Mysterious Phrases 13/12/2021, 12:03

I think we've all heard phrases that seem strange on first impression. In this monologue, I will be discussing some of the most confusing. Yes, some may think everything is confusing to me because of my writing style, but I think I have made some genuinely valid points. Since starting my website, I think I've made at very least two, in fact. (One was about Listerine, the other I've forgotten). Everything else won't bring any kind of use to you whatsoever. I admit it. I like to compare my work to ice cream: Not nourishing for you, maybe even bad for you, but still fun. Anyway, first up, we have...

A barking dog never bites: This one is simply wrong, if anything, the reverse is true. I'm going to ignore that one.

Beware of Greeks bearing gifts: Do Greeks give bad presents? If so, why? It's a particularly important question in these festive times. I guess they're known for plate smashing, maybe they smash gifts, too.

Carpe Diem: If I can't understand English proverbs, I have little chance understanding German. Let's do another C.

Cat got your tongue?: Does the cat have my tongue?? Um, no, why are you asking? I wonder what would happen to me if that event ever happened. I suppose I wouldn't be able to talk, but I wouldn't be able to talk if a pigeon or donkey had my tongue, either. Why are cats special? Maybe cats are more selfish than other animals, suggesting they are unlikely to give your tongue back?? Still though, would a pigeon ever give me my tongue back in the end? I doubt it. A dog might though.

According to the website I'm looking at, 'Drag Race' is a proverb. I hate to sound arrogant, but I disagree. Let's find a real one.

Dressed to the nines: I've never heard of this one, but the site says it's a proverb, and I'll take its word for it. As language evolves and distorts over time, it could mean 'Dressed to the neins', as in 'Dressed to the no'. It's a German phrase, meaning unacceptable dress sense.

Apparently 'Eighty Six' is a proverb. Looks like a number to me. Let's do another real one...

Elephant in the room: How the flip would an elephant get into my room? I live in England. I don't live TOO far away from a zoo, but why would the elephant choose me?? Maybe the proverb means 'I'm flattered, but please go.'

Fine words butter no parsnips: This one looks like a random combination of words.

Flinger lickin good: That can't be a proverb. I'm going to skip F, it's a very strange letter...

Get on my wick: Never in my life have I wanted someone to get on or off one of my wicks. It honestly never even crossed my mind, as I don't even have any. Maybe it means 'Put the light out' or something.

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Hairy eyeball: This one sounds truly frightening. Next.

Happy as Larry: Happy as Larry who?? All Larrys? All Larrys are happy? Why? Drag races, hairy eyeballs and now this? Proverbs are dumb.

I will hear my heart upon my sleeve: And I thought hairy eyes couldn't get any worse! This is sick!

I told you is was ill: No, that's not a typo, I'm seriously starting to lose trust in this webpage. For a further time, it's not even a proverb, it's a comment from Spike Milligan, taking the P.

Jack Palancing: Does the site mean Jack Balancing? In either case... What?? Making up words does not make you binsightful or dlever. Or sgart. Bee?

Kangaroo court: This is a fun sounding one, but I don't know what it means. Maybe if someone commits a funny crime, i.e. intimidating bees, they get sent to kangaroo court. Just to keep things light. I don't know...

Lager frenzy: How can lager frenzy possibly be a proverb? It's happened again. 0_0 Here's Google's definition of a proverb, I'm not going mad: A short, well-known pithy saying, stating a truth or piece of advice. The truth of a lager frenzy???

Lamb to the slaughter: What does THIS one mean? Knowing the site, it probably just means 'burger'.

OH (EXPLETIVE)!!! I'm having secondary school flashbacks. The site I'm visiting isn't just about proverbs, turns out it's a list of phrases, sayings and idioms, too. THAT'S embarrassing. I blame the Google search engine. I typed in 'list of proverbs' and the site came up. It's the site's fault, too.

Moving on, here's (Only) Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the mdday (sic - just saying) sun: Actually, there are a number of animals that only go out in the sun. Reputation reclaimed!

Near the knuckle: This one could mean pretty much anything. Let's say it means a sleeve.

Old soldiers never die, they simply fade away: That would be an interesting sight on a battlefield. Interestingly, I have seen something similar on PC games such as Age of Empires. But ALL casualties fade away in that game not just the elderly, I guess to reduce the need for memory.

'Pennies from Heaven' and 'Penny dreadful' are hard to make sense of, if you've heard both phrases. It doesn't make sense, does it?

Quality time may not be too interesting a phrase/proverb/idiom, but it's one of the least offensive Qs there is on the site. It's fairly straightforward, right? Good time.

Raining cats and dogs: Obviously it's impossible for it rain cats and dogs (unless

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some sicko throws a load off a building), so MAYBE the phrase really is supposed to be 'Reigning cats and dogs'. Still unlikely, but it could happen in a worst case scenario.

Salt of the earth: Salt is bitter and even poisonous. Coincidentally, I've been called the salt of the earth. Only joking, no one's ever said that. :D

Two peas in a pod: Better than one pea, but still a disappointing Christmas.

Vanish into thin air: A fancy way of saying 'vanish'. It's not supposed to be taken literally. Unless you're talking about smoke, which does in fact, vanish into thin air.

Watch the birdie: Why anyone would watch a bird, I don't know. Unless it was a particularly mischievous one, I guess. Stupid birds.

There are no proverbs beginning with X. Unless of course, xylophones or x-rays can ever be insightful? Entertaining or useful maybe, but not profound. I think.

You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink: Actually, horses drink without you making them. Otherwise they would die.

Zero tolerance: Again, not exactly a proverb, but it's either zero tolerance or zig-zag. The site I'm getting these examples from, https://www.phrases.org.uk, just isn't that good. Anyway, it means 'no tolerance'. Of course it does.

Ok! There's a list of proverbs, or at least examples for (almost) every letter of the alphabet. It might not have been insightful, but it was certainly something to do. I think that's it, then. Bye!