

## English: the Perfect Language

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!  
Let's face it, English is a crazy language.  
There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger;  
neither apple nor pine in pineapple.  
English muffins weren't invented in England.  
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?  
If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?  
Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.  
In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?  
We ship by truck but send cargo by ship.  
We have noses that run and feet that smell.  
We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway.  
And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,  
while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language  
in which your house can burn up as it burns down,  
in which you fill in a form by filling it out,  
and in which an alarm goes off by going on.  
And, in closing, if Father is Pop, how come Mother's not Mop?

Aug 26, 2013



# Pelly Coffee Pot

Vol 4-30



<http://www.pelly.ca/about/the-pelly-coffee-pot.html>

The Golden Rule, as it began to be called in the seventeenth century, is one of history's oldest ethical principles. Most commonly expressed as **"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,"** the sentiment has been around for longer than you might guess, with the earliest versions appearing independently in China, India, Mesopotamia (current-day Iraq), and Egypt over four thousand years ago!

The notion that we should treat others as we would like others to treat us is the positive form of the Golden Rule. The negative form is also quite popular, and was famously expressed by Confucius in the 6th century B.C.:

**"What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others."**

**"To do unto children what they need, and not what they want, might be considered the Golden Rule of parenting."**

Didaskaleinophobia is the fear of going to school. Yes, it actually exists, and 2.4% of school-aged children are considered to have it, on an international level.

Before the school calendar became national, geography determined when students attended classes. In small, rural areas, school went from December to March and May to August so that kids could help plant in the spring and harvest in the fall. In urban areas, schools feared spread of disease in hot, crowded schoolrooms and gave their children summers off.

## Events - 2013

Aug 27 - Teachers back to school  
Sep 1 - Winnipeg @ Riders 2 pm  
Sep 2 - Labour Day  
**Sept 3 - school starts**  
Sept 12 - Early dismissal (2:15 pm)  
Sept 16 - Lions Club meeting  
Sept 22 - Fall equinox at 12:43:27 pm  
Nov 3 - Daylight saving time

*Want a notice put on the Highway sign - Drop it off with Audrey and she will see that is put up.*

QUOTE: "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

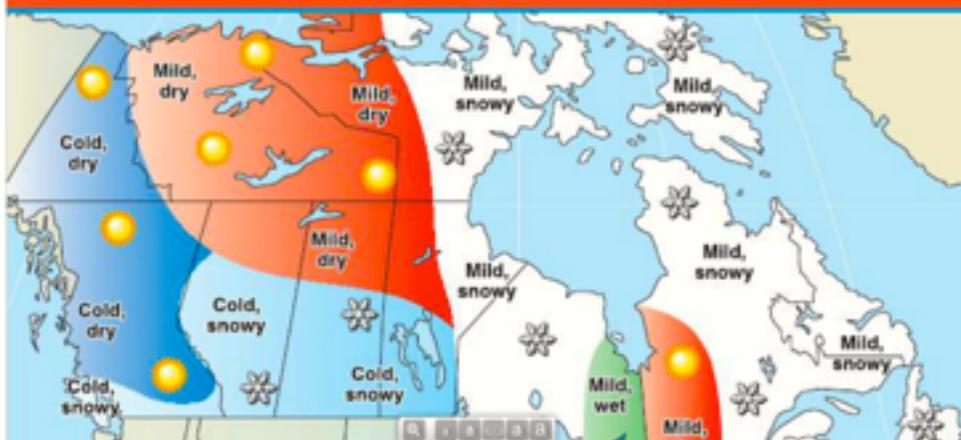
From the Farmer's Almanac  
Plant cucumbers while you are wearing your pajamas, on the first day of May, before sunrise, and no bugs will eat them.

Clothes washed for the first time in the full Moon will not last long.



**"The golden rule for every businessman is this: 'Put yourself in your customer's place.'"**

## WINTER 2013-14



Forrest Gump died and went to Heaven. When he got to the pearly gates, Saint Peter told him that new rules were in effect due the advances in education on Earth. In order to gain admittance a prospective heavenly soul must answer three questions.

1. Name two days of the week that begin with "T."
2. How many seconds are in a year?
3. What is God's first name?

Forrest thought for a few minutes and answered, "The two days of the week that begin with 'T' are 'Today' and 'Tomorrow.' There are twelve seconds in a year. And God has two first names; they are 'Andy' and 'Howard.'"

Saint Peter said, "Okay, I'll buy Today and Tomorrow. Even though it's not the answer I expected, your answer is correct. But how did you get twelve seconds in a year, and why did you ever think that God's first name is either Andy or Howard?"

Forrest responded, "Well, January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd etc..."

"OK, I'll give you that one, too," said Saint Peter, "but what about the God's first name stuff?"

Forrest said, "Well, from the song, 'Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells me I am his own...' and the prayer, 'Our Father, who art in Heaven, Howard be thy name...'"

Saint Peter let him in without further ado

**\*-- That's Irony For Ya! --\***

- I bet I could quit gambling.
- What if there were no hypothetical situations?
- It's not my fault I don't take responsibility for my actions.
- As I said before, I'll only say this once.
- This statement is false.
- Don't you hate rhetorical questions?
- God, I want patience, and I WANT IT NOW!
- Sorry, I forgot all about the Amnesia Conference!
- The creation of random numbers is too important to be left to chance.
- I can resist everything except temptation.
- I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.
- Never believe generalizations.
- Avoid alliterations always.
- I used to be schizophrenic, but we're OK now.

**In the Beginning**

In the sands of ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, locals visiting her at home (her address: 127.0.0.1) had been known to call her "Amazon" Dot Com.

One day she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why doth thou travel far from town to town with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale and they will reply telling you which hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drum idea. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever moving from his tent.

But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secret himself inside Abraham's drum and was accused of insider trading. And the young man did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Siderites, or NERDS for short.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums, that no one noticed that the real riches were going to the drum maker, one Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum company in the land to corner the market. And indeed he did insist on making drums that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks, which he called MicroShafts.

Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And as Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or as it came to be known "eBay" he said, "we need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." Others shortened that -- to "YAHOO". And that is how it all began.

1. What do you put in a toaster?

Answer: "bread." If you said "toast," maybe you should give up now and do something else. Try not to hurt yourself. If you said "bread," go to Question 2.

2. Say "silk" five times. Now spell it: "s-i-l-k." What do cows drink?

Answer: Cows drink water. If you said "milk," maybe you shouldn't even attempt to answer the next question.

3. If a red house is made from red bricks, and a blue house is made from blue bricks, and a pink house is made from pink bricks, and a black house is made from black bricks, what is a green house made from?

Answer: Greenhouses are made from glass. If you said "green bricks," why are you still reading these questions? You

4. It's 1985, and a plane is flying at 20,000 feet over Germany (If you will recall, Germany at the time was politically divided into West Germany and East Germany). During the flight, two engines fail. The pilot, realizing that the last remaining engine is also failing, decides on a crash landing procedure. Unfortunately the engine fails before he can do so and the plane fatally crashes smack in the middle of "no man's land" between East Germany and West Germany. Where would you bury the survivors? East Germany, West Germany, or no man's land?"

Answer: You don't bury survivors. If you said anything else, you're in real bad shape and for your own sake you must stop. If you said, "You don't bury survivors", proceed to the next question.

5. You must do this without using a calculator: You are driving a bus from London to Milford Haven in Wales. In London, 17 people get on the bus. In Reading, six people get off the bus and nine people get on. In Swindon, two people get off and four get on. In Cardiff, 11 people get off and 16 people get on. In Swansea, three people get off and five people get on. In Carmarthen, six people get off and three get on. You then arrive at Milford Haven. What is the name of the bus driver?

Answer: Oh, for crying out loud! "Not enough information to know" is not the correct answer! Don't you remember your own name? Or have you forgotten it was you driving the bus?!

**"The past is a nice place to visit, but you don't want to live there."**

The tradition of giving apples to teachers dates back to the 16th century in Denmark, where parents would pay their educators with food (namely, apples since they were expensive and hard to harvest), since teachers couldn't live off their small salaries.

My class visited a Coca-Cola bottling plant. There was no pop quiz.

Little Jonny was assigned a job for the choir on Christmas his job was when the choir sang 'and the Angel lit the candle' he was to come out and light the candle. So before the service on Christmas Eve they had a practice. So the choir got to the part and sang 'and the Angel lit the candle' and there was no Jonny so they sang it a bit louder thinking he didn't hear them and still no Jonny so they sang it even louder and finally Jonny came out and sang; And the cat peed on the matches!

The biggest school in the world (in terms of pupils, not area) is the City Montessori school in Lucknow, India. The school was set up by the Ghandi's in 1959 and has more than 32,000 students!

*I had to drop out of Communism school because of my bad Marx.*

*"To despise money, one must have plenty of it."*



*"I remember things the way they should have been."*



A blue whale's tongue weighs more than a whole elephant, and is large enough for fifty people to stand on it.