

James: Hello, listeners! With me on today's show is lord Alan Sugar!

Alan: Hello.

James: You've caused a bit of controversy recently when you fired all of your workforce, a whole restaurant, a pharmaceutical company, the Spice Girls and a taxi driver all within about half an hour. Would you like to explain yourself?

Alan: They weren't giving me the results I wanted, so they had to go.

James: You're not going to fire me, are you?

Alan: I'm glad you mentioned that because actually, I do want to have a word with you...

James: That being?

Alan: You're fired.

James: That's two words...

Alan: You'refired.

James: Still sounds like two words to me...

Alan: Nope, I combined the two into one.

James: Is that allowed?

Alan: If I can fire whoever I want, I can make up new words.

James: Wow. Would you like to invent a word that rhymes with orange? It's been too long...

Alan: Borange.

James: Finally! That's going to silence English teachers throughout the world! No word rhymes with 'orange'? You've ruined a once so called 'interesting fact' for so many people out there, I can't thank you enough!

Alan: You didn't like your English teacher in school?

James: No, she didn't like me.

Alan: Weirdo.

James: I know!

Alan: No, you.

James: Oh. What does borange mean?

Alan: James is a fool.

James: You had to ruin things, didn't you?

Alan: I like it.

(A phone rings)

James: Hello?

Caller: It's Ballan Partridge...

James: Alan Partridge?

Ballan: No, BALLAN. It's Welsh. It means 'sheep keeper.'

James: Let me just check an online translator... Sheep keeper in Welsh is actually 'ceidwad defaid'...

Ballan: Ok fine, I don't know what my name means, it's too rare. Anyway, that's not the point. My point is I'M the one who fires the most people, not Alan Sugar.

James: Alan fires people, Ballan fires people. I was thinking maybe Ballan is really Welsh for 'man who fires'. Let's see what 'the man who fires' is in Welsh...

Alan: Well?

James: Dyn sy'n tanio...

Ballan: Very exotic...

James: Yes, I agree with you, it's the name of a movie star. Dyn sy'n tanio Decaprio!

Alan: Dreamy...

Ballan: Thank you. Anyway, as I was saying, I'M the one who fires people. I once fired everyone in my own company!

Alan: Noob. I've fired far more people than you.

Ballan: You're the noob. Bye.

Alan: Moron.

(A phone rings)

James: Hello?

Caller 2: Hello, I thought that phone call was very strange...

James: Oh, they're all strange...

Caller 2: No, even stranger than usual. It's just that Ballan Partridge firing all of his staff? Remember when ALAN Partridge fired all of his staff? You see the connection, there? It's just that... Alan Partridge is fictitious, he's from the old TV show 'I'm Alan Partridge'... Is Ballan fictitious, too??

Alan: I'm real...

James: Now THIS is an interesting podcast...

Caller 2: Well?

James: You know what? I don't know! Who really knows what reality is, right? Maybe I'm fictitious, too...

Alan (coughs): Schizo!

James: I'm not a schizo, maybe we're all part of a video game, someone's dream, who knows?

Alan: (coughs): Mental!

(A phone rings)

James: Hello?

Caller 3: I'm Alan Partridge and I am real!

James: You're the one who fired all of his staff?

Caller 3: No...

James: Ah, I see what the confusion is. You weren't listening to this show properly and you thought I was talking about you. Not true, I was actually talking about someone else with your name!

Caller 3: I have the podcast in the background as I'm driving. It's hard to concentrate as I'm driving very badly and people are swearing at me.

James: You need to be careful driving whilst on the phone...

(A crashing sound is heard)

Caller 3: (expletive)

James: He's gone. Let's just wait if the Alan Partridge who fired all of his staff would like to call...

...

Alan: It doesn't seem like he's going to phone you up. Maybe he doesn't listen to your show...

James: He probably does if he is real. In a way our personalities are similar...

...

James: Ok, fine.

(A phone rings)

James: Oh here we go...

Caller 4: Hello, I'm Derick Smith.

James: Who?

Derick: Derick Smith.

James: And why are you calling?

Derick: I don't know. Sorry bye.

Alan: In a way, I didn't really want Alan Partridge to phone. As the previous caller pointed out, it would be strange...

(A phone rings)

Caller 5: Hello! It's the fictitious Alan Partridge!

James: Oh wow. How does that even work??

Fictitious Alan: Well, who really knows what reality is?

Real Alan: What's your middle name?

...

Real Alan: He's gone.

James: Ok. Speaking of the apparently not real Alan Partridge, I read he has paranoid personality disorder. Maybe he's too paranoid to phone. Maybe y'know... he worries you could fire him?

Alan: I'm still firing you, you seem to have forgotten about that...

James: You have a catchphrase, I understand that.

Alan: Yes, I do.

James: However, you clearly like plays on words, so I have another catchphrase I think you will love!

Alan: That being?

James: You're hired!

Alan: You want me to hire you?

James: Yes please. Well I have a job already. How about as a compromise, you do the in-between of firing and hiring, that being you letting me keep my job?

Alan: You can keep your show if you say 'Alan Sugar is great'.

James: Wow...

Alan: I know it's hard.

James: Yes, it's hard for me saying that about anyone. Maybe saying it a silly voice would help me deal with me saying that...

Alan: You have to be 100% serious.

James: Fine, you're great, you win. Wow. Pain.

Alan: Your job is yours.

James: I get the feeling lots of people from antidepressant companies are going to message you very quickly if that's all they have to say to get their jobs back...

Alan: Thousands and thousands of well wishers...

James: Yes, but please don't call this podcast, it would go on way too long.

Alan: It would be very friendly monotony, though...

James: Ok. Well to wrap things up, please WRITE to lord Sugar instead of phoning me up, it would mean the world. Bye listeners!