

LANGUAGE IS FASCINATING

I find humour that's about language particularly fascinating and as we have all become very reliant on our PC spell check facility I'm sure that you will agree that we need to be careful not to become too reliant on it. I remember being good at mental arithmetic until I mastered the art of using a calculator!

Spell Checker

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plain lea marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a quay and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
It's letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me so.

You could argue that all humour is about language or the misuse of language, yet some humour is ONLY about language. This humour includes; double entendres (double meanings) of words, interpretations of words, puns (when one word sounds like another but has a different meaning.)

So here we give you a few examples on how language itself creates humour.

A neighbour had been teaching her three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after her mother the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo.

Her mother listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail."

Funny Quotes

In England, an elevator is called a lift, a mile is called a kilometre, and botulism is called a steak and kidney pie. (Greg Daniels)

We didn't have metaphors in my day. We didn't beat around the bush. (Fred Truman)

20 Reasons Why English is difficult to learn

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full that they had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture.
5. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
6. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?
7. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
8. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
9. I did not object to the object.
10. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
11. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
12. They were too close to the door to close it.
13. The buck does funny things when the does are present.
14. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
15. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
16. The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
17. After a number of injections, my jaw got number.
18. Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.
19. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
20. There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

Oxymorons

An oxymoron, according to the dictionary is "a figure of speech in which contradictory ideas or terms are combined" (For example: "sweet sorrow")

Here are our top 15 in reverse order:

15. Exact estimate
14. Pretty ugly
13. Political science
12. Computer security
11. Temporary tax increase
10. Peace force
9. Taped Live
8. Clearly misunderstood
7. Childproof
6. "Now, then ..."
5. Software documentation
4. Military Intelligence
3. Government organisation
2. Good Grief
1. And the Number One, top oxymoron... Microsoft Works! (You can tell we are Mac users!) (