

The things they say...

We offer £20 shopping vouchers for the senders of the best anecdotes and jokes in each issue. Email them to the editor, Paul Liptrot, at editor@call-centre-europe.com. You can also fax to 01932 240294. We always respect requests for anonymity – but we'll need your name and address for the gift vouchers!

WHY TEACHERS DRINK

Where was Hadrian's Wall built?
"Around Hadrian's garden"

What is a vibration?
"There are good vibrations and bad vibrations. Good vibrations were discovered in the 1960s."

Briefly explain what hard water is.
"Ice."

What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?
"He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for bicycles."

What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?
"Unusual names."

Name one of the early Roman's greatest achievements.
"Learning to speak Latin."

Name six animals which live specifically in the Arctic.
"Two polar bears.
"Three Four seals."

Name the wife of Orpheus, whom he attempted to save from the underworld.
"Mrs Orpheus."

Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?
"At the bottom."

What is the meaning of the word 'varicose'?
"Close by."

What is a fibula?
"A little lie."

Explain the phrase 'free press'.
"When your mum irons your trousers for you."

Steve is driving his car. He is travelling at 60 feet/second and the speed limit is 40mph. Is Steve speeding?
"He could find out be checking his speedometer."

John Caton

MISCELLANY

I drink on only two occasions: when it's my birthday and when it's not.

My doctor has just diagnosed me with colour blindness. It hit me like a bolt out of the grey.

WHAT THOSE JOB ADVERTS REALLY MEAN

Competitive salary

We remain competitive by paying less than our competitors

Join our fast-paced team

We have no time to train you

Casual work atmosphere

We don't pay you enough to expect that you'll dress up; well, a couple of the really daring guys wear earrings

Some overtime required

Some time each night and some time each weekend

Duties will vary

Anyone on the office can boss you around

Must have an eye for detail

We have no quality control

Career-minded

Female applicants must be childless (and remain that way)

Seeking candidates with a wide variety of experience

You'll need it to replace the three people who just left

Problem-solving skills a must

You're walking into a company in perpetual chaos

Requires team leadership skills

You'll have the responsibilities of a manager without the pay or respect

From: *Laugh on the Loo, Ginger Fox/ Marks & Spencer*

That money talks, I can't deny I heard it once; it said 'goodbye'

Did you hear about the paper cowboy? He got done for rustling

Name and address supplied

ANIMAL CRACKERS

An elephant is drinking out of a river when he spots a turtle asleep on a log. The elephant ambles over and kicks the unsuspecting turtle clear across the river.

Passing giraffe: "Why did you do that?"

Elephant: "Because I recognised it as the same turtle that took a nip out of my trunk 47 years ago."

Giraffe: "Wow, what a memory!"

Elephant: "Yes. Turtle recall."

Name and address supplied

WARTIME VERSE

Ships of steel for even keel need tons and tons of corset steel
Army trucks if they're to hurdle need the rubber of the girdle.

The time has come, the gods have written,
Women now must bulge for Britain!

Name and address supplied

SLEEPY TIME

A man and a woman, who have never met before, find themselves assigned to the same sleeping compartment on a long train journey.

Though initially embarrassed and uneasy over sharing a room, the two are tired and fall asleep quickly...he in the upper bunk and she in the lower.

At 1am, he leans over the side and says: "I'm sorry to bother you, but would you be willing to reach into the closet to get me a second blanket? I'm awfully cold."

Woman: "I have a better idea. Just for tonight, let's pretend that we're married."

Man: "Wow! That's a great idea!"

Woman: "Good. Get your own damn blanket!"

Name and address supplied

ENGLISH ODDITIES

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes

But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes

One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese

Yet the plural of moose should never be meese

You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice

Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice

If the plural of man is always called men,

Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?

If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,

And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?

If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,

Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and three would be those

Yet hat in the plural would never be hose

And the plural of cat is cats, not cose
We speak of a brother and also of brethren

But though we say mother, we never say methren

Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him

But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim

We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes

We find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square

And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?

Courtesy: JumboJoke

SPACE FRIGHT

Ladies and gentlemen, this is your robot pilot speaking.

Welcome aboard our very first Moon Express transit. We hope to make your journey as comfortable as possible on this shuttle, which is the result of the very best in aviation technology. We assure you of 100 per cent top-rate computer technology in this craft, eliminating any possibility of human error human error human error...

Name and address supplied

FAMILY FUN

One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sports shirt.

Husband: "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

Me: "It depends. What does it say on your shirt?"

Husband: "Manchester United".

My small grandson got lost in a shopping centre.

He approached a security guard and said: "I've lost my Granddad."

Guard: "What's his name?"

Child: "Granddad."

Guard (smiling): "But what's he like?"

Child (after some thought): "Red wine and pretty girls."

Name and address supplied