Now That’s Incredible!
A compilation of Fun Facts About
Our Crazy, Mixed-Up World

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Hey mom, how about closing that window!?

In Detroit in the 1930s, a baby fell from a high window and landed on a man called Joseph Figlock who was passing below. Both survived the incident.

BUT... about a year later, the SAME baby fell from the SAME window and, get this, he landed on the SAME guy!

Again, both Figlock and the baby lived to tell the tale(s).

A couple of funnies from comedian Ronnie Shakes...

- “After 12 years of therapy, my psychiatrist said something that brought tears to my eyes. He said, ‘No hablo ingles.’”

- “I spend money with reckless abandon. Last month I blew $5,000 at a reincarnation seminar. I thought, ‘What the hell, you only live once.’”

- “My doctor gave me two weeks to live. I hope they’re in August.”
In 2001, Indian Railways cited over 14 million people for not having a ticket. (To put this in perspective, however, it’s worth noting that they transport 30 million passengers daily!)

“In the beginning there was nothing. God said, "Let there be light!" And there was light. There was still nothing, but you could see it a whole lot better.”

-- Ellen DeGeneres

Only four countries in the world have single-syllable names: France, Spain, Greece, and Chad.

Guinness stout is brewed in over 50 countries around the world, and sold in more than 150 countries. About 5.5 million pints (2.6 million liters) of Guinness is consumed every day.

Sláinte!

“I met a new girl at a barbecue, very pretty, a blonde I think. I don’t know, her hair was on fire. And all she talked about was herself. You know these kind of girls: ‘I’m hot. I’m on fire. Me, me, me.’ You know. ‘Help me, put me out.’ Come on, could we talk about me just a little bit?”

-- Garry Shandling

There are at least 8,000 man-made objects orbiting the Earth

Some Thoughts On Marriage...

- “Marriage is the triumph of imagination over intelligence. Second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience.” (Anon.)
- “Before marriage, a man yearns for the woman he loves. After marriage, the ‘y’ becomes silent.” (Anon.)

Q. What’s the largest know volcano in the solar system?

A. Olympus Mons, on Mars.

It’s 14 miles (22 km) high and 388 miles (624 km) wide. It’s almost three times higher than Mount Everest, and wide enough to cover Arizona. The city of London would easily fit inside the crater at the top.

However, because of its wide base, climbing to the top of Olympus Mons – while tiresome – wouldn’t require any mountaineering experience.

![Olympus Mons as Seen From a Helicopter.](image)

When the US Secret Service was first established (back in 1865), its job wasn’t to spy on foreign enemies. Instead, it was founded with the aim of combating the counterfeiting of money.

This is less surprising when you consider that, at the end of the American Civil War, around 40% of paper currency in circulation was counterfeit.

Some Demetri Martin Funnies

- “If I have to move up in a building, I choose the elevator over the escalator. Because one time I was riding the escalator and I tripped. I fell down the stairs for an hour and a half.”
- "I was on the street. This guy waved to me, and he came up to me and said, "I'm sorry, I thought you were someone else." And I said, "I am.""

- "I went into a clothes store and a lady came up to me and said, "If you need anything, I'm Jill". I've never met anyone with a conditional identity before."

- "I wrapped my Christmas presents early this year, but I used the wrong paper. See, the paper I used said 'Happy Birthday' on it. I didn't want to waste it so I just wrote 'Jesus' on it."

- "'Sort of' is such a harmless thing to say... Sort of. It's just filler. Sort of. It doesn't really mean anything. But after certain things, 'sort of' means everything. Like after "I love you" or "You're going to live" or "It's a boy!"

- "I feel stupid when I write the word 'banana'. Its like, how many na's are on this thing? I'm like 'Bana...' Keep going... 'Bananana...' Damn!"

When George W. Bush introduced a tax cut in 2001, it added over 14,300 pages to the US tax Code.

- "Michael Jackson’s album was only called 'Bad' because there wasn’t enough room on the sleeve for 'Pathetic.'"

  -- Prince

You may be familiar with the 1981 movie “Escape to Victory”.

Set during World War II, it featured a group of Allied prisoners of war (played by Sylvester Stallone, Michael Caine, and Pelé amongst others) who passed the time in their Nazi prison camp by playing soccer.

Anyway, their Nazi overlords – seeing an opportunity for a bit of positive propaganda – assembled their best soccer players, and challenged the Allies to a game. (Didn’t they know who Pelé was!)

The Allies – not being too pushed about winning the game -- saw this as an opportunity to escape from the prison camp.
Well, to cut a long story short, they had the perfect opportunity to make their escape at half time, but being the competitive types decided to return and play the second half just to show them Nazis.

Following a second half packed with attempted Nazi cheating – and glorious Allied slow-motion moves – the good guys came out on top. Then they escaped.

So, why am I telling you this?

Well, that movie is loosely based on a true story. And, when I saw ‘loosely’, I mean really loosely. Hollywood style loosely.

First off, the matches were between the Nazis and a group of Ukrainian players -- and took place during the Nazi occupation of that country.

The Ukrainians were clearly superior to the occupiers, because they beat them easily over several matches – the last result being an 8 – 0 demolition job.

Unfortunately, the Nazis didn’t like this kind of thing, so the Gestapo got involved.

The good folk at the Gestapo arrested and tortured most of the Ukrainian players. One of them died during this. Those who survived were shipped off to work camp – and were ultimately executed.

Nobody escaped.

Up to World War I, the German company Bayer owned the “Aspirin” trademark. Following the war, it was given to the Allies as reparation in the Treaty of Versailles.

Are you sure you’ll be back in a jiffy?

As it happens, a ‘jiffy’ is a real unit of time – it’s 1/100th of a second.

By the 17th century, the word “fall” was used right across the English-speaking world to describe the third season. It wasn’t until the 18th
century that it fell out of favour among non-American English speakers to be replaced exclusively by the older word “autumn”.

The Wild West has a notorious reputation as a place where violence and murder were common-place. If someone cheated a poker, shoot him. If someone stole your horse, shoot him. If the bartender refused to serve you, shoot him. If the McDanigan brothers forgot to give you a birthday present, shoot them. And their dog.

Basically, it was anarchy. Gun-slingers abounded. Shoot-outs were a daily affair. Outlaws and bandits were everywhere. The local sheriffs were powerless to halt the bloodshed.

So how many murders do you think were happening in these western towns at the height of this craziness? How many murders would typically A hundred? Two hundred? More than that?

In fact,... five.

Five? What the fu... FIVE!?

Yes siree bob. Five was the most murders that any of the old west towns ever saw in one year. The average murder rate was about 1.5 per year – and, of course, not all of those were shootings.

How about Tombstone dammit? Surely there were more than five people shot during the famous gunfight at the OK Corral? Well, no. In fact, ‘only’ three people were killed in that particular shoot-out – and that was Tombstone’s most violent year ever!
Before being invaded by Britain in the 17th Century, India was the richest country in the world.

Kinda makes sense when you think about it...

Any month that begins on a Sunday will have a Friday the 13th.

“People say New Yorkers can’t get along. Not true, I saw two New Yorkers, complete strangers, share a cab. One guy took the tires and the radio. The other guy took the engine.”

-- David Letterman

In Italy, James Bond is also known as Mr. Kiss-Kiss-Bang-Bang.

**Q.** Which is the only city in the world that straddles two continents?

**A.** Istanbul in Turkey.
But where does it fit?

A chameleon’s tongue is twice as long as its body!

Due to the fact that the chameleon is a slow-moving creature, it has evolved a very long (and extremely fast) tongue making it easier to catch prey.

"You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen; it said 'Parking Fine.'"

-- Tommy Cooper

In Albania, Macedonia, and Bulgaria you nod your head to indicate ‘no’ and shake your head to indicate ‘yes’.

A day on the planet Mercury is twice as long as a year. Because it revolves so slowly, a day on Mercury corresponds to 176 days on Earth. However, a year (the amount of time to complete an orbit of the sun), corresponds to just 88 Earth days.

Look into my eye...

The giant squid has eyes that can grow up to 20 inches in diameter. To put this into perspective, think about how big your computer screen is...

Q. Which word in the English language has the most definitions?

A. Set. According to the Oxford English Dictionary it has 464 definitions! In second place is “Run” with 396.
In France, a walkie-talkie is called a talkie-walkie.

You’ve undoubtedly heard it said that men think about sex every seven seconds.

If you’re a woman, you might even believe it. If you’re a man, you’re probably too busy thinking about boobs right now...

Nobody’s quite sure how this myth got started – although we’re pretty sure women had something to do with it – but the reality is that there’s not a single shred of scientific evidence (or even anecdotal evidence) to back up this notion.

It’s basically an ‘old wives tale’. (With ‘wives’ being the key word here.)

In fact, according to the 2004 American Sex Survey, 30% of men don’t think about sex at all during the day. (Okay, this compares to 66% of women, but we’re still a long way from “every seven seconds” territory here.)

As for the other 70%... Well, if they were thinking about it every seven seconds, it would be hard to get anything done.

After all, if you’ve spent the last two hours furiously trying to recover that crucial document you accidentally deleted – you’re hardly going to find yourself drifting off every seven seconds to have a quick think about Pamela Anderson’s assets.

Having said that, you do find the boss strangely attractive when he loses his temper...
The only flying saucer landing pad in the world is located in St. Paul, Alberta, Canada. It was built by the local community to celebrate Canada’s centennial in 1967.

No wonder they think we’re grumpy...

Kids laugh, on average, about 400 times a day. Adults average only 15 times 😞

In the 1880s, Henry Ziegland ended his relationship with his girlfriend. Broken-hearted at the break-up, the girl committed suicide.

The girl’s brother, seeking revenge on Ziegland, tracked him down, confronted him with a gun, and shot him in the head. He then turned the gun on himself, and took his own life.

It turns out, however, that Ziegland wasn’t dead. The bullet had grazed his face and ended up lodged in a tree behind him. Thanking his lucky stars, he recovered from his injury and subsequently got on with his life.
Years later, Ziegland wanted to get rid of the tree that had the bullet lodged in it. Because of its size, he decided that it would be easier to blow it up with dynamite rather than attempt to cut it down. (As you do.)

Can you see where this is going?

Yep, when he blew up the tree, the explosion propelled the bullet into Ziegland’s head – killing him on the spot.

Each year, the Ziegler family mark Henry’s demise by attempting to blow up other trees. Maybe.

We’ll defeat them with our cleverness...

Believe it or not, the USA PATRIOT Act’s name is actually an acronym for Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism.

Real Newspaper Headlines

- DRUNK GETS NINE MONTHS IN VIOLIN CASE
- COLD WAVE LINKED TO TEMPERATURES
- IRAQI HEAD SEEKS ARMS
- SOMETHING WENT WRONG IN JET CRASH, EXPERT SAYS
- PANDA MATING FAILS; VETERINARIAN TAKES OVER
- AFTER DETOUR TO CALIFORNIA SHUTTLE RETURNS TO EARTH
- JUVENILE COURT TO TRY SHOOTING DEFENDANT
- CLINTON WINS ON BUDGET, BUT MORE LIES AHEAD
- DEAD COYOTE FOUND IN BRONX LAUNCHES SEARCH FOR ITS MATE
- TWO SISTERS REUNITED AFTER 18 YEARS IN CHECKOUT COUNTER
- RED TAPE HOLDS UP NEW BRIDGES

If there was no space between atoms, the entire planet Earth would be about as big as a tennis ball!

Verona, the Italian city where Shakespeare’s play Romeo and Juliet takes place, receives about 5,000 letters every year sent to Juliet. (Some are literally addressed to “Juliet, Verona.”) A team of volunteer ‘secretaries’ replies to every letter offering advice on affairs of the heart!

Q. What’s special about the word “Rhythm”?

A. It’s the longest word in the English language that doesn’t contain a vowel.

There are more than a thousand trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion ways a chess game can be played out.

That’s $10^{120}$ which is more than the number of electrons in the entire universe. (As if you didn’t know.)
- “You know you’re getting old when you stoop to tie your shoes and wonder what else you can do when you’re down there.”
   -- George Burns

The sports drink Gatorade was developed at the University of Florida and was named after the school’s football team, The Florida Gators.

India is the country with the most English speakers in the world.

There was little or no punctuation in western literature until the 15th century; it was the invention of moveable type that heralded the need to introduce a standard system to break up sentences and generally render text more readable, which reminds me I almost forgot to put out the garbage. Did you see that episode of Breaking Bad last night? I don’t know what Malcolm’s dad would make of it, which also reminds me, have you ever been to Bryan Cranston’s website? You should really anyway. I’d better stop now if only I knew how to bring this to an end... dot dot dot

About 10% of the world’s population lives on an island. Indonesia and Britain alone account for nearly half of that total.

The longest Hollywood kiss was from the 1941 film, “You’re in the Army Now.” It lasted for three minutes and five seconds.

Apparently 1/3 of people with alarm clocks hit the ‘snooze’ button every morning. In the 25-34 age group, it is over half.

- “I celebrated last Thanksgiving in an old-fashioned way. I invited everyone in my neighbourhood to my house, we had an enormous feast, and then I killed them and took their land.”
-- Jon Stewart

The three wealthiest families in the world have more assets than the combined wealth of the forty-eight poorest nations.

In Disney’s Fantasia, the Sorcerer to whom Mickey played an apprentice was named Yensid. Do you notice anything interesting about that name? No? It’s ‘Disney’ spelled backward...

Q. If you’re in a race and you overtake the athlete in second place, what position are you in now?
A. If you answered ‘first’, then think again...

You’ve overtaken the athlete in second place, which means you’re now in second place.

Don’t worry, lots of people get this one wrong.

There are several fictional characters that have stars on Hollywood’s “Walk of Fame.” They include Big Bird, Bugs Bunny and The Simpsons. If you’re interested, you can see the complete list here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_characters_on_the_Hollywood_Walk_of_Fame

If all the gold in the ocean were mined, there would be enough to give every man, woman, and child on Earth about 9 lbs (4 kgs) each.

The name Hasbro is derived from the name of its founders, Hassenfeld Brothers. Similarly, the name Adidas is also derived from its founder Adolph “Adi” Dassler.
Incidentally, Adi’s brother Rudolph also formed his own company which he initially called Ruda (for reasons which must now be clear to you). However, figuring that he could probably come up with something a little more original, his company was later re-branded as... Puma.

On average, Americans spend about 6 months waiting at red traffic lights.

- “Doesn’t Prince Charles look like somebody kissed a frog, and it hasn’t changed all the way?”
-- Wendy Liebman

Hmmm, what’s that word again? Wait... it’s on the tip of my tongue... The word *lethologica* means not being able to remember the word or name you’re looking for.

Q. Which Hollywood actress has graced the cover of Life Magazine more than anyone else?
A. Elizabeth Taylor.

The word anagram has no anagram.

Try it on your friends...
- Pick a number between one and 10.
- Multiply it by nine.
- Add the two digits of the resulting number together.
- Now subtract five from that.
- Take your number and match it up with a letter of the alphabet (so 1 would be A, 2 would be B, etc.).
- Pick a country that begins with that letter.
- Pick an animal whose name begins with the last letter of the country name.
- Pick a fruit that begins with the last letter of the animal’s name.
In 1960 there were over 16,000 slot machines in Nevada. By 1999, it had risen to over 200,000 -- which equates to about one machine for every ten people living there.

It’s commonly said that no word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple. However, there are some obscure (but real) words that do rhyme with these...

- Month rhymes with \(en-plus-oneth\), or \((n+1)th\), a mathematical term.
- Orange rhymes with Blorenge, a hill in Wales (seriously).
- Silver rhymes with chilver, a female lamb.
- Purple rhymes with curple, the hind-quarters or a horse or donkey.

Q. Which grows faster, your fingernails or your toenails?
A. Your fingernails. (Nearly 4 times faster!)

- "The guy who invented the hokey-pokey just died. It was a weird funeral. First, they put his left leg in,...”

-- Irv Gilman

Going postal...

In 2009, the US Postal Service delivered 175,677,241,000 pieces of mail. Yes, that’s over 175 BILLION!
If you have a fear of peanut-butter getting stuck to the roof of your mouth, then you suffer from Arachibutyrophobia!

According to Buzz Aldrin, Apollo 11’s lunar module only had about 20 second’s worth of fuel remaining when it landed on the moon.

Say WHAT!?

- "No flying machine will ever fly from New York to Paris”.  
  - Orville Wright, 1908

- "No woman will, in my time, be Prime Minister.”  
  - Margaret Thatcher, 1969

- “I applaud President Nixon’s comprehensive statement, which clearly demonstrates again that the president was not involved with the Watergate matter”.
  - George Bush, 1974

The Greenpeace organization was originally called the “Don’t Make a Wave Committee” which was founded by Canadians to protest against nuclear testing being carried out by the US in Amchitka, Alaska. (The ship they used during the protests was called ‘Greenpeace’.)

Honey is the only food we know of that doesn’t spoil.  
A jar of honey that was found in the tomb of an Egyptian pharaoh – and estimated to be 3,300 years old -- was found to be perfectly edible.
111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321

The size of an atom compared to an apple, is roughly equivalent to the size of an apple compared to the size of the earth!

Also, as you’ll no doubt remember from school, and atom consists of a nucleus with orbiting electrons. If the nucleus were the size of a marble, and if the electron were the width of a human hair, the orbit of the electron’s orbit would be as far as two miles from the nucleus.

Some atoms, just hanging out.

More Real Newspaper Headlines

- MAN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING FACES BATTERY CHARGE
- SHOT OFF WOMAN’S LEG HELPS NICKLAUS TO 66
- KIDS MAKE NUTRITIOUS SNACKS
- BRITISH LEFT WAFFLES ON FALKLAND ISLANDS
- NATIONAL HUNTING GROUP TARGETING WOMEN
- TYPHOON RIPS THROUGH CEMETERY; HUNDREDS DEAD
- ENRAGED COW INJURES FARMER WITH AX
- US SHIPS HEAD TO SOMALIA
- NEW VACCINE MAY CONTAIN RABIES
- HOSPITALS ARE SUED BY 7 FOOT DOCTORS

Silent are violent!
According to people who know this kind of thing, the average person ‘produces’ about half a liter (just over a pint) of ‘fart gas’ per day. This roughly translates into about 14 individual farts.

Go see for yourself...
The opposite sides of a dice always add up to seven.

Merde alors!
Over 15 tons of dog pooh are deposited every day throughout the streets of Paris.

Q. Which muscle in your body is attached at only one end?
A. Your tongue.

Ailurophilia is the love of cats. On the opposite end of the scale is Ailurophobia which is a fear of cats.
What’s not to like?

If you were to spell all the numbers starting at “one”, you would reach “one thousand” before you’d use the letter ‘a’.

Having said that, if you were to spell all the numbers starting at “one” you’ve either got far too much time on your hands, or you’ve been particularly naughty at school.

I know you’d never dream of actually doing it, BUT if you shut down your PC for just one minute, this is what you will miss on the internet:

- 1,500+ new blog posts
- 12,000 new classified ads on Craigslist
- 98,000 tweets on Twitter
- 600 new videos (totalling over 25 hours) on Youtube

When the Beastie Boys wrote their mega-hit “Fight For Your Right (To Party)”, it was intended as an in-joke aimed at the whole rocker/metal scene. Once the song became a hit, they recorded the famous video that
goes with it – again, with the intention of poking fun at the big-riff, big-hair rock bands of the time.

It didn’t take long, however, before the Boys realized that the ‘irony’ part went completely over the heads of the music-buying public. On the contrary, they now found themselves with a legion of new fans – who were the very people they were trying to antagonize in the first place.

Even though the song brought them international fame and fortune, they publicly denounced it – and haven’t played it live since 1987.

A pair of twin brothers—Jim Lewis and Jim Springer—were separated at birth and adopted by different families.

Both families named the boys James – and both called them Jim. Both boys grew up in different environments, without ever knowing each other.

However, both were trained in law enforcement, both were deft in mechanical drawing, both were dab hands at carpentry AND... both married women named Linda!

There’s more...

Both had sons. One named his son James Alan and the other names his son James Allan!

We’re still not finished...

Both twins divorced their Lindas and then BOTH re-married to women named Betty! Oh, and they both had dogs named Toy.

I’m guessing they both liked Magnum PI too!
When Aldous Huxley’s “Brave New World” was first published back in 1932, it bombed. It was universally disliked by critics and peers alike – and sold only a few thousand copies on its US release.

Basically, the idea that mankind would be ‘oppressed’ by mindless entertainment and constant trivial distraction – rather than a totalitarian dictator – was an impossible concept for people of that time to swallow.

With the advent of mass-media and, of course, the internet, Huxley’s vision no longer seems quite so far-fetched.

At any rate, Brave New World went on to become one of the most celebrated and enduring literary works of the 20th Century.

A Couple of Mitch Hedberg Funnies

“I once saw a forklift lift a crate of forks. And it was way too literal for me.”

“Last week I helped my friend stay put. It's a lot easier than helping someone move. I just went over to his house and made sure that he did not start to load his s**t into a truck.”

Here’s an interesting little coincidence quoted verbatim from Carl Jung’s “The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche”

“A young woman I was treating had, at a critical moment, a dream in which she was given a golden scarab. While she was telling me this dream I sat with my back to the closed window. Suddenly I heard a noise behind me, like a gentle tapping. I turned round and saw a flying insect knocking against the window-pane from outside. I opened the window and caught the creature in the air as it flew in. It was the nearest analogy to the golden scarab that one finds in our latitudes, a scarabaeid beetle, the common rose-chafer (Cetoaia urata) which contrary to its usual habits had evidently felt an urge to get into a dark room at this particular moment. I must admit that nothing like it ever happened to me before or since, and that the dream of the patient has remained unique in my experience.”

The next page is dedicated to quite reflection...
Breath Deeply.

Relax.

Close Your Eyes.
In 1914 a German lady took a photograph of her young son and gave the film to a photography shop in Strasbourg (France) to be developed.

Shortly after that, however, World War I broke out and, because she couldn’t return to France, she gave the photo up for lost.

A couple of years later, the same lady went to a shop in Frankfurt (Germany) to buy a film plate – which back then were sold individually – to take a picture of her baby daughter.

When the film was subsequently developed – it turned out to be a double exposure. But not just ANY double exposure...

It was the picture of her daughter super-imposed over the earlier picture of her son!

By bizarre coincidence, it seems that the original film plate had been mistakenly labelled as unused. It then ended up in a shop over 100 miles away only to be bought again by the very same woman!

John Cover developed the first prototype of the Taser after being inspired by one of the fictional inventions in a Tom Swift novel. In fact, the name TASER is an acronym of Tom A. Swift's Electric Rifle.
Funnies from Rodney Dangerfield

- A girl phoned me the other day and said, “Come on over, there’s nobody home.” I went over. Nobody was at home.

- I was such an ugly kid, when I played in the sandbox, the cat kept covering me up.

- When I was a kid my parents moved a lot, but I always found them.

- I met the surgeon general. He offered me a cigarette.

Q. What’s the capital city of Thailand?

A. You said Bangkok didn’t you?

That’s okay. You’re right. In a way.

Having said that, in Thailand it hasn’t been called Bangkok in over 200 years.

Locally, it’s known as Krung Thep which means ‘City of Angels’.

However, that’s still not the actual name of the city. It’s just the name that’s used on a day-to-day basis.

The full official name is ‘Krung Thep Mahanakhon Amon Rattanakosin Mahintharayutthaya Mahadilok Phop Noppharat Ratchathani Burirom Udomratchaniwet Mahasathan Amon Phiman Awatan Sathit Sakkathattiya Witsanukam Prasit’.

At 169 characters, this is the longest place name in the world.

Depending on which source you use, the name translates roughly as “The city of angels, the great city, the eternal jewel city, the impregnable city of God Indra, the grand capital of the world endowed with nine precious gems, the happy city, abounding in an enormous Royal Palace that resembles the heavenly abode where reigns the reincarnated god, a city given by Indra and built by Vishnukarma”. (FYI, this is Wikipedia’s version of the translation.)

Let’s just stick with Bangkok for now, shall we?

By the way, the second longest place name in the world is “Taumatawhakatangihangak ouauotamateaturipukaka
pikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenua kitanatahu” (85 letters), which is a hill in New Zealand. It’s a Maori phrase that means “place where Tamatea, the man with the big knees, who slid, climbed and swallowed mountains, known as land-eater, played his flute to his loved one”.

In third place comes Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwll-llantysiliogogogoch. It’s a village in Wales and means “St Mary's Church in the hollow of the white hazel near a rapid whirlpool and the Church of St Tysilio of the red cave”. (They have a website. It’s at ... http://www.llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwyll-llantysiliogogogoch.info

The Shortest place name is shared by two separate villages... Å (pop. 150) is located in Norway. And Y (pop. 30) is in Picardy, France.

In the late 60s, and English policeman name Moscardi told a friend that the phone number for his police station had changed to 40166. Only later did he realize that he had given the wrong number, it should have been 40116.

Shortly afterwards, Moscardi was on patrol in an industrial zone when he noticed the light on inside a building and decided to check it out. He found nothing suspicious but, while inside the empty building a phone rang and Moscardi decided to answer.
It was his friend. He had just called the *wrong* number that Moscardi had given him – which turned out to be the number of the phone inside this empty building that Moscardi had never entered before! (Cue *Twilight Zone* theme…)

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**Q. What’s the largest living thing on earth?**

**A.** The blue whale perhaps? Some sort of mega-squid? The Loch Ness Monster..?

Nope. Nope. And thrice nope.

The biggest living organism on earth is, *<insert drum roll>*, a mushroom! A BIG mushroom.

In Oregon.

The mushroom in question is a common variety called the Armillaria Ostoyae (or Honey Fungus). You’ve probably seen them loads of times.

The particular Honey Fungus in question, however, covers an area of 2,200 acres! And it’s somewhere between 2,000 and 8,000 years old!

The majority of the mushroom is underground and consists of a vast network of ‘mycelia’ (mushroom roots, if you will).

Initially it was thought that it was a cluster of many, smaller Honey Fungi until research demonstrated that it was just one incredibly big mega-mushroom.

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**Q. What’s the number of the devil?**

**A.** 666, right?

Actually, no, it’s not 666, it’s 616.

Huh?

As you probably know, the idea that 666 is the number (or mark) of the devil comes from the Book of Revelation – the last book in the New Testament.
However, after painstakingly translating the oldest known copy of the Book of Revelation, a palaeographical research team from the University Of Birmingham (UK), says that the number is clearly 616 and not 666. The copy in question is 1,700 years old and is part of the *Oxyrhynchus Papyri* discovered in Oxyrhynchus (Egypt).

So, if you were worried that barcodes contained the mark of the devil, fear no more. (Oops: http://www.snopes.com/business/alliance/barcode.asp)

Q. Where is the driest place on Earth?

A. The Sahara desert, right? No? The Gobi? Nevada?

Well, as it happens, the driest place on Earth can be found in Antarctica!

Some areas on Antarctica haven’t had rainfall for over 2,000,000 years! (Yes, that’s two million years!) And, seeing as a desert is defined as an area that has less than 10 inches (254mm) of rain per year, that makes those ‘dry’ parts of Antarctica the driest places on Earth.

A Couple of Jerry Seinfeld Funnies

“My parents didn't want to move to Florida, but they turned sixty and that's the law.”

“Men don't care what's on TV. They only care what else is on TV.”

In Texas in the late 70s, two crooks tried cashing a stolen check at a local bank. Unfortunately for them, the teller behind the window was also the victim of the crime!

A few hours earlier, checks had been stolen from her home. When they were presented at her counter by the would-be thieves, she immediately recognized them. She notified the police who quickly apprehended the hapless criminals.
Bram Stoker’s *Dracula* is the most filmed book of all time. In second place is Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

What do you think comes third?


None of the above.

In third place comes Charles Dicken’s “Oliver Twist”.

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**Some real-life warning labels from paranoid companies...**

- Found on a Propane Blowtorch: *Never use while sleeping.*
- Found on a digital thermometer: *Do not use orally after using rectally.*
- Found on a bottle of hair dye: *Do not use as an ice-cream topping.*
- Found on a toilet brush: *Do not use orally.*

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The developers of “Pacman” had originally intended calling the game “Puck Man”. They had a change of mind when they realized the word-play potential among English-speaking adolescents.

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You know all those hair conditioners and shampoos you’ve got sitting in your bathroom? They’re largely useless.

Yes, they may add some shine or color – depending on which products you use – but as for making your hair healthier, forget about it.

Look at it this way... the hair that’s visible on top of your head is dead. Nothing you put on it is going to change that fact. The only way to improve the health of your hair is by focusing on what’s still alive – the hair that’s beneath the surface of your skin. And the best way to keep it healthy is by eating foods that are rich in nutrients, and by keeping yourself well hydrated.

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Have you ever cringed at the sound – or the mere *thought* of the sound – of a lobster’s ‘scream’ when he’s immersed in boiling water?

Well, here’s something that might put your mind at ease.
Lobsters have no vocal chords. That ‘scream’ is in fact air escaping from their shells. But that doesn’t mean they’re not suffering during those final moments, right? Well, as far as we know, in fact they don’t. While the jury is still out on this one, most scientists believe that lobsters don’t feel ‘pain’ – at least not in the way we understand it. As for the lobster’s simple right to life, well, that’s another story, of course...

Everybody is familiar with John F. Kennedy’s famous entreaty to the people of the United States: “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.”

What’s less well known is that the line was not a Kennedy original. He actually ‘borrowed’ the line from an article by Lebanese writer Khalil Gibran in which he encourages his countrymen to rise in rebellion against the occupying Ottoman Turks.
All adult cats are lactose intolerant to one extent or another, and should not be given milk to drink. While it’s not especially harmful to them, it can cause digestive problems and upset tummies.

Some people believe that it’s okay to give milk to kittens, but it’s increasingly accepted that – aside from their mother’s milk – you’re better off not giving milk to your cats or kittens at all.

Just give them water instead.

On the other hand, if this is your cat, just give him whatever the hell he wants.

The biggest selling book of the 15th century was an erotic novel called The Tale of the Two Lovers – which is still being read today. It was written by one Aeneas Sylvius Piccolomini. Or Pope Pius II as he was known to his friends!

Yes, it was an erotic novel. Yes, he was Pope. (Although, to be fair, he wrote it before he hit the big time.)

Yes, you can read it if you want to:
http://www.forumromanum.org/literature/piccolomini/hist_e.html
Despite what you’ve probably heard, Charles Lindbergh was not the first person to fly non-stop across the Atlantic. Two British pilots (John Alcock and Arthur Whitten Brown) flew across the Atlantic (from Newfoundland, Canada to Galway, Ireland) in 1919 -- eight years before Lindbergh.

Q. What’s interesting about the word “Bookkeeper”?

A. It’s the only word in the English language with three double letters in a row.

It’s commonly believed that when Christopher Columbus was attempting to gain support and funds for his voyage across the Atlantic, he faced stiff opposition from those who feared that his travels would end in tragedy -- because his ships would ultimately just sail off the edge of a flat Earth.

After all, back then everyone still believed that the Earth was flat, right?

Wrong!

The truth is, mankind has known that the Earth is a sphere since at least 300 BC. It simply wasn’t up for dispute.

The people who opposed Columbus’ voyage did so in the belief that he had underestimated the distance to India.

And they were right. If Columbus hadn’t stumbled upon the Americas, he would have ran out of supplies long before reaching his destination.

When the cast of “Star Wars” flew to England to shoot some scenes for the movie, they flew coach rather than first class. (Star Wars wasn’t a hit yet, and nobody – really nobody – believed it would be.)

Anyway, when Carrie Fisher’s mom (actress Debbie Reynolds) got wind of this she was none too happy at this treatment of her little angel—so she rang George Lucas to give him an earful.

According to legend, Carrie was in the room while Debbie was reading George the riot act down the phone line. After a few minutes, she took the
phone from Lucas and, addressing Debbie down the line, said “Mother, I want to fly coach, will you f**k off?!”

Then she hung up.

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**Model T Ford – available in any color as long as it’s NOT black!**

Everybody’s familiar with Henry Ford’s famous “available in any color as long as it’s black” quote with regards to his Model T.

However, the reality of the Model T is somewhat different...

When it was first introduced in 1908, the Model T was only available in grey, green, blue, and red.

It was in 1914 that the “as long as it’s black” policy was implemented. It’s understood that black was favored because it was cheaper and more durable than other colors.

![Model T Ford in pink](image)

*This one was pink.*
Upon studying the Versailles Treaty – which brought World War I to an end – the Allied Supreme Commander Ferdinand Foch is said to have declared, “This is not a peace. It is an armistice for twenty years”.

Exactly twenty years and 65 days later, France and England declared war on Germany.

“In England, if you commit a crime, the police don't have a gun and you don't have a gun. If you commit a crime, the police will say ‘Stop, or I'll say stop again.’”

- Robin Williams

You know when you’re in a hurry and you frantically press (and press, and press again) the pedestrian crossing button at the traffic lights in order to get the go-ahead to run across the street?

Well, there’s a very good chance that your effort is in vain. As it happens, in a great many cases, the button doesn’t actually do anything – it’s just there to give you a feeling of control.

The traffic lights will give you the go-ahead when they’re good and ready - - and not a minute sooner -- no matter how many times you scream at them using your index finger!

Bear in mind though, this doesn’t apply to all traffic lights – so you’d better keep hammering away anyway, just in case...

Throughout sea-faring history, the vast majority of the sails and ropes used on ships were made from hemp.

In fact, the word ‘canvas’ is based on the old English word ‘canevas’ which itself came from the Latin word cannabis.
Everybody ‘knows’ the story about Albert Einstein getting poor grades at school.

Unfortunately, even though the idea of the failing schoolboy going on to become a world-acclaimed physicist is an endearing one, it’s also a false one.

Einstein did very well at school, thank you very much. Albert’s mother considered his grades good enough to write a letter to his aunt complimenting him.

So how did this story get started?

Well, when Albert was in school, subjects were graded 1 to 6, with 1 being the best. A year after he left, the grading system was reversed, so 6 became the best.

This, however, seems to have escaped the reporter who penned the 1935 article for “Ripley’s Believe It Or Not” magazine titled “Greatest living mathematician failed in mathematics.”.

And, thus, a legend was born.

Hey stoopid!
In early drafts of the script to “Star Wars”, George Lucas named his main character Luke Starkiller.

The Atlantic Ocean is big, right? The Pacific Ocean is even bigger. No argument there. In fact, it pretty much goes without saying that the Pacific is the single biggest body of water known to man.

Well, in fact, no. It doesn’t.

As it happens, we’ve discovered a body of water that’s a tad bigger than the Pacific. And guess where it is…

It’s floating in space!

And just how big is this pool of space water?

It’s big. Really BIG! It’s bigger than the entire planet Earth.

It’s bigger than the Sun. In fact, it’s a 100,000 times bigger than the Sun!

It contains 140 TRILLION times more water than all the oceans on Earth!

Oh, and it’s 30 billion trillion miles away… (That’s a 30 with a whole heap of zeroes. Just in case you were wondering.)


Artists Impression of the Mega Space Water Thingy. (Or Maybe Just a Cloud.)
Stupid? It's been estimated that, over the past 3,500 years, mankind has achieved a grand total of 230 years during which no wars have taken place.

Nice goin’ mankind!

The movie “Psycho” is famous for a lot of things, but here’s one you might not have heard about: it was the first time a flushing toilet was shown on screen.

This caused a flush of anger among many cinema-goers, leading to a s**t-load of indecency complaints.

There are far more similarities between Christianity and Islam than many people would have you believe.

For example, according to Muslim beliefs, Jesus is considered one of the greatest Prophets. Like Christians, Muslims believe in the virgin birth, and the miracles performed by Jesus.

The primary difference is that Muslims do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God – rather that he was a messenger of God like many of the other Prophets.

You’ve undoubtedly heard the story that the Great Wall of China is the only man-made object that’s visible from space. Unfortunately, it’s a myth.

The fact of the matter is, if you’re close enough to earth to see the Great Wall, then you’re also close enough to see other man-made objects of a similar scale – such as highway networks.

By the time you’re a few thousand miles away, nothing man-made is visible.
“Three O’clock is always too late or too early for anything you want to do.”

- Jean-Paul Sartre

The legendary Che Guevara’s birth name was actually Ernesto Lynch. Ernesto was part Irish, and when commenting on his son’s feisty nature his father commented “the first thing to note is that in my son’s veins flowed the blood of the Irish rebels.”

Incidentally, the iconic image of Guevara that adorns student walls everywhere was created by Irish artist Jim Fitzpatrick (based on a photo by Cuban photographer Alberto Korda).

Fitzpatrick, who made several versions of the image, was such an admirer of Guevara that he allowed the images to remain free of copyright, which played a huge role in their global popularity.

You’ve undoubtedly heard that lightning never strikes the same place twice. But did you really believe it? C’mon, deep down, did you really believe that lightning never strikes the same place twice? Or even, y’know, rarely?

As it happens, of course, lightning can and does strike the same place twice. In fact, it’s quite a common occurrence.
As you know, lightning is ‘attracted’ to tall things like church spires and big old oak trees. So, if there’s a storm hanging over your town, there’s a good chance it will strike the same target several times until it moves along in search of ‘the next big thing’.

Toronto’s CN Tower, for example, gets struck by lightning an average of 75 times per year.

When we get a craving for a particular food we tend to tell ourselves, “Aha, my body is in need of certain vitamins or minerals and it’s telling me to eat that particular food to stock up on supplies.”

Well, according to science, we’re wrong.

In a test, one group of people – when they had a craving for chocolate – was given a chemical concoction containing all the essential components of chocolate, but none of the taste.

Meanwhile, another group was given a concoction that had the taste of chocolate, but none of the essential components.

Those who took the chocolate-flavored version found that their cravings were satisfied, while those who took the tasteless version continued to crave – despite having fed their bodies with all the nutrition that we get from chocolate.

The scientists concluded that our cravings are based on emotion rather than physiology. To put it another way, when we crave something, we crave the good vibes that go with it, not the ‘fuel’ within.

Bloop!

In 1997 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recorded a very strange sound in the ocean. In fact, it wasn’t just strange; it was also very, very loud – so loud that it was picked up on multiple recording devices situated as much as 3,000 miles (5,000 km) apart!

The NOAA began analyzing the sound – which they named The Bloop -- in an effort to determine its origin. At normal speed, it sounded like nothing.

However, when speeded up 16 times, it sounded like... a bloop. A really, really LOUD bloop!
The NOAA's Dr. Christopher Fox believes that the sound is neither man-made nor geological in origin. And, while the audio profile suggests that The Bloop originates from a living creature, it is several times louder than the loudest animal sound recorded to date – that of the blue whale.

The mystery continues...

You’ll find links to listen to the original recording as well as the speeded up version here: http://www.bloopwatch.org/thebloop.html

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You’ve probably heard that glass is not a solid, but a very viscous (near-solid, slow-flowing) liquid.

This is actually not true.

The myth probably developed out of the observation of old window panes that were thicker at the bottom than at the top – giving rise to the idea that the glass was flowing downwards and accumulating at the bottom.

The truth, however, is that these distortions in old window panes were due to the imprecise nature of the manufacturing processes at the time – such as the Crown Glass Process – rather than any subsequent movement of the glass.

It’s worth noting that glass panes manufactured in the past 100 years or so, show no signs of this distortion.

As it happens, glass is actually a non-crystalline (amorphous) ceramic. (Whatever that means.)

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When we think of black holes, we picture them as huge, dark giants that suck in everything that comes into their vicinity. The reality is a little different.

The gravitational pull of a black hole is slightly less than that of the star that originally caused its formation. Space objects can (and do) settle into fixed orbits around them, just as they would around a star.

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The Mystery of Atlantis -- Solved.

Whole industries have been built around the myth of the ancient lost city of Atlantis. Books, movies, and TV shows continue to be inspired by the notion of a once great civilisation being mysteriously – and swiftly -- wiped from the face of the planet.

But guess what... there is no mystery.

We already know exactly what happened to Atlantis.

It simply never existed!

Whoa, I hear you think, what makes you so sure about that?

Well, the simple fact of the matter is, Plato MADE IT UP. He specifically mentions in his book “Timaeus” that Atlantis is a hypothetical city created for illustration purposes. It was never intended to be taken seriously as an actual lost city.

To quote Alan Cameron, Professor of Latin Language and Literature at Columbia University, "It is only in modern times that people have taken the Atlantis story seriously; no one did so in antiquity".

You may not be familiar with the name Stella Liebeck, but you’re almost certainly familiar with her story.

Stella is the lady who became famous after she sued McDonalds because she spilled hot coffee on her lap. While driving her car.

Stella has become the ‘poster girl’ for everyone who is driven to distraction by the ‘sue nation’ we’ve become. Even The Stella Awards, which are dedicated to highlighting frivolous lawsuits, are named after her. In short, it’s nearly impossible to even think about the idea of stupid lawsuits without the image of The McDonalds Coffee Lady springing to mind.

However, there’s a little more to Stella’s story than meets the eye...

Firstly, Stella didn’t just suffer from the short-term discomfort that we might normally associate with spilling hot coffee. She actually suffered third-degree burns on 6% of her body. Burns that required skin grafts! (If you’re not squeamish, you’ll find the pics on Google Images.)

The fact is, coffee that’s served at about 185° Fahrenheit (79° Celcius), as was the case, will result in serious burns in a matter of seconds. The coffee you have at home, on the other hand, is usually about 135° Fahrenheit (57° Celcius), which won’t immediately burn you.

Secondly, Stella tried to settle for $20,000 at one point, but the ‘Big Mac’ refused. This made Stella unhappy so the case went ahead.

Thirdly, despite what you might think, Stella didn’t receive ‘millions’. The final settlement was $640,000. And, when you consider that she had big medical bills to pay, it no longer seems quite so excessive.

BUT, she had that coffee open on her lap while driving. It’s her own fault!

Well, despite what everyone seems to think, she wasn’t actually driving. Yes, she was in her car, but the car was stopped.

And, besides, the jury took this into consideration when making the final award. They estimated that Stella was 20% responsible for what happened, so they reduced the compensatory damages portion ($200,000) by 20%.

So you see, the much-vilified Stella is not quite the silly, ridiculous, over-reactive, take-no-responsibility-for-my-actions type of person that the media portrayed her to be.
Despite the fact that “it’s kinda obvious when you think about it” shaving body hair does not, as many people believe, make it grow back thicker or coarser.

But don’t take my word for it, here’s what renowned dermatologist Dr. Jerri Hoskyn of the University of Arkansas has to say about it...

"Shaving [...] has no effect on the part of the hair shaft beneath the skin surface, which is where growth and color occur. [...] Although the hair may appear to grow faster after shaving, this is just an illusion [...] the blunt, stubby ends of new growth can give the appearance of darker, coarser hair.”

Remember, the hair we shave is already dead. The living stuff is safely tucked away beneath the surface. Nothing you do with your ‘dead’ hair will have any influence on future growth or growth patterns.

This is Not Dr. Jerri Hoskyn. Probably.
More Americans claim German ancestry (46%) than any other. In second place is Irish ancestry at 33%.

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**Some More Real Newspaper Headlines**

- QUEEN MARY HAVING BOTTOM SCRAPED
- SQUAD HELPS DOG BITE VICTIM
- TWO CONVICTS EVADE NOOSE, JURY HUNG
- AUTOS KILLING 110 A DAY, LET'S RESOLVE TO DO BETTER
- IF STRIKE ISN'T SETTLED QUICKLY IT MAY LAST A WHILE
- LAWMEN FROM MEXICO BARBECUE GUESTS
- MILK DRINKERS ARE TURNING TO POWDER
- SMOKERS ARE PRODUCTIVE, BUT DEATH CUTS EFFICIENCY
- QUARTER OF A MILLION CHINESE LIVE ON WATER
- CHILD'S DEATH RUINS COUPLE'S HOLIDAY
- TWO SOVIET SHIPS COLLIDE - ONE DIES

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In popular culture – and in our own minds – most colds are caught during winter. In truth, however, the cold virus is busiest during spring and fall, and seems to remain largely dormant during the winter months.

Similarly, we’ve all been led to believe that going out in the cold with damp hair – or insufficient clothing – will result in us catching a cold. Again, there is no truth in this. The cold is a virus and it doesn’t care if you’re cold, hot, wet, or dry – if it gets into your system you’re going to get sick. That’s all there is to it. (Having said that, if you go out in the cold with wet clothes, you might catch pneumonia or something instead...)
During World War II, the British didn’t want the Germans to discover that they were using radar – which was new technology -- to accurately complete their night missions.

To throw the enemy off the scent, they created the rumor that British pilots were eating copious amounts of carrots which gave them superior vision, thus giving rise to yet another myth – that eating carrots will improve your eyesight.

While the Vitamin A that you can get from carrots is important to the continued healthy functioning of your eyes, it doesn’t actually improve vision.

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**Quackers!**

Okay, we’ve all heard this one, and we’ve all wondered if it’s really true. After all, it sounds impossible.

What am I talking about?

The old canard that a duck’s quack has no echo.

Well, wonder no more...

British scientist Trevor Cox – who obviously had a little too much time on his hands – decided to put this one to the test.

He placed a slightly confused duck into a reverberation chamber and asked him to quack.

Conclusion: a duck’s quack DOES echo.

Oh well, it was nice while it lasted.

Thanks science.

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The density of planet Saturn is so low that if you were to place it in a very, very, very big bowl of water, it would float.

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Apparently, toddlers don’t include themselves in their dreams until they reach about 3 years of age.

How do they even know this?

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**Two common Shakespeare misquotes...**

*What we tend to say:* “Methinks the lady doth protest too much”  
*What Shakespeare actually wrote:* “The lady doth protest too much, methinks.”

*What we tend to say:* “Bubble bubble, toil and trouble.”  
*What Shakespeare actually wrote:* “Double, double toil and trouble.”

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When you dream, you frequently see ‘characters’ that you don’t know. The faces on these characters, however, are not generated by your imagination. They are the real faces of people you’ve met at some point in your life, whether you remember them or not.

That guy who was chasing you up the never-ending hill in your dream the other night may well have been that guy who sold you an ice-cream during your vacation when you were seven.

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“Don’t worry if you’re a kleptomaniac. You can always take something for it.”
-- Robert Benchley

---

In a process called Cold Welding, when two clean, flat pieces of the same type of metal are brought together in a vacuum, they fuse together to form one.
It’s commonly believed that ostriches bury their heads in the sand thinking that this hides them from would-be predators. They don’t.

Ostriches may not be able to fly, but they can run fast. Really fast.

They’re capable of reaching 45 miles per hour (72 kph) and can keep running at speeds like that for up to half an hour.

This means that ostriches don’t need to hide their heads when they see danger on its way. They just run away. Like the wind.

Coffee beans are not actually beans; they’re the seeds of coffee cherries from coffee trees.

One of the most enduring images of the invasion of Iraq was the toppling of Saddam’s statue. In the media, this was represented as a spontaneous act of celebration by a grateful Iraqi populace.

The truth, however, is that the whole scene was set up by US Army psychological operations team.

Seeing the statue as an opportunity to put a positive spin on things, they used loudspeakers to encourage local citizens to take part.

Ultimately, the statue was dragged down by a Marine recovery vehicle with a chain, but it was made to appear like an Iraqi initiative because the PSYOPS team managed to load the vehicle with cheering Iraqi children.

When Einstein won the Nobel Prize, it wasn’t for his famous Theory of Relativity, but for his lesser-known studies of the photo-electric effect of light. (Or something.)
It’s commonly believed that mail order Russian brides are women who are just desperate to leave their country so that they can land in the arms of some wealthy guy in the West.

In the vast majority of cases, however, their true motivation for seeking a husband outside their homeland is somewhat different.

As it happens, Russia doesn’t have enough men.

In fact, there are just 8 men for every 10 women – and in a country that places great emphasis on marriage, this has resulted in many Russian girls being forced to look elsewhere to find a man to settle down with.

In most cases, they don’t just pick the first guy they see wearing a Rolex.

Just as they would in a local club, mail order brides will accept or reject a man based on all the same criteria that any woman accepts or rejects any man. It’s rarely a question of money.

As an aside, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has reported that marriages arrange through mail order bride services have a lower divorce rate than the nation as a whole.

In fact, over the years for which reports are available, 80% of those marriages were still going strong.

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**Cliff Clavin’s Greatest Hits**

Words of wisdom from Cliff Cravin of TV comedy “Cheers”.

- “It’s a little known fact that the smartest animal is a pig. Scientists say if pigs had thumbs and a language, they could be trained to do simple manual labor. They give you 20-30 years of loyal service and then at their retirement dinner you can eat them.”

- “I wonder if you know that the harp is a predecessor of the modern day guitar. Early minstrels were much larger people. In fact, they had hands the size of small dogs.”

- “The human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a
faster and more efficient machine! That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers.”

- “Everyone in the Swiss Army owns a Swiss Army Knife. That's why no one messes with Switzerland.”

- “There's no rule about postal workers not dating women. It just works out that way.”

- “A Freudian Slip is when you say one thing when you're actually thinking about a mother.”

- “It’s a little known fact that the tan became popular in what’s now known as the Bronze Age.”

Paul Cézanne was such a slow painter, when he painted Still Lifes involving fruit, the content would often begin to rot before he had time to finish.

To get around the problem, he started using waxed fruit instead.

FAKE!

In Tennessee, it’s illegal to drive a car while you’re sleeping.
Q. What do gorillas and cats have in common?
A. They both purr.

"I have an intense desire to return to the womb. Anybody’s."
-- Woody Allen

Quick-Fire Facts...

- Hitler had his own private train. It was called Amerika.

- An *exocannibal* only eats his enemies. An *indocannibal* only eats his friends.

- Washington D.C. has more psychiatrists per head of population than any other city in the US.

- Your big toe has only two bones. The others have three.
- Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

- Abraham Lincoln really, REALLY didn’t like being called ‘Abe’.

After seeing it happen so many times on the TV and in movies, you’re probably convinced that ship’s captains can perform marriages when at sea.

Well, they can’t.

This myth is so widely believed -- even among sailors -- that many navies, including the United States Navy, have actually introduced regulations expressly forbidding the practice of captains performing weddings on board.

This is from the *Code of Federal Regulations*:
"The commanding officer shall not perform a marriage ceremony on board his ship or aircraft. He shall not permit a marriage ceremony to be performed on board when the ship or aircraft is outside the territory of the United States, except: (a) In accordance with local laws ... and (b) In the presence of a diplomatic or consular official of the United States."

Here comes the bride...
Words of Wisdom...
- “Never slap a man who chews tobacco.” (Willard Scott)
- “Never judge a book by its movie” (J.W. Eagan)
- “Never argue with an idiot. Folks might not be able to tell the difference.” (Anon.)
- “Never play leapfrog with a unicorn” (Anon.)

Over half of all the natural lakes in the world are in Canada.

You may already have heard that if you see a cockroach in your house, there are probably 10 more where he came from.

However, according to research carried out by the US department of Agriculture, that number is not quite accurate.

By their estimation, for every one cockroach you see running across your bedroom floor, there may be up to 1,000 (yes, one-freakin-thousand) more that are lurking in the shadows.

Hmm, 14 dead cockroaches. By my estimation, that means there are about 13,986 more just out of shot. And they’re NOT happy campers.
“I had a dog named Duke. Every fireman in town knew that hound, because he chased all the firewagons. They knew the dog’s name, but not mine, so the next thing I knew, I was Duke too. I was named for a damn dog!”

-- John Wayne

When you hear the term “world’s oldest profession”, you immediately think prostitution, right? However, according to anthropologists, the real “world’s oldest profession” is actually: witch doctor!

“I did not attend his funeral, but I wrote a nice letter saying I approved it.”

-- Mark Twain

In 1965, a 4-year old Roger Lausier was saved from drowning near Salem, Massachusetts by a woman named Alice Blaise. Some nine years later, at the same beach, Roger was on the scene to pull a drowning man from the water. The man was Alice Blaise’s husband!

Some Funnies from Steven Wright...

- “I’m writing an unauthorized autobiography.”
- “I put instant coffee in my microwave oven and almost went back in time.”
- “My grandfather invented Cliff’s Notes. It all started back in 1912. Well, to make a long story short…”
- “I wrote a few children’s books. Not on purpose.”
- “We had a quick-sand box in our back yard. I was an only child. Eventually.”
That’s All For Now!

I hope you enjoyed reading this ebook as much as we enjoyed compiling it!

And, if you DID enjoy it, please pass it along to others who might enjoy it too.

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