is a state law prohibiting "corrupt practices of bribery by any person other than candidates."
- In Lebanon, it is illegal to kick your wife out of bed.

## Washington

- In Seattle, women who sit on men's laps on buses or trains without placing a pillow between them face an automatic six-month jail term.
- In Auburn, men who deflower virgins, regardless of age or marital status, may face up to five years in jail.
- Seattle residents may not carry concealed weapons longer than six feet.
- It is illegal to pretend that one's parents are rich.

## West Virginia

- In Nicholas County, no clergy members may tell jokes or humorous stories from the pulpit during church services.
- Doctors and dentists may not place a woman under anesthesia unless a third person is present.
- It is illegal to snooze on a train.

## Wisconsin

- In St. Croix, women are not allowed to wear anything red in public.
- It is illegal to cut a woman's hair.
- It is illegal to kiss on a train.



- Cheese making requires a cheese maker's license; Limburger cheese making requires a master cheese maker's license.

#### Wyoming

- It is illegal to wear a hat that obstructs peoples' view in a public theater or place of amusement.
- It is illegal for women to stand within five feet of a bar while drinking.

## Tips

- AT party time, Cornflakes packets make ideal jelly moulds for anyone requiring large rectangular blocks of jelly. Although they do have the disadvantage of not being waterproof.
- OLD telephone directories make ideal personal address books. Simply cross out the names and address of people you don't know.
- AVOID over ordering milk by placing your fridge on the pavement just outside your gate. The milkman can then check your day-to-day requirement for himself.
- WHEN reading a book try tearing out the pages as you read them. This saves the expense of buying a bookmark, and the pages can later be used for shopping lists.
- A TEASPOON placed in a glass on the back seat of your car makes a handy audible gauge for road bump severity.
- BUS DRIVERS. Pretend you're an airline pilot by wedging your accelerator pedal down with a heavy book, securing the steering wheel with some old rope, and then strolling back along the bus chatting casually to the passengers.
- LOOK 'hard' on train journeys by saving up all your empty beer cans for a month and then lining them up on the table in front of you.
- FOOL other drivers into thinking you have an expensive car phone by holding an old TV or video remote control up to your ear and occasionally swerving across the road and mounting the kerb.
- WHEN out driving always turn left. Then, should you become lost, you can find your way home by reversing the procedure and always turning right.
- DRILL a one inch diameter hole in your refrigerator door. This will allow you to check that the light goes off when the door is closed.
- SAVE petrol by pushing your car to your destination. Invariably passers-by will think you've broken down and help.
- BOMB disposal experts' wives. Keep hubby on his toes by packing his lunch box with plasticine and an old alarm clock.
- OLD folks. Avoid confusion between these new 'microwave' ovens and televisions by cutting out a large letter 'M' in brightly coloured paper, and sticking it to the door of the oven.
- TEENAGERS. Fed up with posters falling off the wall? Simply file them in a filing cabinet under 'P' and you'll know exactly where to find them if you want a quick look.
- SAVE money on doorbell batteries by removing them and simply popping to the door every two minutes to see if anyone is there.
- SAVE electricity by turning off all the lights in your house and walking around wearing a miner's hat.
- DON'T fork out on expensive smoke alarms. simply fill balloons with water and hang them from the ceiling. Then cover the floor with air-filled balloons, each with

a drawing pin stuck to the top. In the event of a fire the temperature will cause the air-filled balloons to rise up from the floor, and the pins will burst the water-filled balloons, thus extinguishing the fire. Probably.

- RE-SPRAYING your car? Cover it with 'Cling Film' first. If you don't like the new colour, simply peel it off and start again.
- BUY a television set exactly like your neighbours. Then annoy them by standing outside their window and changing their channel using your identical remote control.
- LOSE weight quickly by eating raw pork or rancid tuna. I found that the subsequent food poisoning/diarrhoea enabled me to lose 12 pounds in only 2 days.
- IF a small child is choking on an ice cube, don't panic. Make the child drink as many hot drinks as possible, such as tea or coffee, and within minutes the blockage will have simply melted away.
- WHEN throwing someone a sharp instrument such as a Stanley knife, or bread knife, always throw it blade first as they invariably tend to turn whilst in the air.
- AVOID being wheel clamped by jacking your car up, removing the wheels and locking them safely in the boot until you return.
- SMELL gas? Locate the suspected leak by striking an ordinary match in every room in the house until a loud explosion reveals the source of the escaping gas.
- AVOID parking tickets by leaving your windscreen wipers turned to 'fast wipe' whenever you leave your car parked illegally.
- PENSIONERS. Try sitting on a pile of encyclopaedias next time you go for a drive in your car. That way you will be able to see out of the front window.
- SAVE the cost of installing cable TV by taping current editions of Top Of The Pops and then watching them in fifteen years' time.
- OLD contact lenses make ideal 'portholes' for small model boats.
- KEEP a hammer close to your bed in case any nails fall out of the ceiling at night.
- INCREASE the life of your carpets by rolling them up and keeping them in the garage.
- NEVER attempt to fasten your shoe laces in a revolving supermarket door.
- SAVE time by only looking one way when crossing a one way street.
- TAKE your dustbin to the supermarket with you so that you can see which items you have recently run out of.
- MAKE shopkeepers feel like criminals and con men by carefully checking their change and holding bank notes up to the light before accepting them.
- SAVE on charity donations by spending a pound on clothes at a charity shop, then selling them for 50p to another charity shop. This way you can give twice as much, at half the cost. I think.
- NO TIME for a bath? Wrap yourself in masking tape and remove the dirt by simply peeling it off.
- EXPENSIVE hair gels are a con. Marmalade is a much cheaper alternative, but beware of bees in the summer.
- GIVE your friends the impression that you wear contact lenses by blinking frequently midway through conversations, and stopping to carefully pull at your lower eyelids.
- ALWAYS look both ways when crossing a one way street just in case a blue lorry is reversing down the street the wrong way.

- WIG wearers. Secure your toupee in high winds by wearing a brightly coloured party hat with elasticated chin strap. Carry a balloon and a bottle of wine and you'll pass off as an innocent party-goer.
- APPLY red nail varnish to your nails before clipping them. The red nails will be much easier to spot on your bathroom carpet. (Unless you have a red carpet, in which case a contrasting varnish should be selected).
- PUTTING just the right amount of gin in your goldfish bowl makes the fishes' eyes bulge and causes them to swim in an amusing manner.
- WEIGH your pet by first weighing yourself, then weighing yourself again, this time carrying your pet. Deduct the first weight from the second to reveal your pet's weight. (If weighing goldfish, remember to make an allowance for the weight of the bowl and the water).
- MUMS! when clearing up after a children's party, always burst balloons before throwing them away. This way you use far fewer dustbin liners.
- HOLIDAYMAKERS. Avoid the need to pack bulky shampoo bottles, which can leak in your suitcase, by arranging for the whole family to have 'skinhead' haircuts a day or two before departure.
- PLASTIC tops from smartie tubes make ideal Frisbees for a pet gerbil, or hamster.
- OLD folks. Foil the VAT man this winter by clambering up on top of a bookcase, cupboard or wardrobe. Warm air rises, and so the temperature will increase the higher you climb.
- FUN-sized Mars bars make ideal normal-sized Mars bars, for dwarfs.
- GARDENERS. Wrap seedling potatoes in a wire mesh before planting. Hey presto! Ready cut chips at harvest time.
- PRETEND you're a giant panda by giving yourself two black eyes, eating bamboo shoots and refusing to have sex with your wife.
- BEE keepers. Keep bee hives in strawberry fields to get jam instead of honey.
- PRETEND your house is a pub by stubbing out cigarettes on the carpet, watering your cans of beer and kicking your wife out into the garden at 11:30.
- KEEP monkeys out of your kitchen by hiding bananas on top of a wardrobe in your bedroom.
- PEOPLE whose surname is Toblerone should always take along an empty 'Toblerone' chocolate box when attending interviews for office jobs. This would save your potential employer the expense of having to make a name triangle for your desk, and therefore increase your chances of getting the job.
- BEER bottle tops floated upside down in the bath, make ideal 'dinghies' for spiders. Flies can also use them as aircraft carriers.
- EAT moderate amounts of food daily so that you do not become too overweight. Then, in the event of collapsing in a toilet cubicle, a passer-by will be able to drag you out through the 6 inch gap under the door and walls.

## Why dogs are better than men

- They don't snore.
- They don't complain when you go shopping.
- They always think you are beautiful.
- They never tell you that you are fat.

- The don't hog the remote.
- They don't pull the covers off you each night.
- The love it when you scratch their tummy.
- The don't bring other girls home.
- The don't play golf.
- The jump up and down when you come home.
- The don't throw dirty clothes on the floor.
- They always listen.
- They appreciate you for your self.
- They always love you.
- They help you clean the floor after meals.

## Why dogs are better than women

- They don't cry and make you feel guilty.
- They don't mind when your friends come over.
- They don't care if you use their shampoo.
- They think you sing great.
- Their time in the bathroom is limited to a quick drink.
- They like it when you leave lots of things (toys) lying around the house.
- They don't expect you to call when you are running late.
- When you are late, They get more excited to see you.
- When they see another gorgeous dog they don't hate you or her.
- They don't shop.
- Their disposition remains the same throughout the month.
- They never seek to examine the relationship.
- They love beer.
- They understand that all smaller animals are meant to be hunted.
- They love it when you bring another girl home.