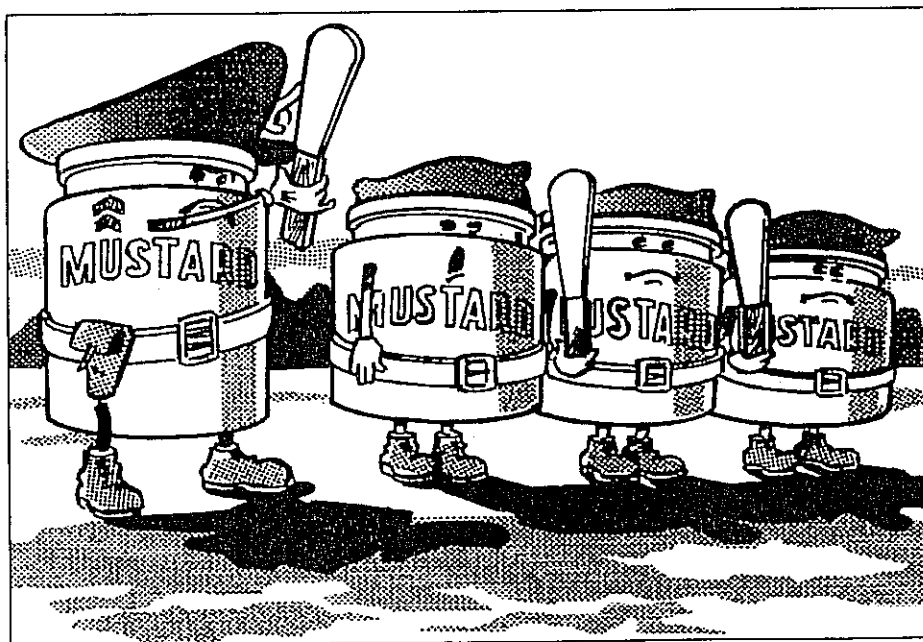


How To Use This Book

Each page consists of five elements:

1. The **main word**. The word you wish to learn. It is followed by the phonetic pronunciation and a definition.
Example: MUSTER (MUS tur), to collect or gather; an act of inspection or critical examination.
2. The **link word**. The link word is a simple word or words which rhyme or sound like the main word.
Example: MUSTARD
3. The **caption**. The caption connects the main word and the linking word in a sentence.
Example: Each morning the MUSTARD troops are MUSTERED for roll call.
4. The **cartoon**. The caption is made into a bizarre or humorous cartoon which incorporates the main word and the linking word into a visual mnemonic.

Example:



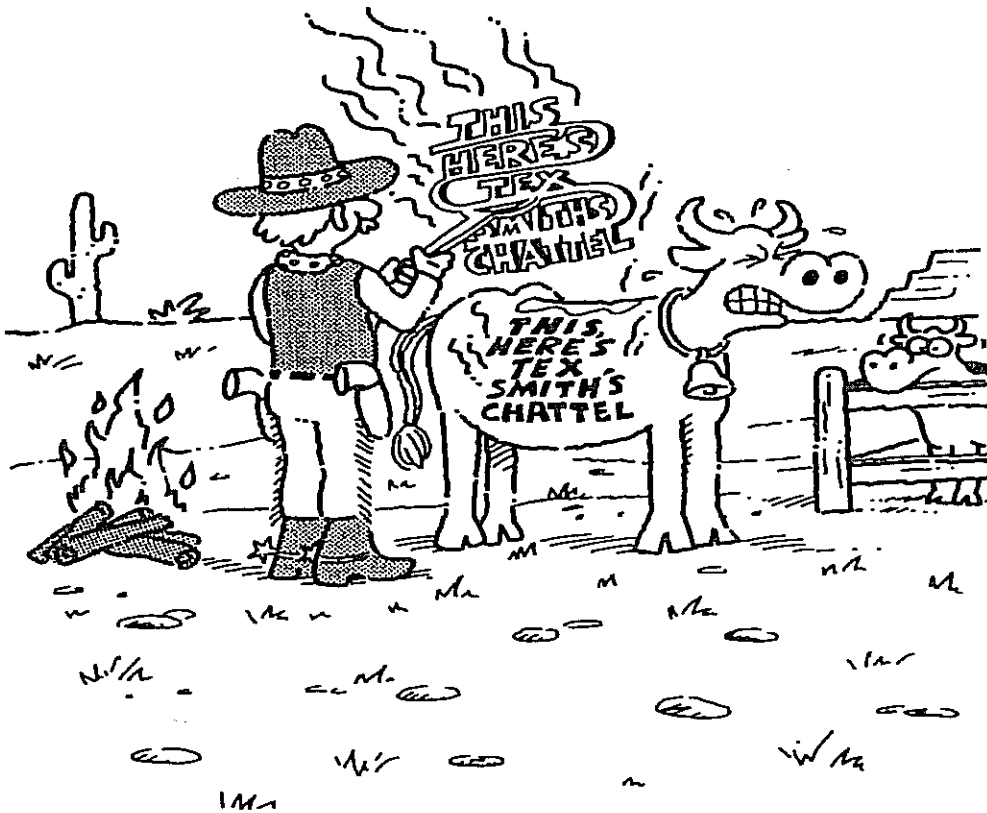
*"Each morning the MUSTARD troops are
MUSTERED for roll call."*

CHATTEL

(chatel)

an item of personal, movable
property; slave

Link: CATTLE



"Tex's CATTLE were his CHATTEL."

- ☐ The bank held a CHATTEL mortgage on all our office equipment, chairs, computers and even our electric clock.
- ☐ Please do not order me around Lady Boswell, I am neither your servant nor your CHATTEL.
- ☐ The CHATTEL belonging to Herodotos of Athens at his death were sixteen slaves, seven horses, six hunting dogs and three midget gladiators.

AUSTERE

(aw STEER)

stern, as in manner; without excess, unadorned, severely simple and plain

Link: STEER



"An AUSTERE STEER is no fun at a party."

- ❑ Jill's father was AUSTERE, rarely smiled and was always stern with her about having dates with boys he didn't know.
- ❑ The AUSTERITY of life in the village was understandable. Many were jobless and evidence of poverty was everywhere.
- ❑ Her home was AUSTERELY decorated, very plain furniture without frills and only items that were necessary.

LAMENT

(la MINT)

to express sorrow or regret;

to mourn

Link: CEMENT



*"We LAMENT that Joe got
buried in CEMENT."*

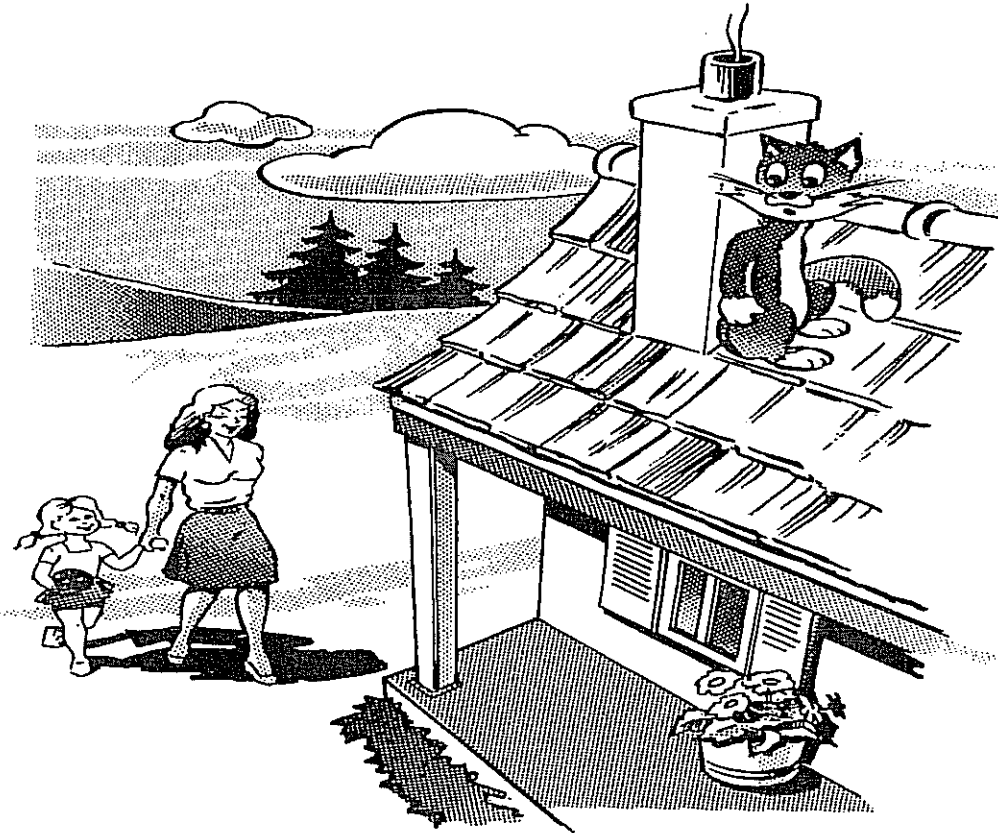
- ❑ The song, "Cowboy's LAMENT," is a ballad about the lonely life of those who drive cattle for a living.
- ❑ The nation LAMENTS the passing of the President while at the same time celebrating his achievements while in office.
- ❑ It is LAMENTABLE that Roscoe quit college in his sophomore year; his professors considered him the brightest engineering student in his class.

ALOOF

(uh LOOF)

distant, reserved in manner;
uninvolved

Link: ROOF



"Snowball, the cat, was so ALOOF when guests came she hid on the ROOF."

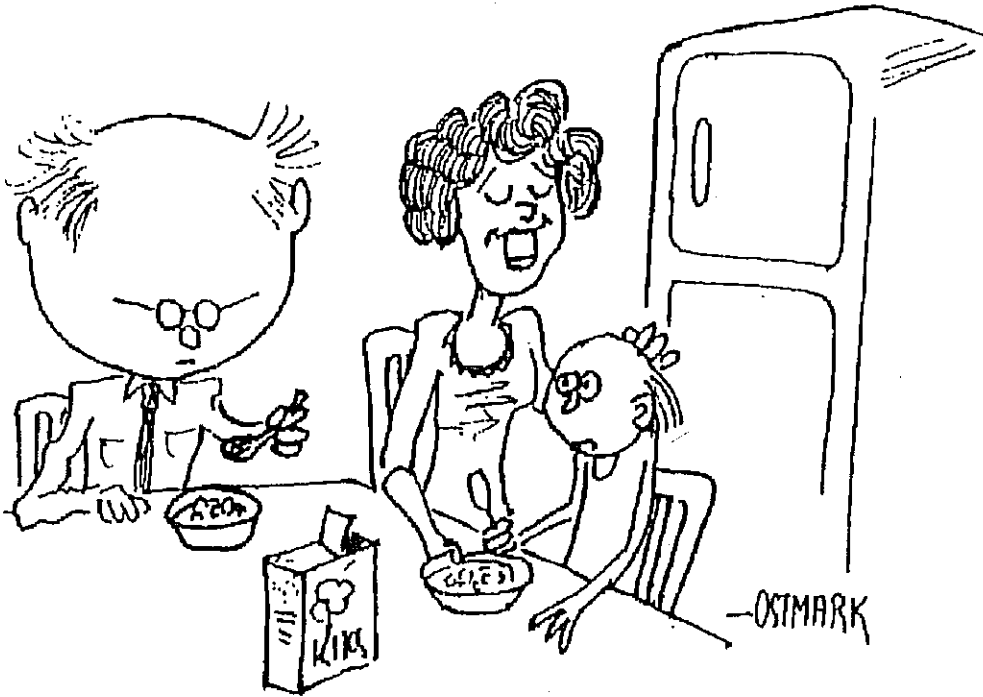
- ❑ Most everyone thought Theodore ALOOF when actually he was only very shy.
- ❑ Nothing ruins a fine dinner at a good restaurant like an ALOOF waiter who makes the entire experience uncomfortable.
- ❑ At the wedding reception, the bride's relatives were very ALOOF, hardly speaking to the groom's guests and family.

CEREBRAL

(suh REE brul)

of or relating to the brain;
an intellectual person

Link: CEREAL



“Eat your CEREAL so you’ll grow up and be CEREBRAL like your father.”

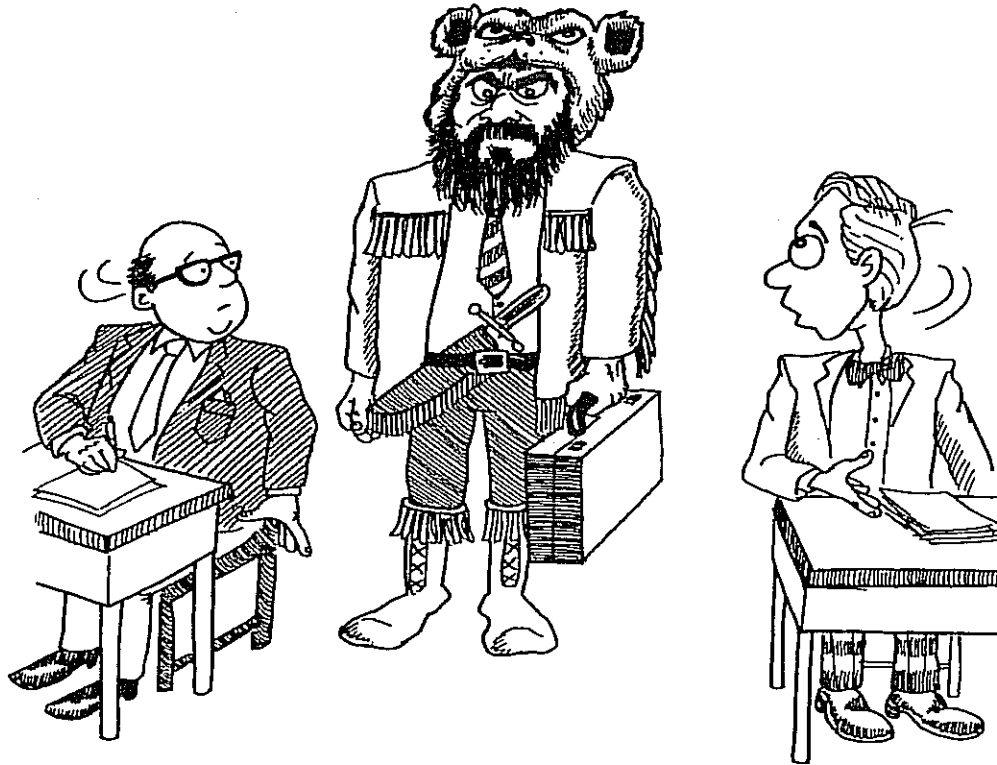
- ❑ CEREBRAL for a football player, the wily Kansas quarterback rarely called a play that wasn’t well planned and thought out.
- ❑ Dr. Clark was too CEREBRAL to be a boy scout leader. Instead of saying “pitch your tents over by the cliff,” he would confuse everyone with his big words and say, “construct the canvas shelters in the proximity of the promontory.”

INCONGRUOUS

(in KAHN grew us)

not appropriate, unsuited to the surroundings; not fitting in

Link: IN CONGRESS



"The new Alaskan senator's presence IN CONGRESS was INCONGRUOUS."

- ❑ Ed appeared INCONGRUOUS wearing his tuxedo on an old-fashioned hayride.
- ❑ The INCONGRUITY with Joseph's chosen career was that he had a Ph.D. in chemistry, but preferred to work as a mullet fisherman.
- ❑ INCONGRUOUSLY, Dianne spent several days a week at the library, even though she professed that she didn't like to read.

BULWARK

(BULL wurk)

a defensive wall; something serving
as a principle defense

Link: BULL WORK



"BULLS WORK building a BULWARK."

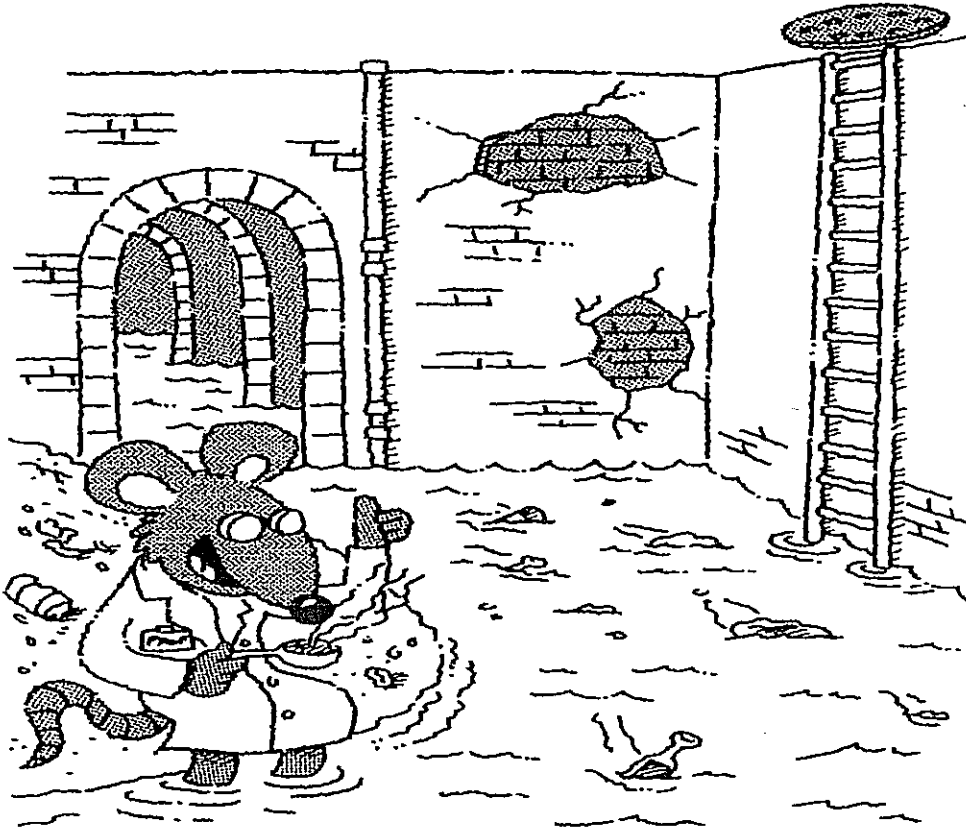
- ❑ Quebec City is the only city in North America with a BULWARK built entirely around it.
- ❑ The budget for national defense is an economic burden for all taxpayers, but we must never forget our armed services are the BULWARK of defense for the nation.
- ❑ Our mother was a BULWARK against bad times; no matter how bad things became she always wore a smile and had a cheerful word.

CONNOISSEUR

(kahn uh SUR)

an expert, particularly in
matters of art and taste

Link: KING OF SEWER



*"The KING OF the SEWER is a
CONNOISSEUR of garbage."*

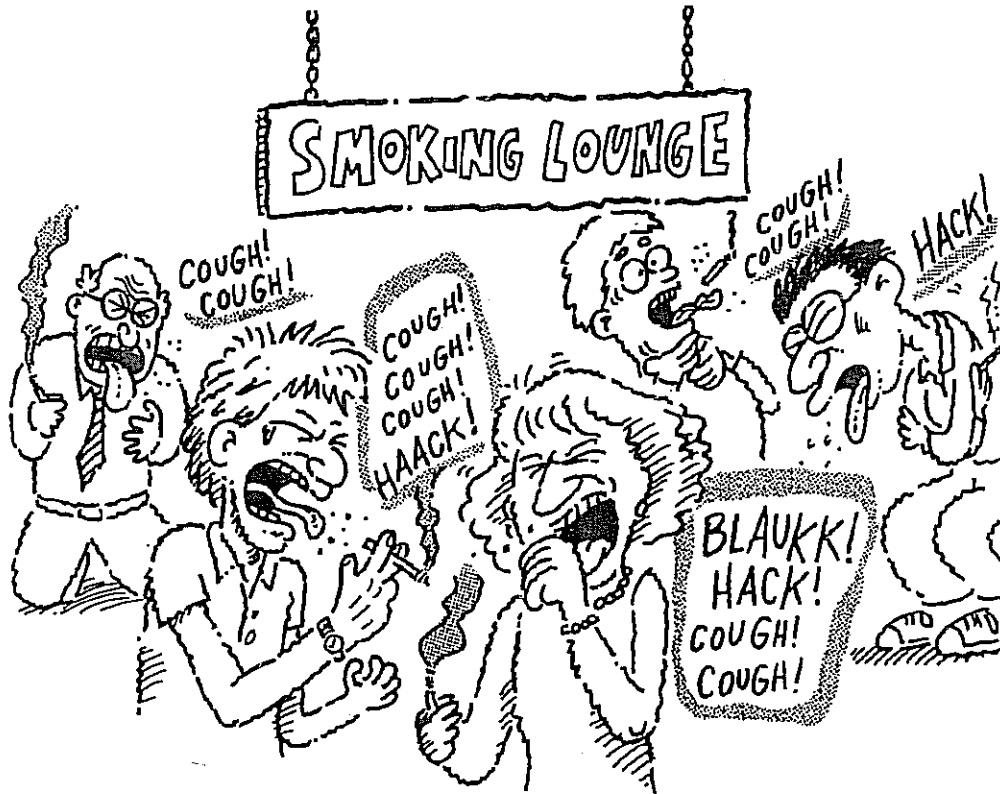
- ☐ My uncle is a CONNOISSEUR of fine wines.
- ☐ Art dealer, Jorge Guizar, is a CONNOISSEUR of Mexican art of the 19th century.
- ☐ When it came to coins, Jerry proclaimed he was a CONNOISSEUR, because he had collected them all his life.

CACOPHONY

(kuh KAFH uh nee)

harsh sounds

Link: COUGH



“A CACOPHONY of COUGHING.”

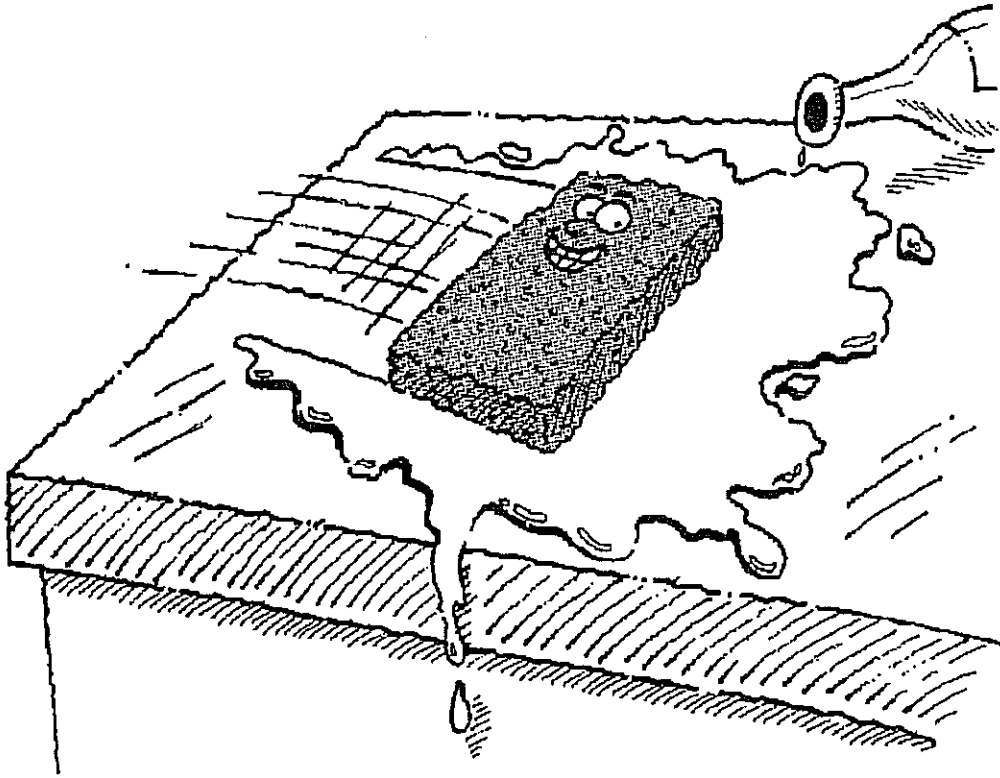
- ❑ A CACOPHONY isn't noise alone, it is disturbing noise such as when people shout all at once.
- ❑ Gene thinks all rock music is a CACOPHONY to be avoided whenever possible.
- ❑ An unpleasant CACOPHONY of sound was produced as the orchestra tuned their instruments. But once they began to play together the sounds became euphonious.

EXPUNGE

(ex PUNGE)

to remove; to delete; to erase

Link: SPONGE



"A SPONGE EXPUNGING a spill."

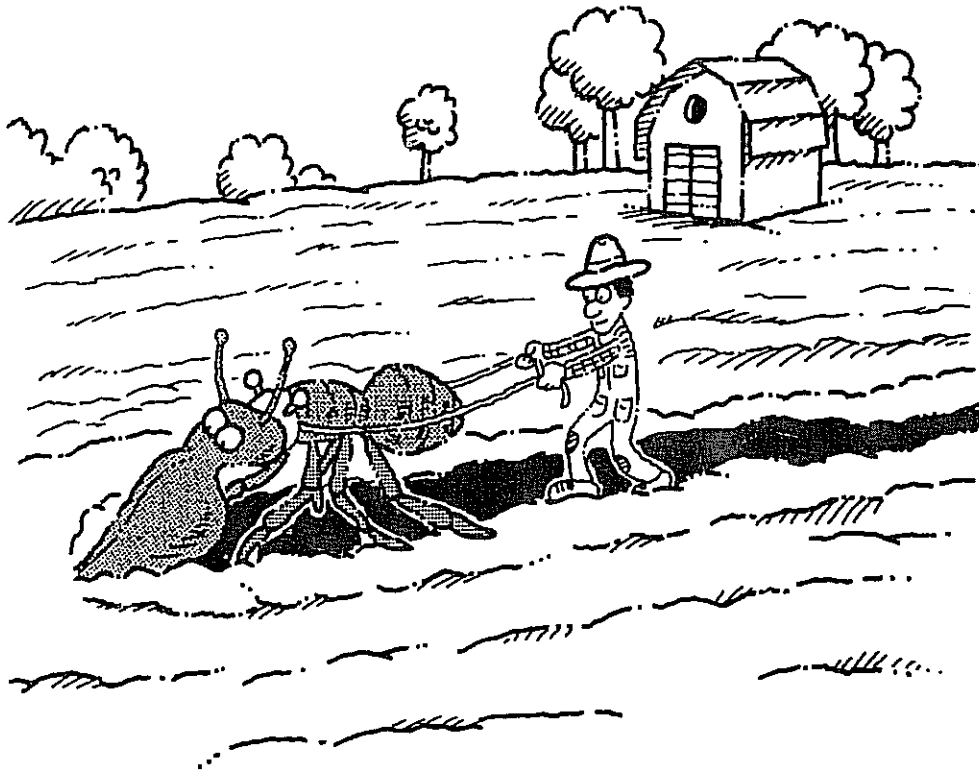
- ☐ The judge ordered the clerk to EXPUNGE the lawyer's statement from the record.
- ☐ The wet and muddy footprints were EXPUNGED with soap and water.
- ☐ The teacher told Justin EXPUNGING the low grades from his record was not something she was willing to do.

TRENCHANT

(TREN chunt)

cutting, incisive, having a sharp point; caustic, sarcastic

Link: TRENCH ANT



"A TRENCHANT mouth is characteristic of the famous Madagascar TRENCH ANT."

- ❑ Roger's TRENCHANT remarks at the budget meeting could be explained by the fact that he knew precisely where the financial problems lay.
- ❑ The music teacher made numerous TRENCHANT comments about the band's performance; clearly she thought the band stunk.
- ❑ Julia had a TRENCHANT tongue and was always putting her friends down behind their backs.

PROCRASTINATE

(PRO cras tuh nate)

to put off until a later time

Link: GRASS HATE



"Larry HATED to cut the GRASS and would PROCRASTINATE about it for weeks."

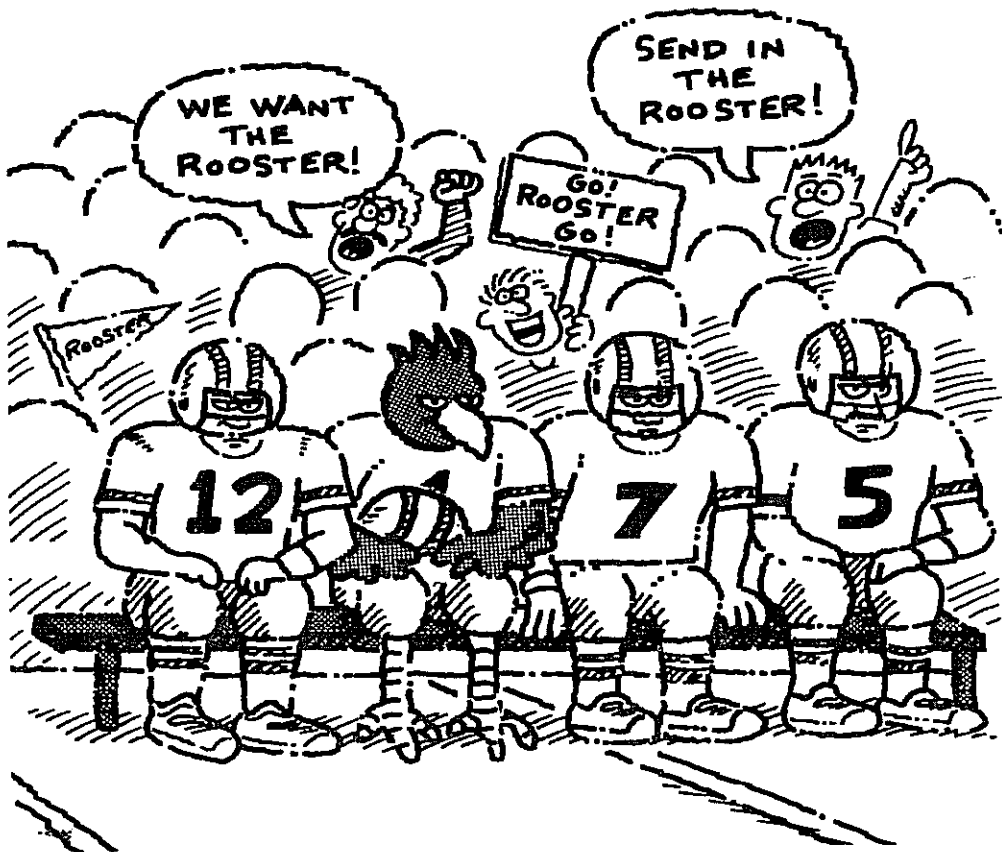
- ☐ Never do today what you can PROCRASTINATE until tomorrow, a famous husband once said.
- ☐ Tom would PROCRASTINATE until the last minute to do his homework.
- ☐ Wilcox had a PROCRASTINATING personality; whatever he started, you felt he was probably not going to finish.

ROSTER

(raw ster)

a list of names; especially of personnel available for duty

Link: ROOSTER



"A ROOSTER on the ROSTER."

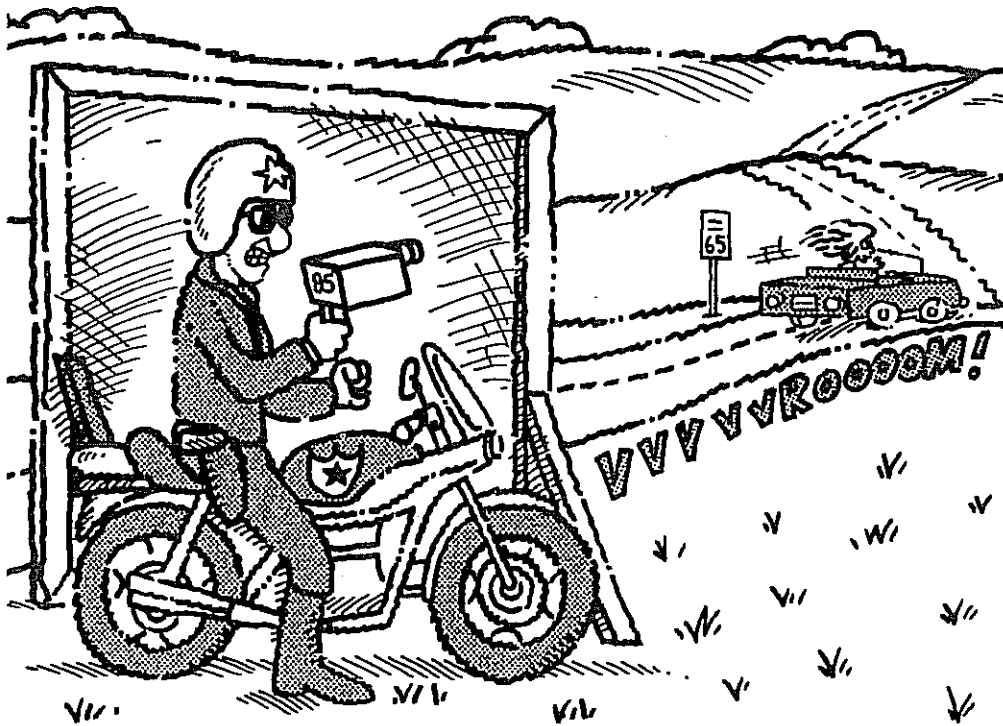
- ☐ The football program has a ROSTER for both teams.
- ☐ Tom saw his name on the duty ROSTER.
- ☐ The military is full of all types of ROSTERS; there is a duty ROSTER, a leave ROSTER and even a ROSTER for standing guard.

IMPEDE

(im PEED)

to obstruct or interfere with;
to delay

Link: SPEED



*"The job of highway patrolmen is to
IMPEDE SPEEDING motorists."*

- ❑ He was only my uncle, but he always told me no matter what, not to let anyone IMPEDE my ambition to go to medical school.
- ❑ (Something that IMPEDES is an IMPEDIMENT.)
As a hopeful runner on the school track team, James Carver's biggest IMPEDIMENT to his foot speed was his short legs.

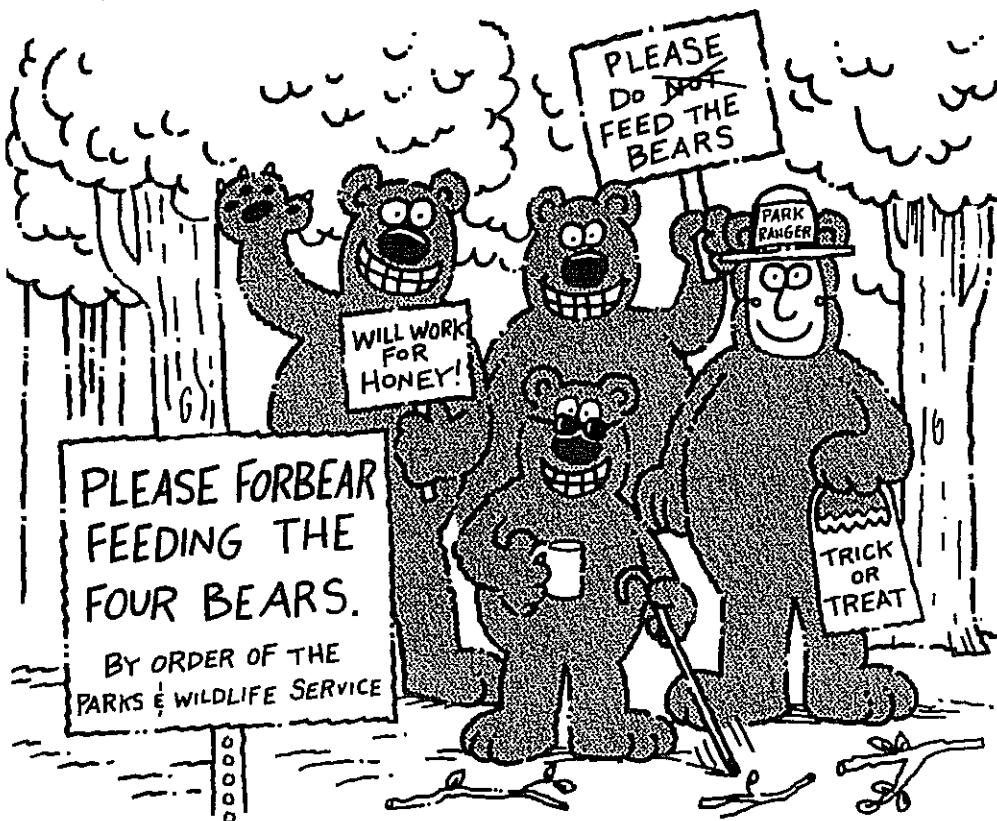
FORBEAR

(for BAYR)

to refrain from; to abstain;

to be patient or tolerant

Link: FOUR BEARS



"Please FORBEAR feeding the FOUR BEARS."

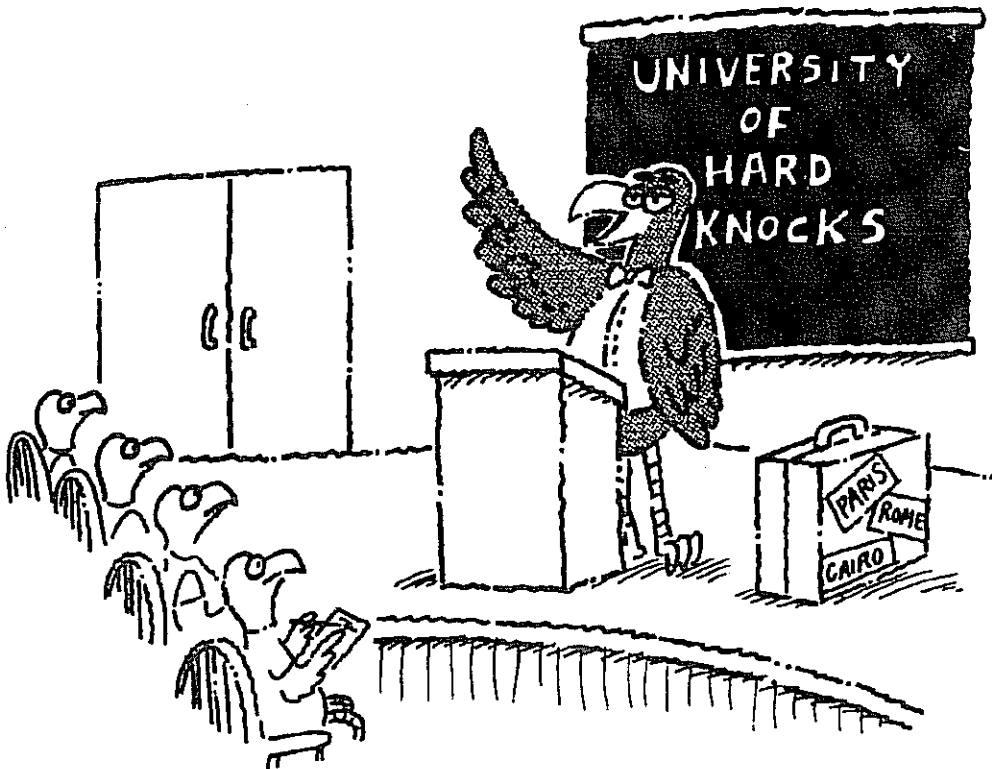
- ❑ To FORBEAR your opinion on any controversial matter until you have first heard all the facts is generally the wisest course of action.
- ❑ Jonathan said his motto was to never FORBEAR a good party for another time when you can have one today.
- ❑ Henry FORBORE his decision to close the store, deciding to wait until after the Christmas season.

MIGRATORY

(MIE gra tory)

roving, wandering, nomadic

Link: MY STORY



“MY STORY is one of many MIGRATORY movements.”

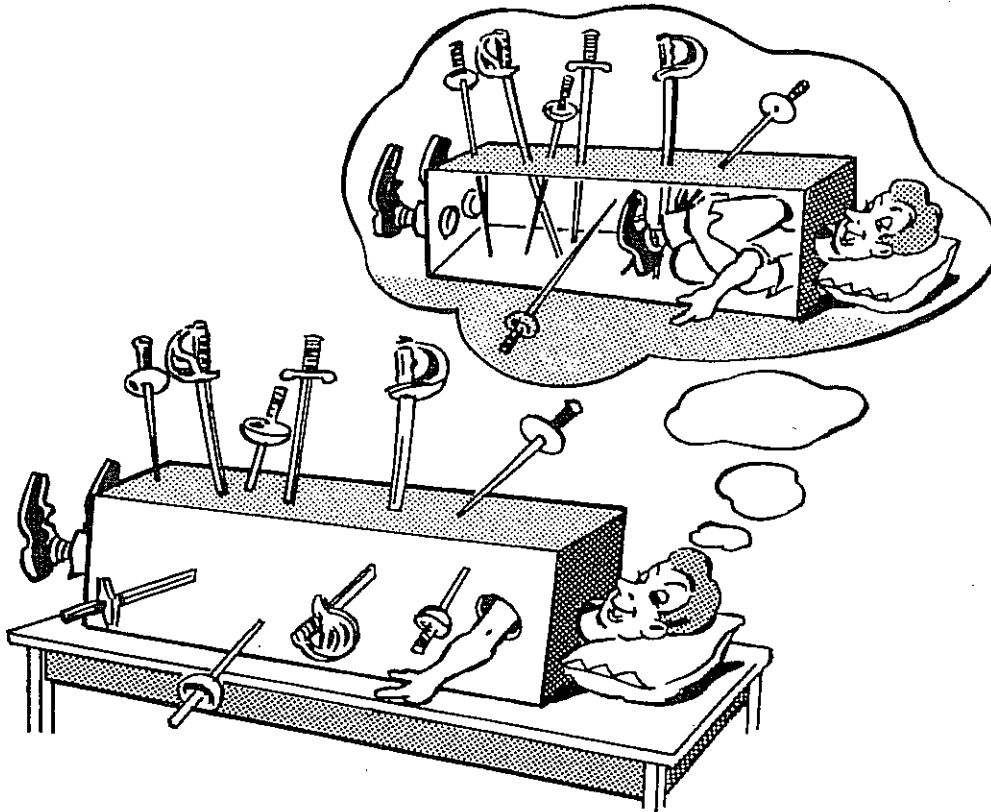
- ☐ Wild geese MIGRATE to Canada in the summers and Mexico in the winters.
- ☐ Most American Indian tribes in the old west were MIGRATORY and followed the movements of the buffalo.
- ☐ Fruit pickers are MIGRATORY workers who move from place to place at harvesting time.

EVADE

(ee VADE)

to elude or avoid by cunning; to
flee from a pursuer

Link: BLADE



"A magician's secret for EVADING BLADES."

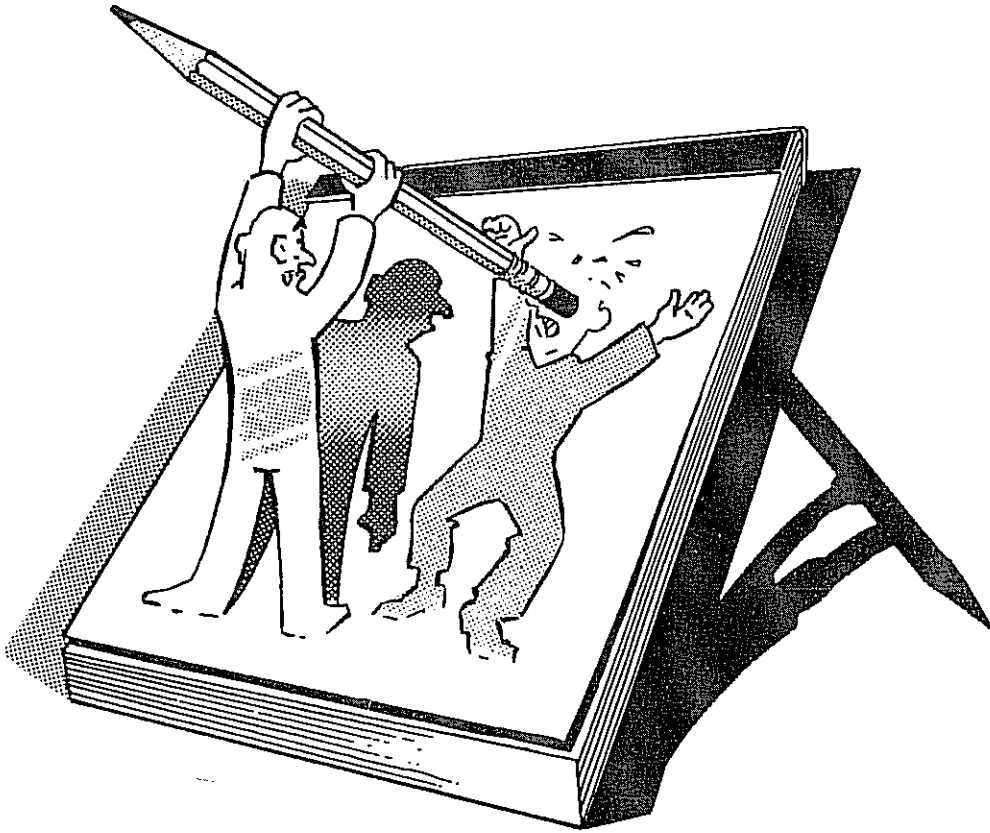
- ☐ The escaped prisoners EVADED the authorities by breaking into a church and disguising themselves as nuns.
- ☐ Jane always managed to EVADE helping her sister wash the dinner dishes by claiming she had homework to do.
- ☐ Their romance never really blossomed as their friends expected, because Sarah was the pursuer, but Bill was the EVADER.

EFFACE

(uh FACE)

to rub away

Link: ERASE



“How to EFFACE a face by ERASING it.”

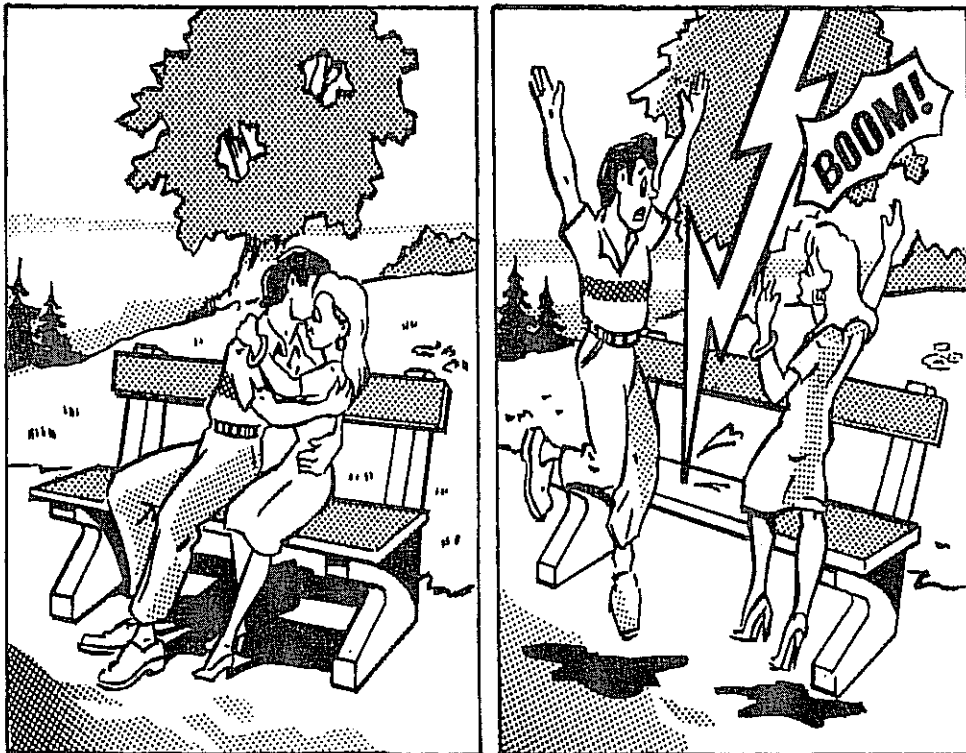
- ❑ We came upon a cemetery by the sea. Many of the headstone inscriptions had been EFFACED by the ravages of time, but we could make out many that were well over two hundred years old.
- ❑ To assure that he left no clues, the thief EFFACED his fingerprints from the stolen car.
- ❑ Someone vandalized the museum paintings by EFFACING each one with red spray paint.

ASUNDER

(uh SUN dur)

in separate parts; apart from each other in position

Link: THUNDER



"The THUNDER tore the young lovers ASUNDER."

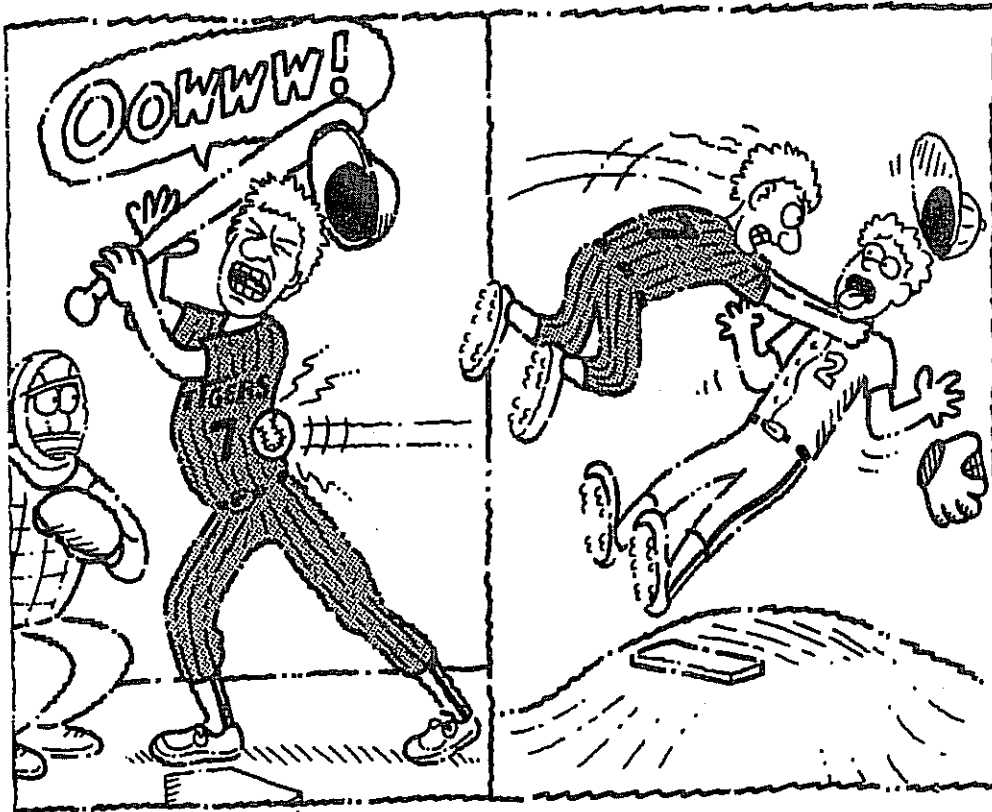
- ❑ When the earthquake stopped, and we came up from our shelter, we found the city had been torn ASUNDER and not one single building was left standing.
- ❑ Our team lost its unity and became a group of individuals who played entirely for themselves, ASUNDER from each other.

INCITE

(en SIGHT)

to arouse to action

Link: FIGHT



*"The pitcher's bean ball INCITED
the batter to FIGHT."*

- ❑ The mob was INCITED to riot when the police arrived and began hitting people with their night-sticks.
- ❑ When Rodney decided that his case was hopeless, nothing the doctors could say would INCITE him to fight his illness.
- ❑ Waving a stick at Jerry's dog only INCITES him and increases the chance he will bite you.

QUIXOTIC

(kwik SAHT ik)

idealistic and totally impractical

Link: IDIOTIC



*"Jim, the messenger, is not IDIOTIC,
he's just QUIXOTIC."*

- ☐ Professor Callan said it is QUIXOTIC of society to ignore the world's environmental problems.
- ☐ Putting all taxpayers on the honor system is a QUIXOTIC suggestion.
- ☐ Sue had the most QUIXOTIC ideas of what her life would be like if she ever won the lottery.

BELEAGUER

(be LEE gur)

to besiege; beset, surround, harass

Link: BIG LEAGUER



*"The little leaguers BELEAGUERED
the BIG LEAGUERS."*

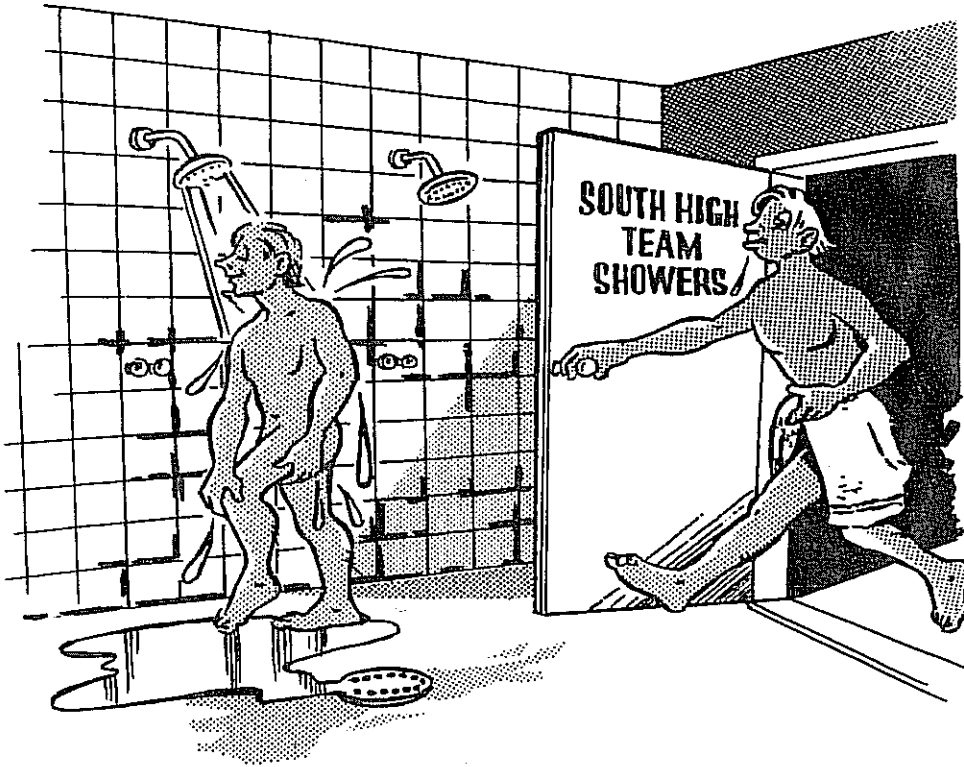
- ❑ In World War II, the Russian city of Stalingrad was BELEAGUERED by the German Army for five months before it fell to the Germans.
- ❑ During his last year in office, Richard Nixon was a BELEAGUERED president, struggling to fight off the Watergate scandal.
- ❑ In the midst of important negotiations, the union official asked his staff not to BELEAGUER him with insignificant details.

MILIEU

(mill you)

environment or surroundings

Link: MILDEW



*"The boys' locker room showers were
a MILIEU of MILDEW."*

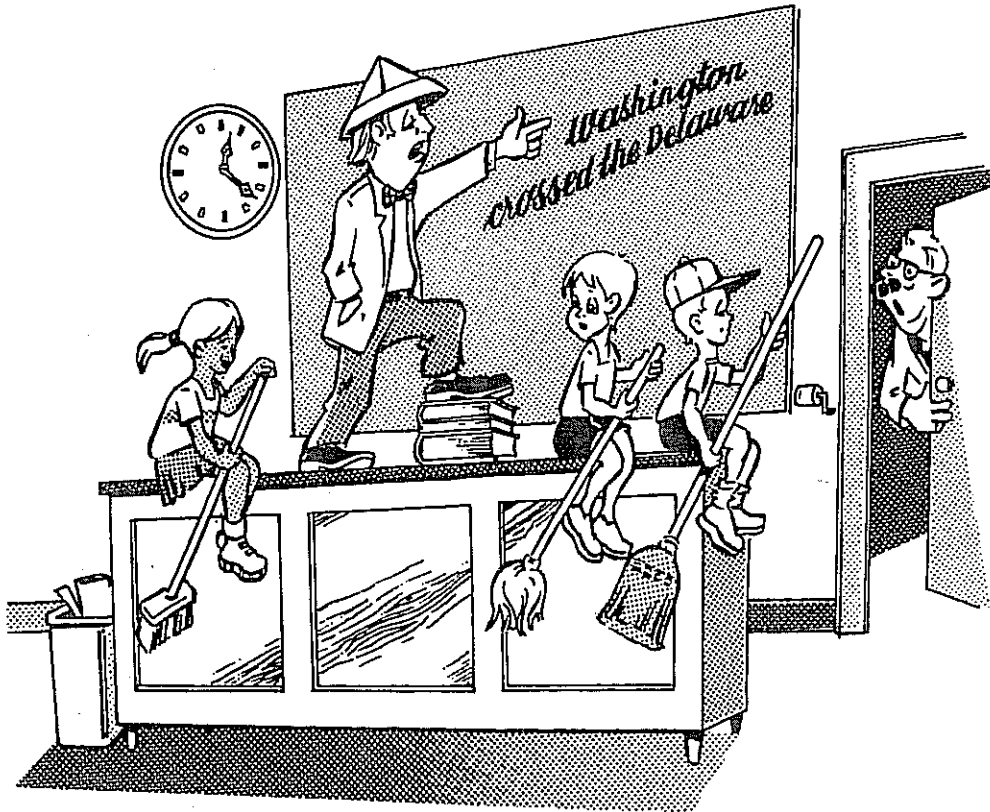
- ❑ After a long sea journey, a sailor on land for the first few days feels out of his MILIEU.
- ❑ The proper MILIEU for raising a family is a home setting with loving parents who understand child rearing; something every parent must work at and not take for granted.
- ❑ The New York Stock Exchange is a MILIEU of frenzied activity during trading hours.

HISTRIONIC

(his tree AHN ik)

overly dramatic, theatrical

Link: HISTORY



"Professor Bradley liked his HISTORY on the HISTRIONIC side."

- ☐ As soon as you would mention the word wrinkle, the middle-aged actress would fall into a state of HISTRIONIC tears.
- ☐ Everything Michael said was on the swaggering, HISTRIONIC side, as if he were the coolest guy on campus.
- ☐ The children's HISTRIONICS when they couldn't find their toys made everyone uncomfortable.

BLUDGEON

(BLUD jun)

a short heavy, thick club that has
one end larger than the other

Link: DUNGEON



*"Why do you suppose they have all these
BLUDGEONS in this DUNGEON?"*

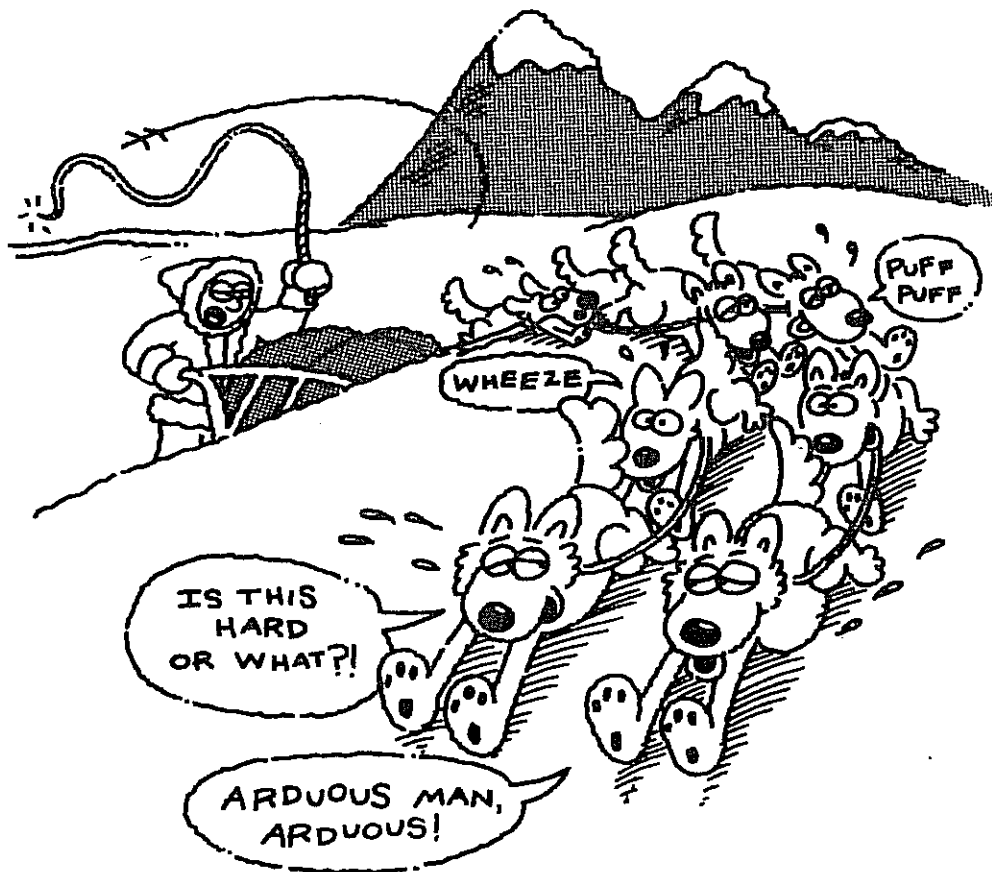
- ❑ There was nothing temperate about the lawyer's summary to the jury; he BLUDGEONED them with all the gruesome details of the murder.
- ❑ Henry's BLUDGEONING accusations about his neighbor's dog were more than criticisms; he was trying to intimidate the dog owner into getting rid of the animal.
- ❑ The police arrested the lumberjack on suspicion of BLUDGEONING a co-worker with an axe handle.

ARDUOUS

(AHR joo us)

hard, difficult, tiresome

Link: HARD ON US



*"The ARDUOUS snow-covered trail
is HARD ON US."*

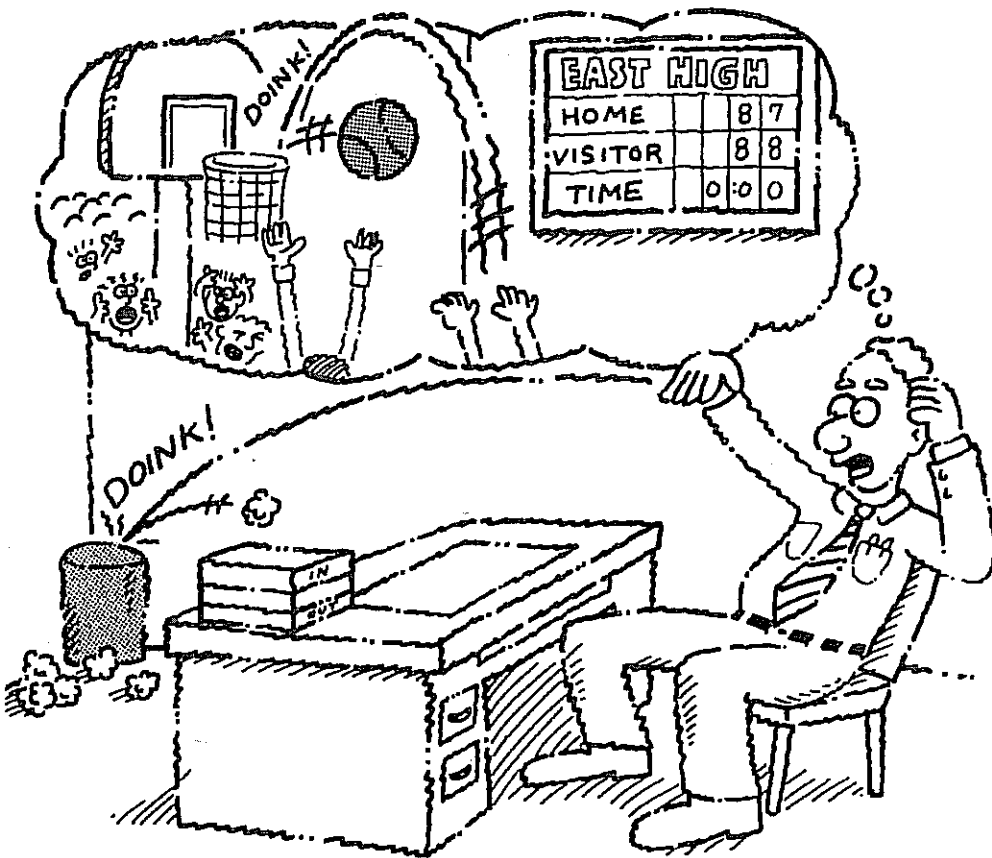
- ❑ The assignment given the recruits was ARDUOUS, twenty miles with full packs in the hot sun.
- ❑ Swimming three miles was the most ARDUOUS exercise Jeannie ever had.
- ❑ The long, ARDUOUS boat trip was made even worse by stormy seas and much seasickness.

REMINISCE

(rem uh NISS)

the act or practice of
recalling the past

Link: RIM MISS



"Jim never got over his RIM MISS and tortured himself for years REMINISCING about it."

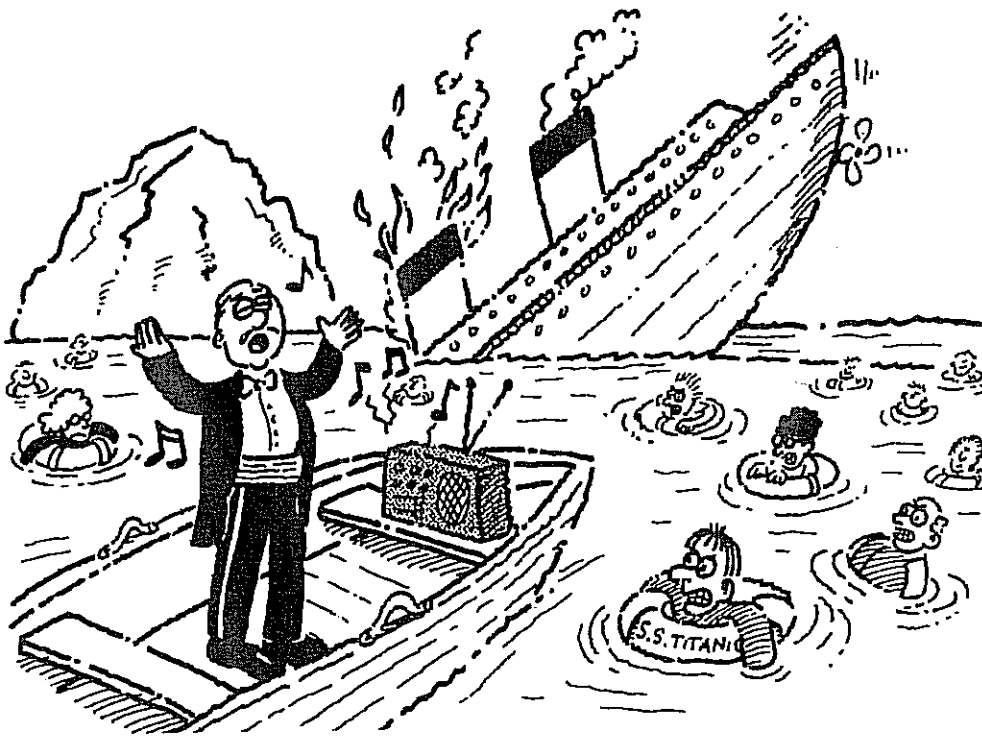
- ❑ Sometimes when we are feeling nostalgic, my wife and I lie back and listen to the music of the 1960s and REMINISCE about when we were dating and the things we used to do.
- ❑ The REMINISCENT qualities in his art brought back fond memories of Paris in the 19th century.

OPPORTUNE

(AHP ur tune)

occurring or coming at a
good time

Link: OPERA TUNE



"Not an OPPORTUNE time for an OPERA TUNE."

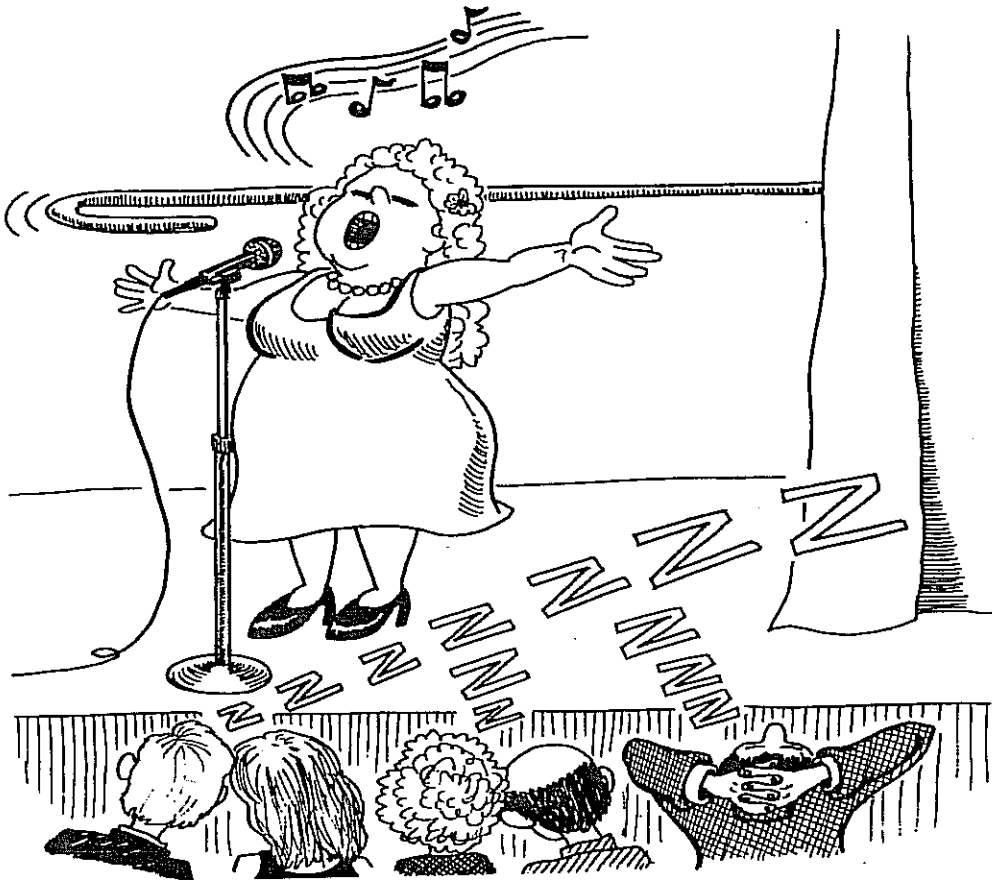
- ❑ An OPPORTUNIST at heart, Ed OPPORTUNELY dropped by Janet's house just as dinner was being served.
- ❑ During the family reunion, Christopher felt it the OPPORTUNE moment for announcing his job promotion.
- ❑ Mrs. Childs, our teacher, said the weekend before our final exam was an OPPORTUNE time for last minute studying.

DULCET

(DULL set)

melodious, soft, soothing

Link: DULL SIT



"If you don't like opera, even the most DULCET tones of the finest sopranos make for a DULL SIT."

- ❑ Senator Kramer was a political campaigner who could hypnotize an audience with sweet words and DULCET tones.
- ❑ Jeff's parents declared there was nothing DULCET about the rock-and-roll music that shook the house from his room every morning as he dressed for school.

PORCINE

(PORE sein)

reminiscent of or pertaining
to a pig; resembling a pig

Link: POOR SCENE



*"It was a POOR SCENE when Mark
arrived with his PORCINE date."*

- ❑ After an around the world cruise, where each meal is a grand feast, Bob and Helen returned home with PORCINE figures.
- ❑ She had a PORCINE attitude about food; that is to say she would eat anything and everything.

LASSITUDE

(LAS uh tood)

listlessness; torpor, weariness

Link: LAZY DUDE



"A LAZY DUDE with LASSITUDE."

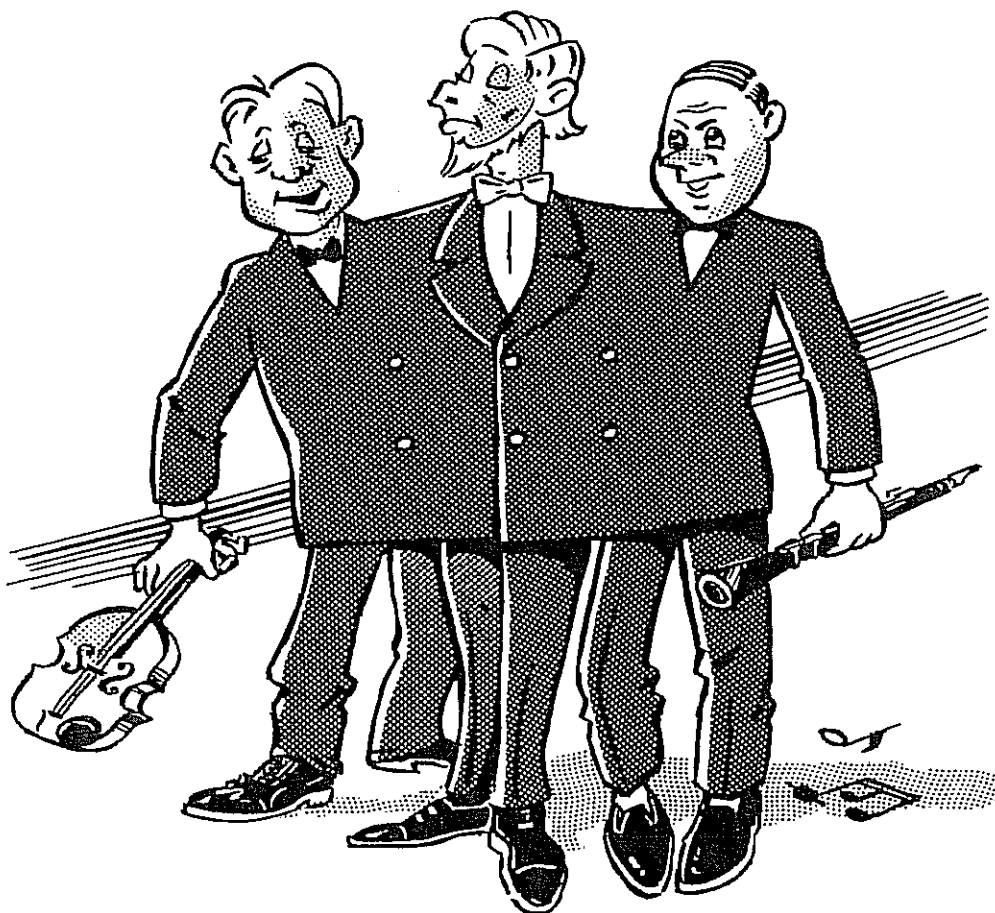
- ❑ After eating three servings of Thanksgiving dinner, George succumbed to a feeling of LASSITUDE and fell asleep on the couch.
- ❑ Having worked for the cannery for twenty years without a raise, Charles became discouraged with his employers and approached his daily work with unenthusiastic LASSITUDE.

COTERIE

(KOH tuh ree)

a circle of close associates or friends

Link: COAT FOR THREE



*"The maestro and his COTERIE
in a COAT FOR THREE."*

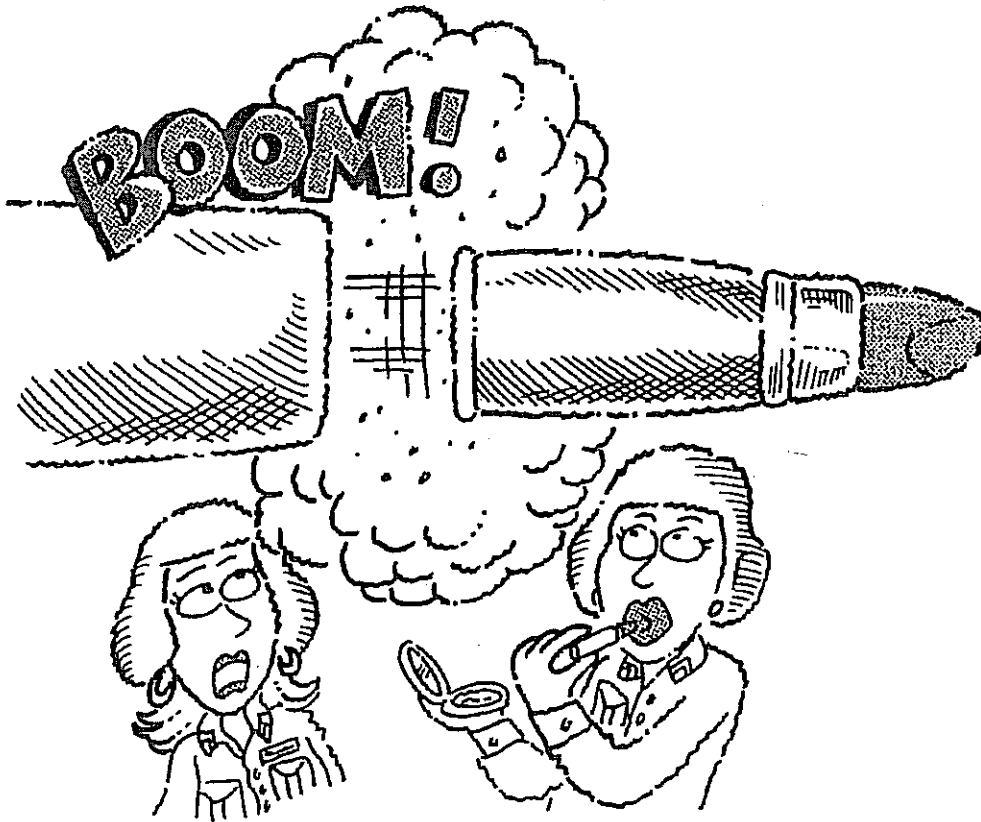
- ☐ Today's tennis stars rarely travel alone, but with a COTERIE of managers and coaches.
- ☐ Rock stars have a COTERIE of fans who follow them around like leeches.
- ☐ You have to be a member of Daisy's COTERIE, or you don't count at all, in the opinion of Daisy.

BALLISTICS

(buh LISS ticks)

the study of the dynamics or flight characteristics of projectiles

Link: LIPSTICK



"BALLISTIC LIPSTICK."

- ❑ BALLISTICS is a noun, while BALLISTIC is an adjective which means "of projectiles."
- ❑ Most naval warships carry BALLISTIC missiles.
- ❑ Detective Culleton specializes in BALLISTICS and is always called to a crime scene whenever a firearm is involved.

AMBIANCE

(AM bee uns)

mood, feeling; general atmosphere

Link: AMBULANCE



*“George did not enjoy the AMBIANCE
in the AMBULANCE.”*

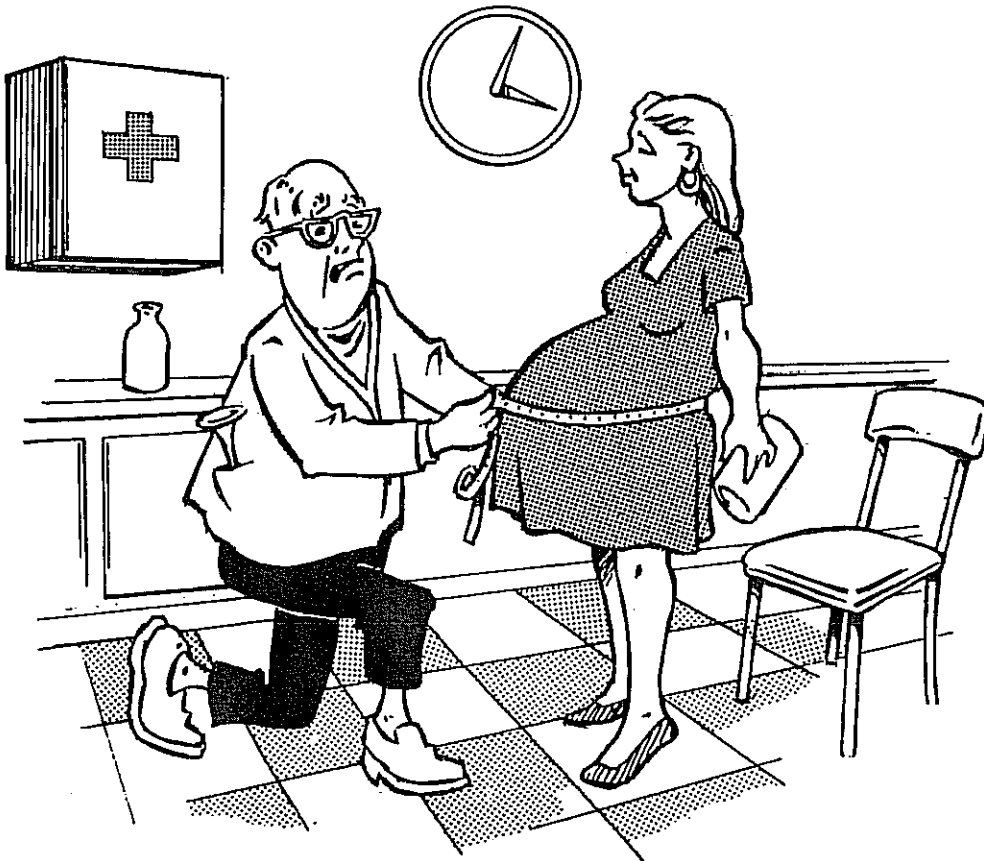
- ❑ The AMBIANCE of the locker room after the team lost the championship was depressing.
- ❑ For their daughter's birthday party, the Jeffersons' created an AMBIANCE of gaiety, decorating the garden with bright balloons and ribbons.
- ❑ The AMBIANCE in the Italian restaurant was delightful, there was soft music, candlelight and singing waiters.

GIRTH

(girth)

the distance around something; to encircle; to secure with a band that encircles the body of an animal

Link: BIRTH



"Before giving BIRTH, ladies are quite large in GIRTH."

- ❑ Jonathan placed the saddle on top of the horse and fastened the GIRTH.
- ❑ Before crawling into a sewer pipe, it is first wise to measure the GIRTH.
- ❑ The GIRTH of the planet Earth is about twenty-five thousand miles.

ASKEW

(uh SKEW)

to one side; crooked; awry; a
sidelong look of contempt

Link: CUE



“Curly’s pool CUE had become ASKEW.”

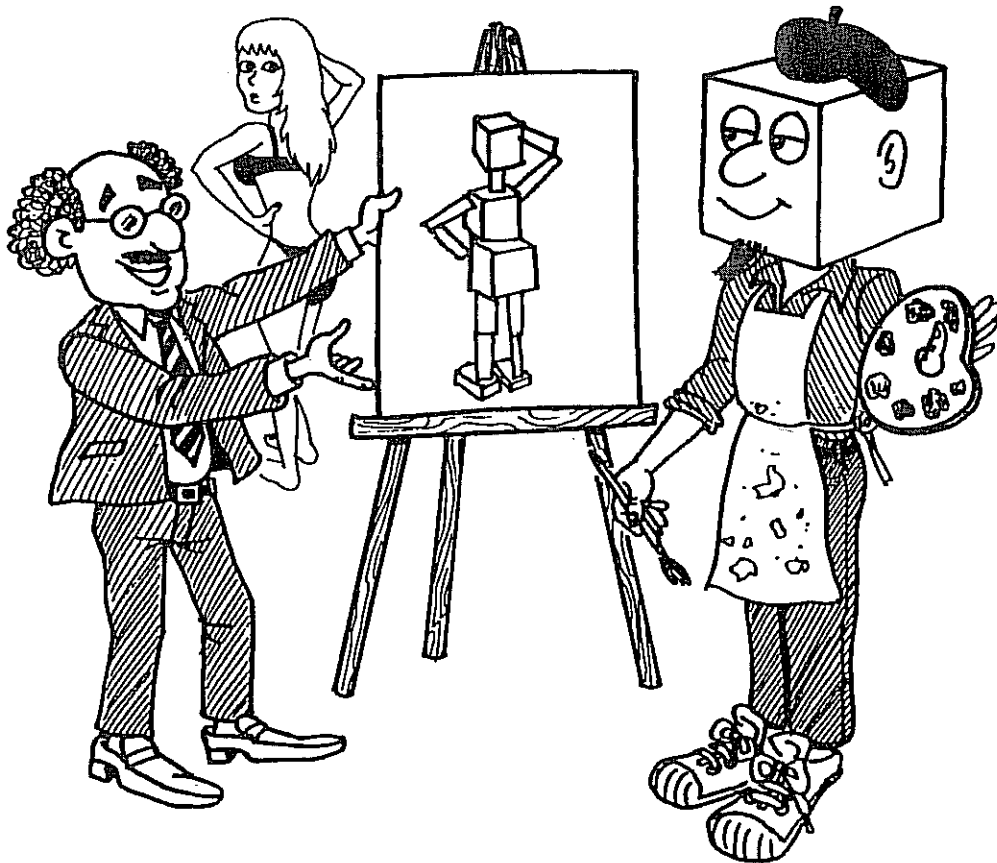
- ❑ After the flood receded, the bridge was found to be ASKEW of the road which connected to it.
- ❑ The tire wouldn’t fit on the car because in the accident the axle had been bent ASKEW.
- ❑ The speaker looked ASKEW at the heckler at every interruption.

CUBISM

(KYOO biz um)

a style of art in which the subject matter is portrayed by geometric forms, especially cubes

Link: CUBES



“By the look of these CUBES, you are an artist of the school of CUBISM.”

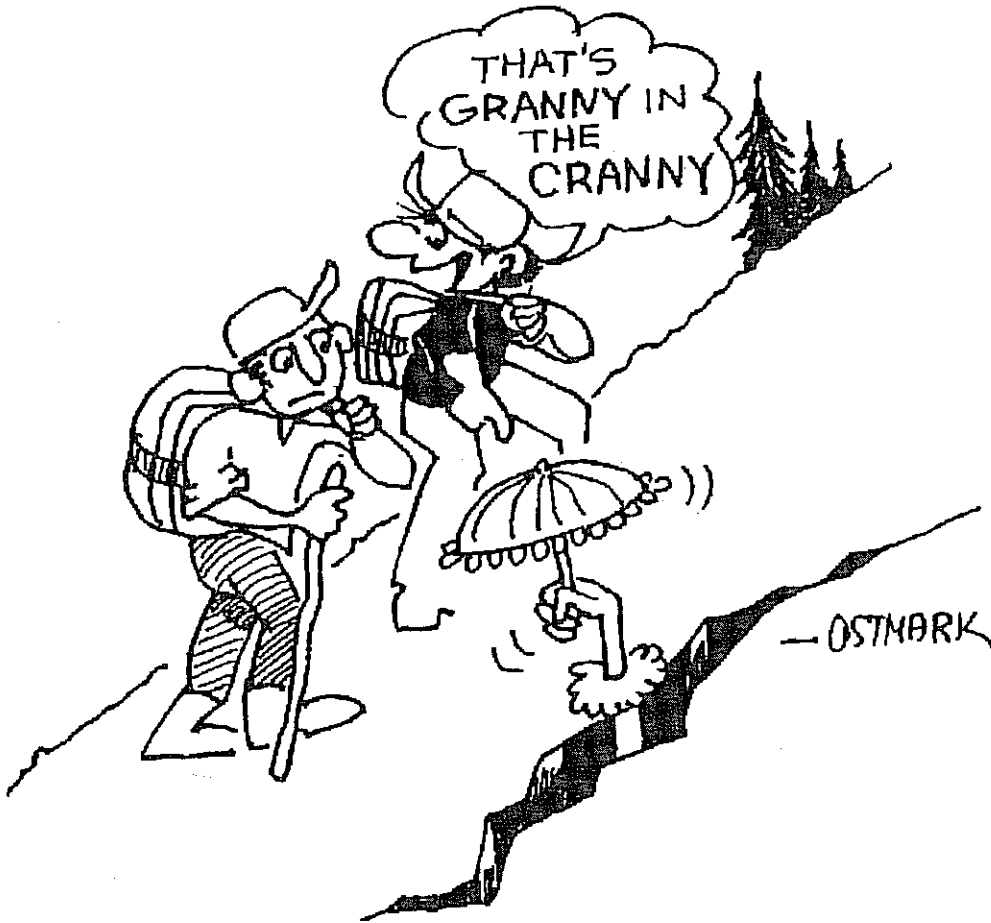
- ❑ CUBISM is a style of art that stresses abstract structure at the expense of other pictorial elements by fragmenting the form of those objects that are to be depicted.
- ❑ Pablo Picasso did not originate the CUBISM style of painting, but he is credited with popularizing it.

CRANNY

(KRAN ee)

a small opening as in a
wall or rock face

Link: GRANNY



"GRANNY found a CRANNY."

- ☐ The secret message was found stuffed into a small CRANNY in the courtyard wall next to the church.
- ☐ Rock climbers look for any CRANNY where they can get a secure foothold.
- ☐ We searched the house from top to bottom and never overlooked a single nook or CRANNY.

ENRAGE

(in RAGE)

to put in a rage;

infuriate, anger

Link: HEN CAGE



*"An ENRAGED farmer discovering
a fox in the HEN CAGE."*

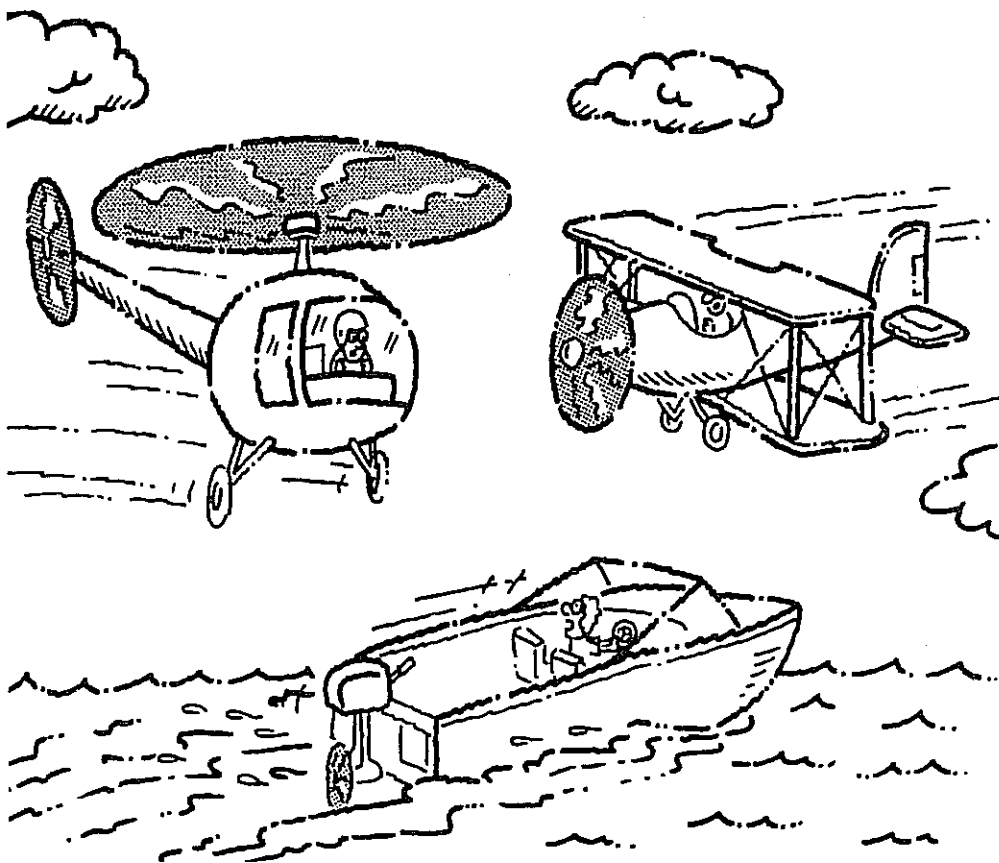
- ❑ What ENRAGES my wife is when I forget to wipe my feet before coming into the house.
- ❑ Muriel's boss was ENRAGED when he found out she had gone on her vacation to the Caribbean and left a lot of unfinished work on her desk.

PROPULSIVE

(PROH pul siv)

the act or process of propelling;
a propelling force

Link: PROPELLER



"PROPELLERS provide the PROPULSIVE force that PROPEL many transportation vehicles."

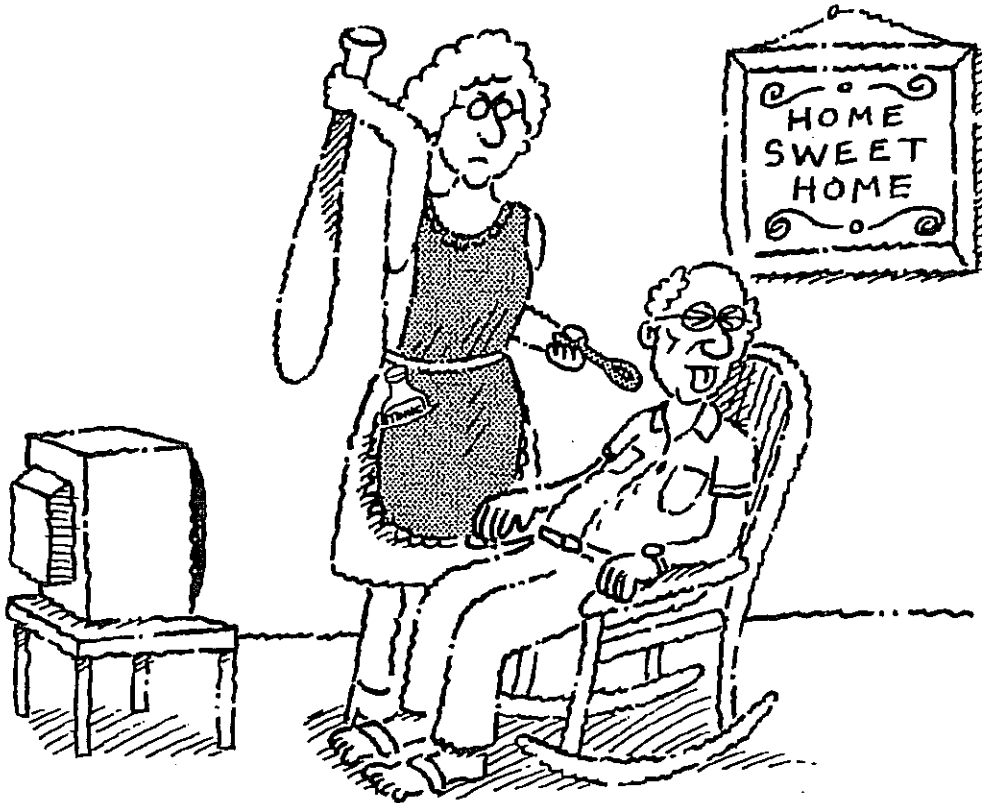
- ☐ The first ship PROPELLED by a PROPELLER was invented by Isambard Brunel in 1844.
- ☐ The champion hit his opponent, Ray Jackson, with a terrific right cross that PROPELLED him right into the second row.
- ☐ Modern submarines are PROPELLED by nuclear energy.

LACONIC

(luh KAHN ik)

brief, using few words

Link: TONIC



*“Grandma was LACONIC when it came time
for Grandpa’s TONIC.”*

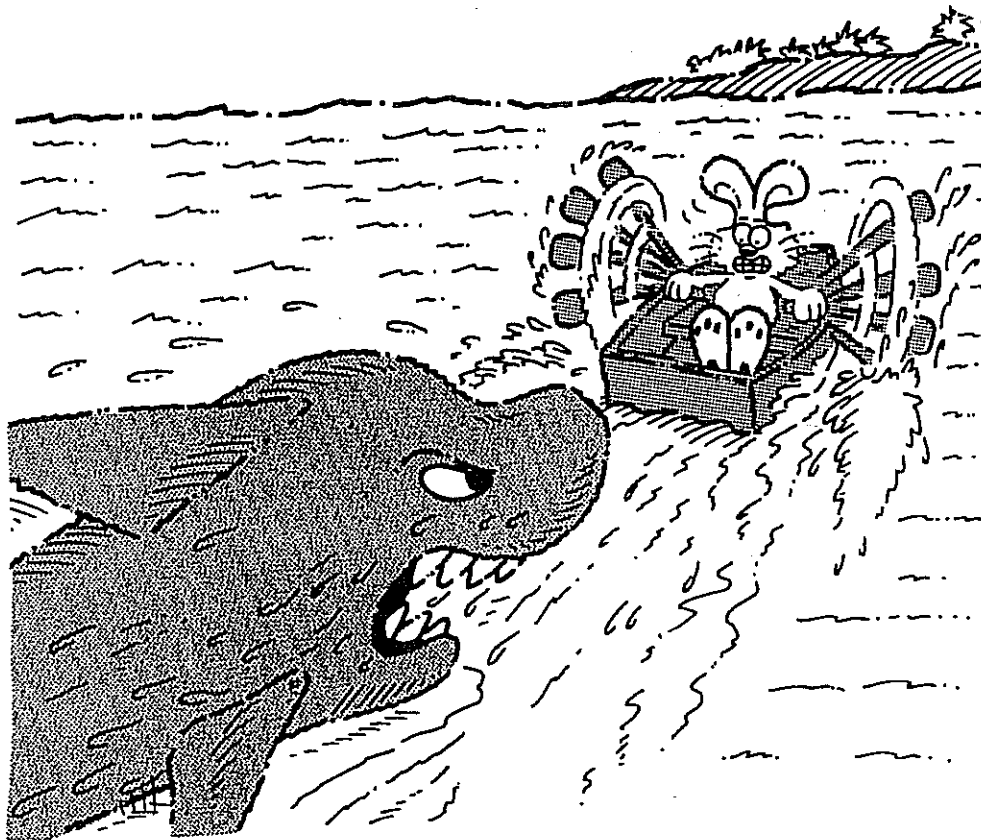
- ❑ Benjamin’s LACONIC speech habits gave him a reputation for thoughtfulness and intelligence.
- ❑ The doctor was LACONIC with his patients to the point of being rude.
- ❑ The fictional heroes of the old west were usually cowboys who spoke LACONICALLY, when at all.

HARROWING

(HARE roe ing)

extremely distressed; disturbing
or frightening

Link: HARE ROWING



"A HARROWING experience for a HARE ROWING."

- ❑ After the HARROWING experience when Eddie's main parachute didn't open, and his emergency chute saved him only at the last minute, he vowed never to jump again.
- ❑ (HARRIED is to be troubled or bothered while HARROWING is to be frightened to the extreme.) At first we were HARRIED by the gang members, called names and insulted, but later it became a HARROWING experience as they chased and threatened us with knives.

APTITUDE

(ap TUH tude)

capacity for learning;
natural ability

Link: ALTITUDE



"Birds have an APTITUDE for ALTITUDE."

- ☐ Chris has had a champion's APTITUDE for tennis since she was four years old.
- ☐ Jess is all thumbs and has no APTITUDE for fixing things around the house.
- ☐ The APTITUDE of flora and fauna to adapt to changing environmental conditions is absolutely marvelous.

ENDURE

(in DUR)

to carry on through despite hardships; to put up with

Link: MANURE



"Cowboys ENDURE a lot of MANURE."

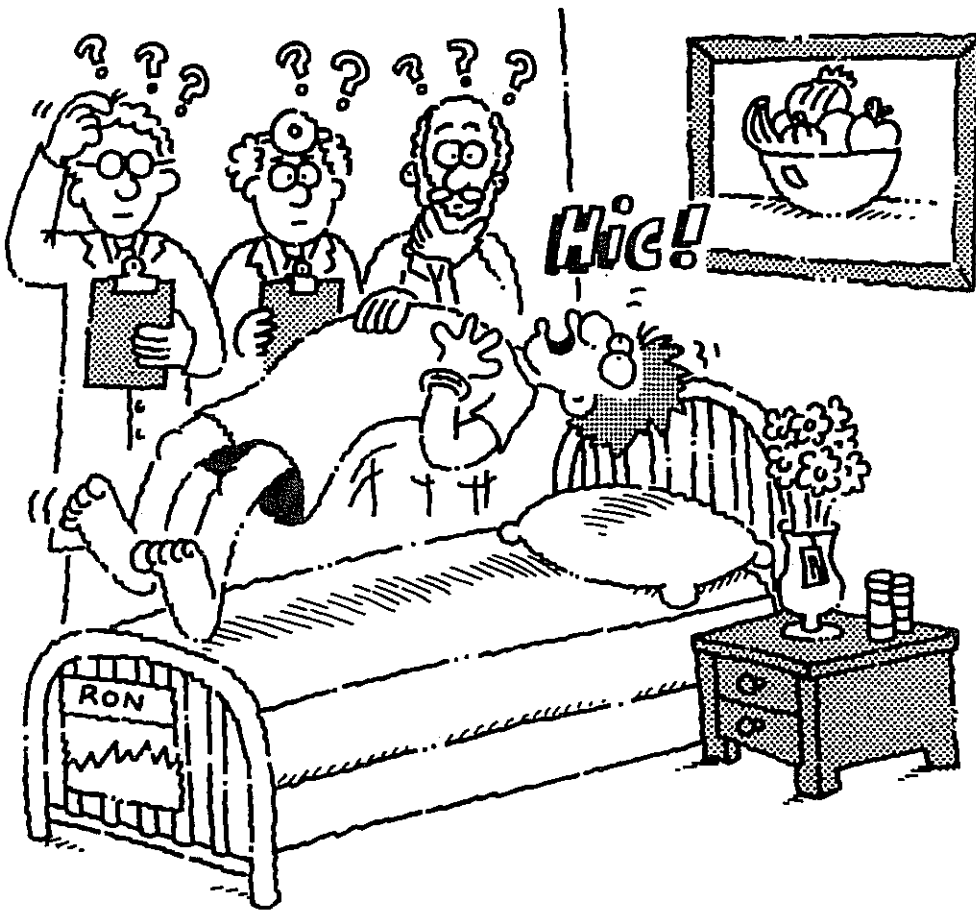
- ❑ Settlers in the 1800s ENDURED many hardships on their way to California.
- ❑ "I can't ENDURE the solitude," Jimbo Marks told his lawyer, as the sheriff placed him in an isolation cell awaiting trial.
- ❑ The ENDURING quality I recall most with loving memory about my Aunt Emma was that she never had a bad word to say about anyone.

CHRONIC

(KRAHN ik)

continuing for a long time;
continuous

Link: RON'S HIC



"RON'S HICcupS were CHRONIC."

- ❑ George was a CHRONIC complainer, he never saw the positive side of anything.
- ❑ When lower back pain becomes CHRONIC, it's time to see a doctor.
- ❑ Her CHRONIC gossiping led to her being kicked out of the garden club.

GIDDY

(GEDD ee)

a light-headed sensation;
dizzy, frivolous

Link: CITY



*"Farmer John gets a little GIDDY
every time he goes to the CITY."*

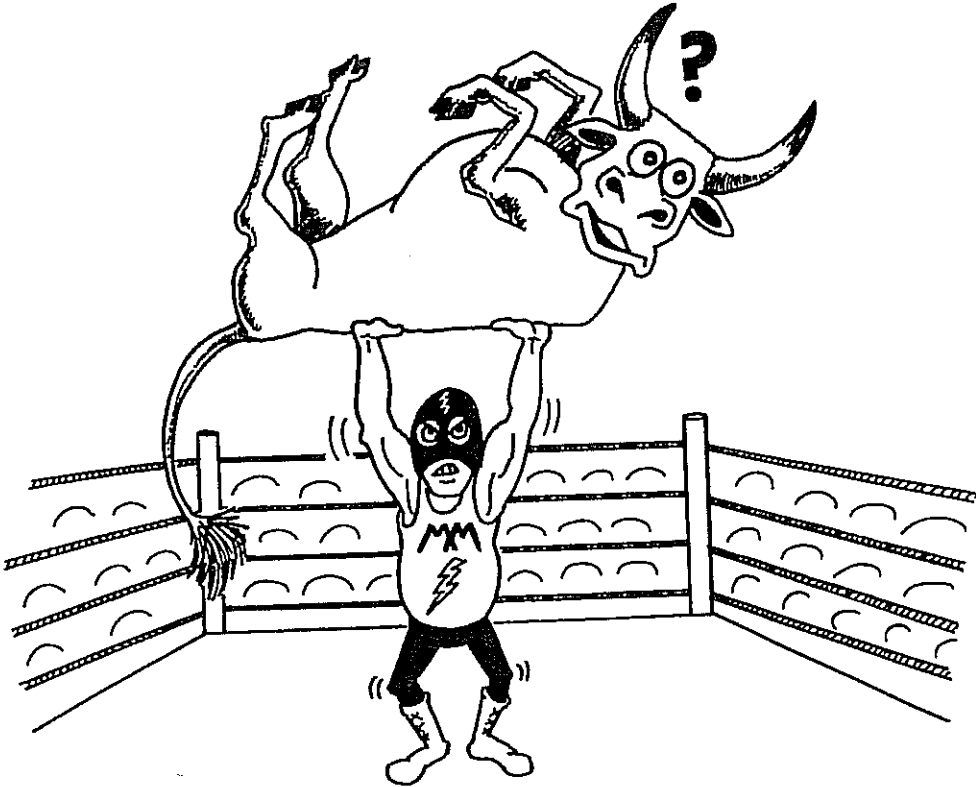
- ❑ After Sue Ellen won the beauty contest, she was absolutely GIDDY with joy.
- ❑ Jackie didn't faint, but she said the sun was so hot she felt GIDDY.
- ❑ Bill never had more than one beer; anything more made him GIDDY.

IRASCIBLE

(i RAS uh bul)

easily angered, irritable

Link: WRESTLE BULLS



"When he became IRASCIBLE, the Masked Marvel would WRESTLE BULLS."

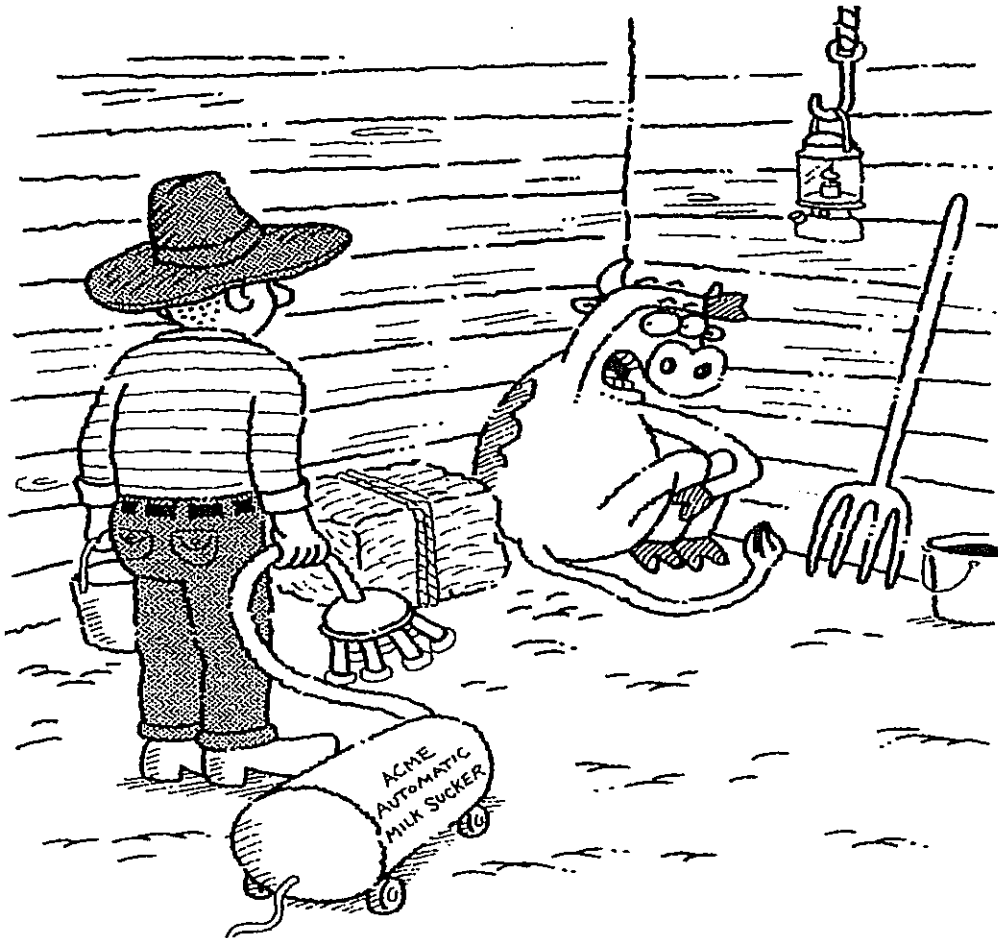
- ❑ Normally, Rose was a pleasant wife and mother but if a member of her family prevented her from watching her favorite "soaps," she could become quite IRASCIBLE.
- ❑ Uncle Tim was a real grouch, even on his birthday he would find a way to become as IRASCIBLE as a spoiled child.
- ❑ The school principal became so IRASCIBLE even his teachers avoided speaking to him.

COWER

(KOW ur)

cringe from fear; to shrink away

Link: COW



"Bessie, the COWERING COW, never could stand the sight of her own milk."

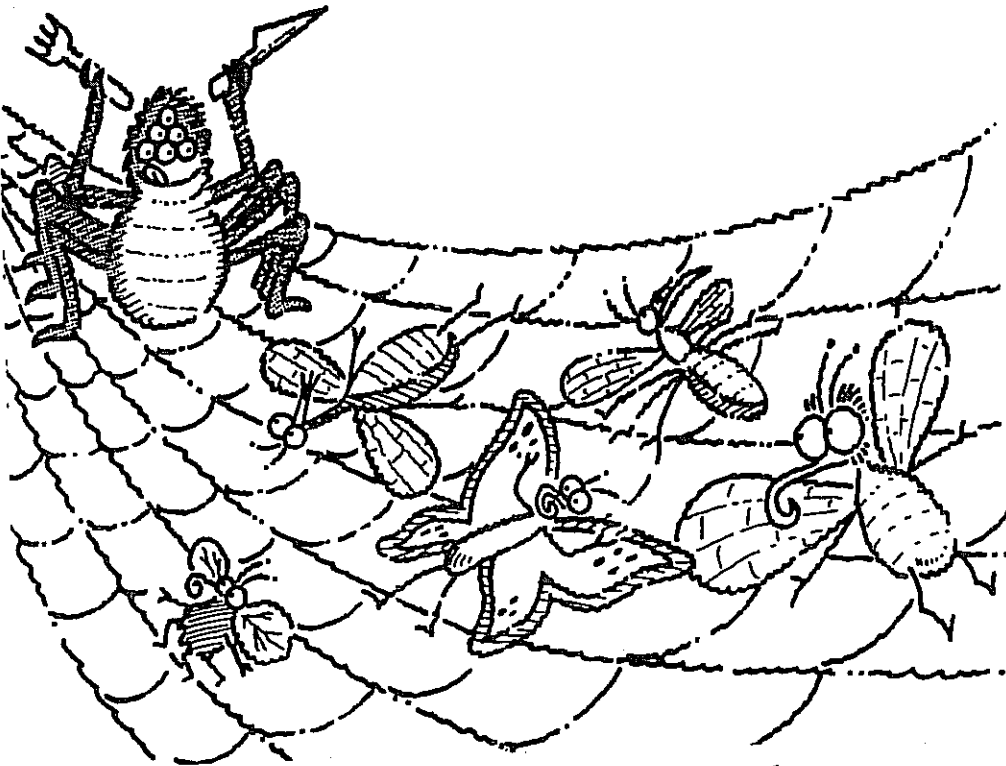
- ❑ When Sheriff Wild Bill Hickok entered the Last Chance Saloon, the villains COWERED in fear.
- ❑ The sound of the rusty door opening in the middle of the night made Sue COWER behind her bed.
- ❑ Jack COWERED in frustration just to think about coming home from vacation and finding all the homework he had to catch up on.

GOSSAMER

(GOSS uh mer)

delicate floating cobwebs; a sheer gauzy fabric; something delicate, light, flimsy

Link: CUSTOMER



"The spider's GOSSAMER captured many unhappy CUSTOMERS."

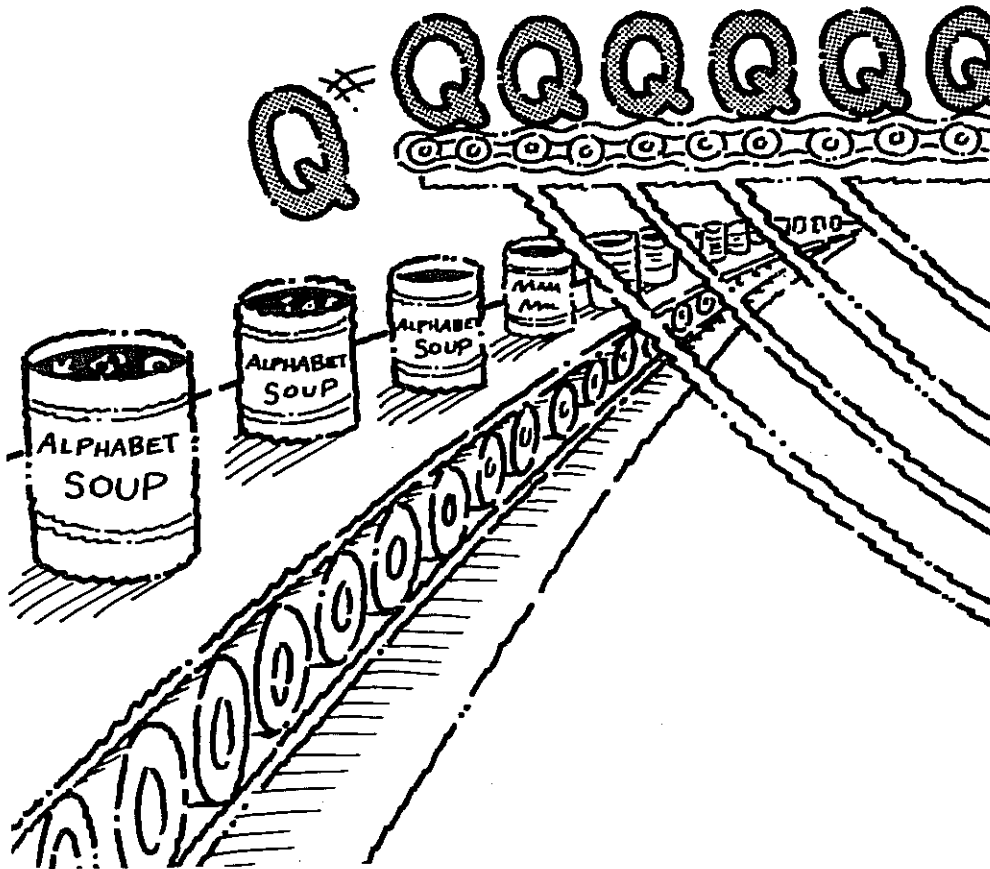
- ❑ The bride wore a white silk wedding dress which touched the floor as she proceeded up the aisle to the altar. A GOSSAMER of fine Italian lace gently touched her face.
- ❑ Between the audience and the actors on the stage hung a thin GOSSAMER of fabric, heightening the feeling that the actors were in a dream-like setting.

QUEUE

(Q)

to form or to wait in line

Link: Q



"Qs in a QUEUE."

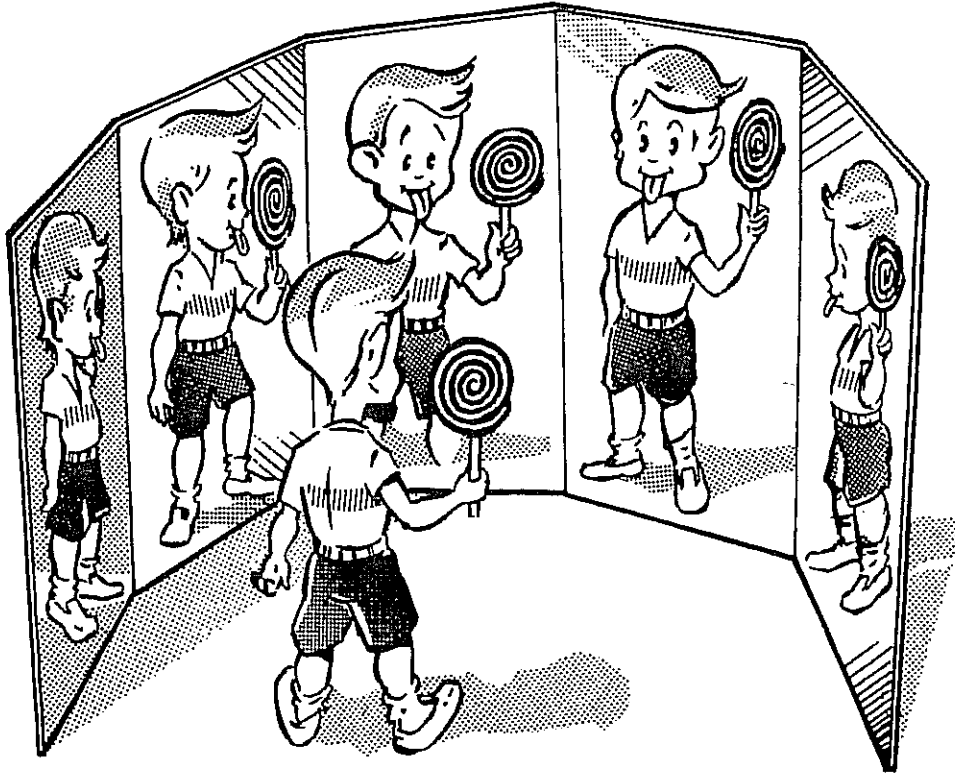
- ❑ During the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, fans QUEUE outside the gates the day before and spend the night waiting for the gates to open the following morning.
- ❑ The sisters decided not to attend the movie because a line was QUEUEING up as they arrived, and they didn't want to stand in a QUEUE in the cold, night air.

MYRIAD

(MIR ee ud)

an extremely large number

Link: MIRROR ADD



*“Many MIRRORS ADD a MYRIAD
of reflections.”*

- ❑ George was a hypochondriac, weighted down by MYRIAD concerns about his health.
- ❑ On a clear night in Alaska the sky is filled with a MYRIAD of stars.
- ❑ Jane said she had a MYRIAD of things to do to get ready for the party.

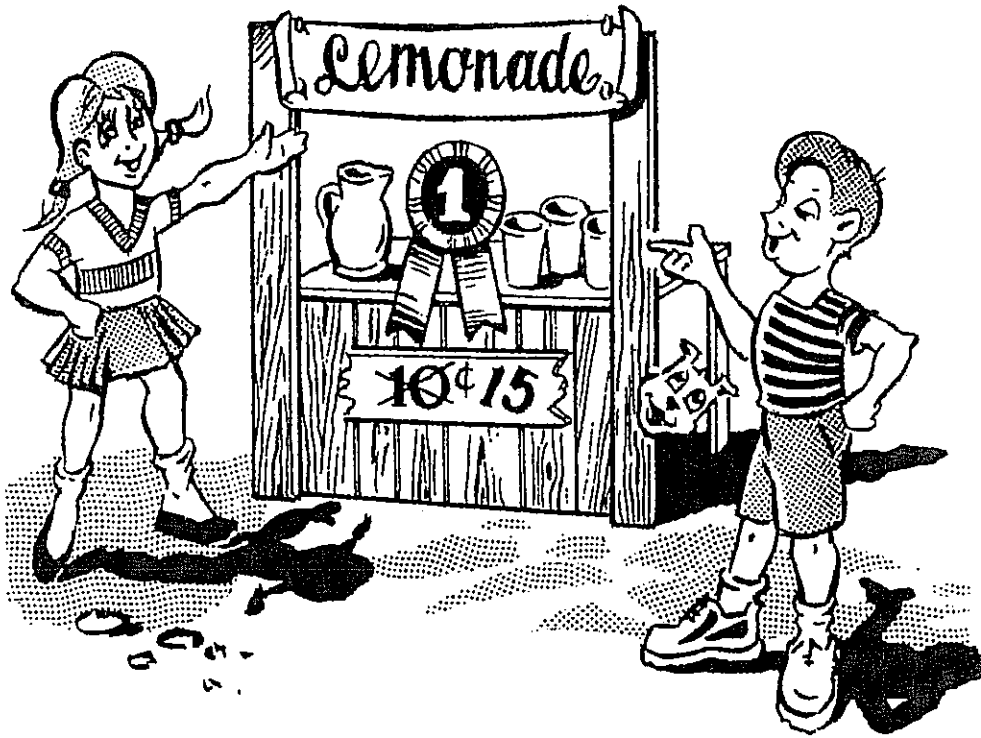
ACCOLADE

(AK uh layd)

an award, an honor;

approval, praise

Link: LEMONADE



*"Jane and Jack received ACCOLADES
for their LEMONADE."*

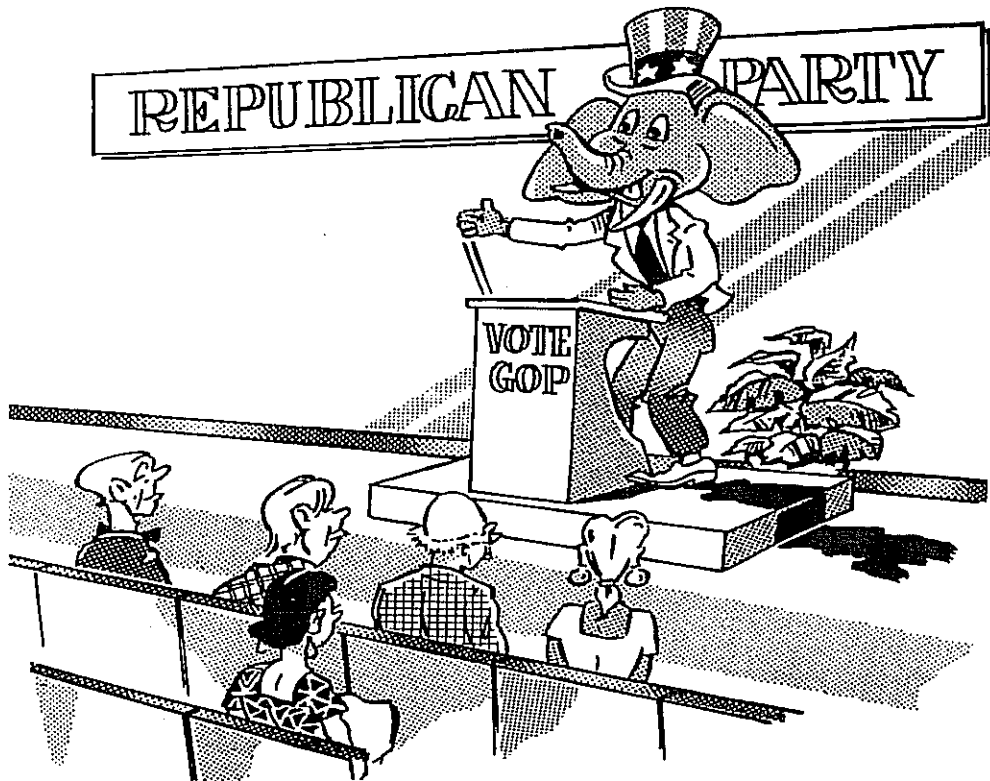
- ❑ The ACCOLADES given our chemistry teacher as the teacher of the year were nothing compared to the ACCOLADES her students gave her when she accidentally blew up the lab and class was cancelled for the remainder of the term.
- ❑ The ACCOLADES she received for making the Olympic Swim Team quickly went to her head, and she thought she was grand madam of the swimming pool.

GRANDILOQUENT

(gran DIL uh kwunt)

attempting to impress with big words or grand gestures

Link: GRAND ELEPHANT



"The GRAND ELEPHANT made a GRANDILOQUENT speech."

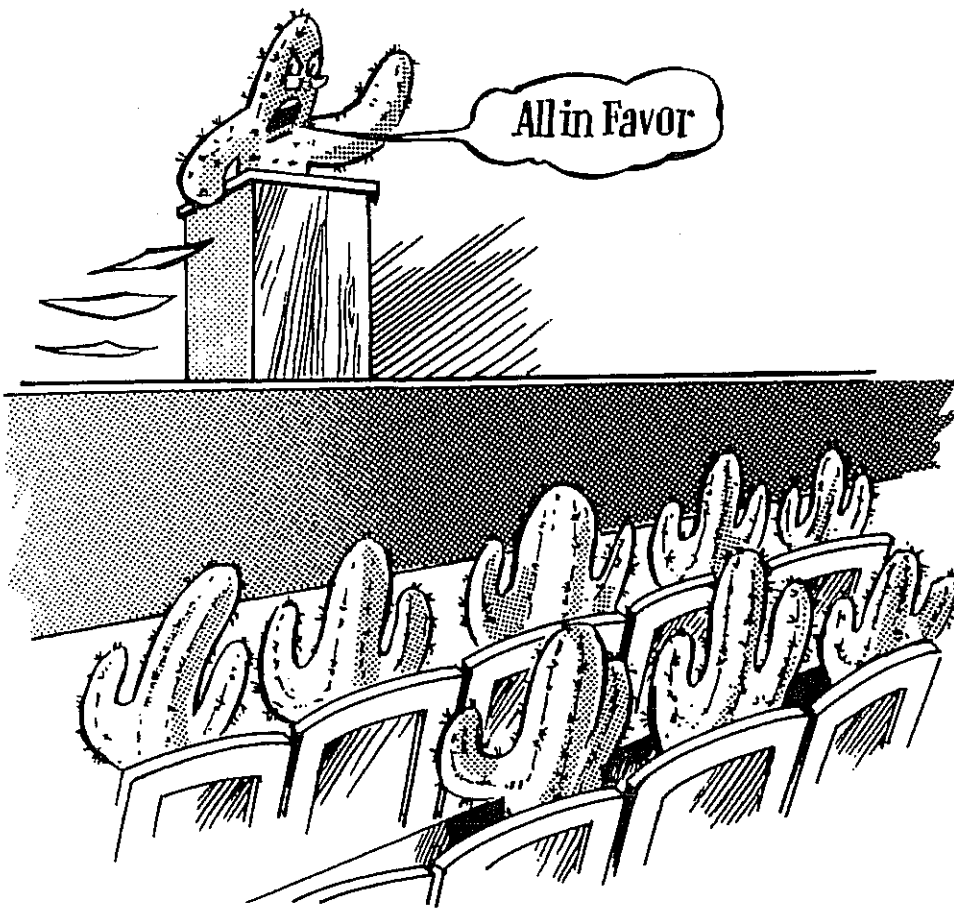
- ❑ It was another GRANDILOQUENT political affair; the candidates made the same old promises for lower taxes and more free services.
- ❑ They may be eloquent, but there is nothing grand about pompous GRANDILOQUENT speakers.
- ❑ The new teacher's GRANDILOQUENCE didn't fool the class one bit. She really knew very little about South American history.

CAUCUS

(KAW kus)

a meeting of the members of a political party to make decisions; to assemble in or hold a caucus

Link: CACTUS



“A CACTUS CAUCUS.”

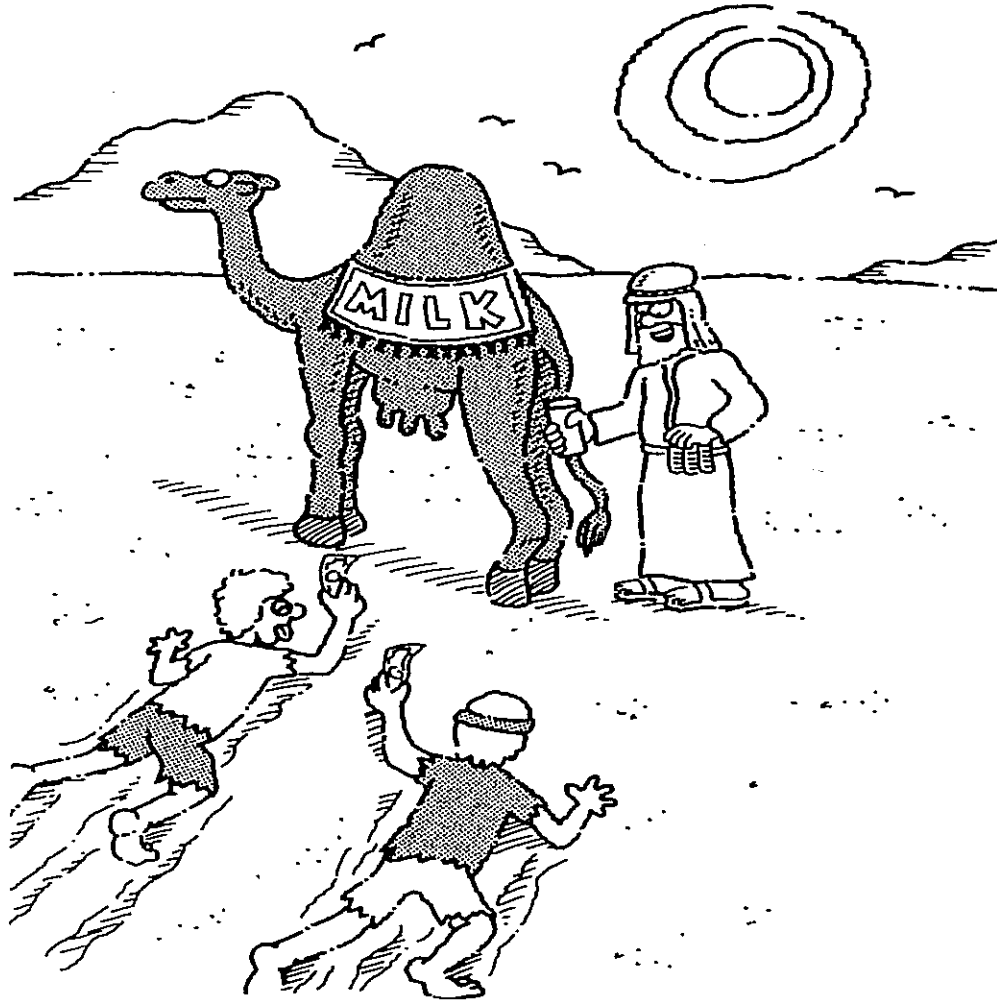
- ❑ A CAUCUS was held by the members of the delegation to determine if they should hold a special CAUCUS for the unmarried members.
- ❑ Some delegates to political conventions are selected in CAUCUSES, while others are appointed.

DROMEDARY

(DRO me dary)

a one-humped domesticated camel

Link: ROAMING DAIRY



*"On the Arabian deserts, a mother DROMEDARY
is a ROAMING DAIRY."*

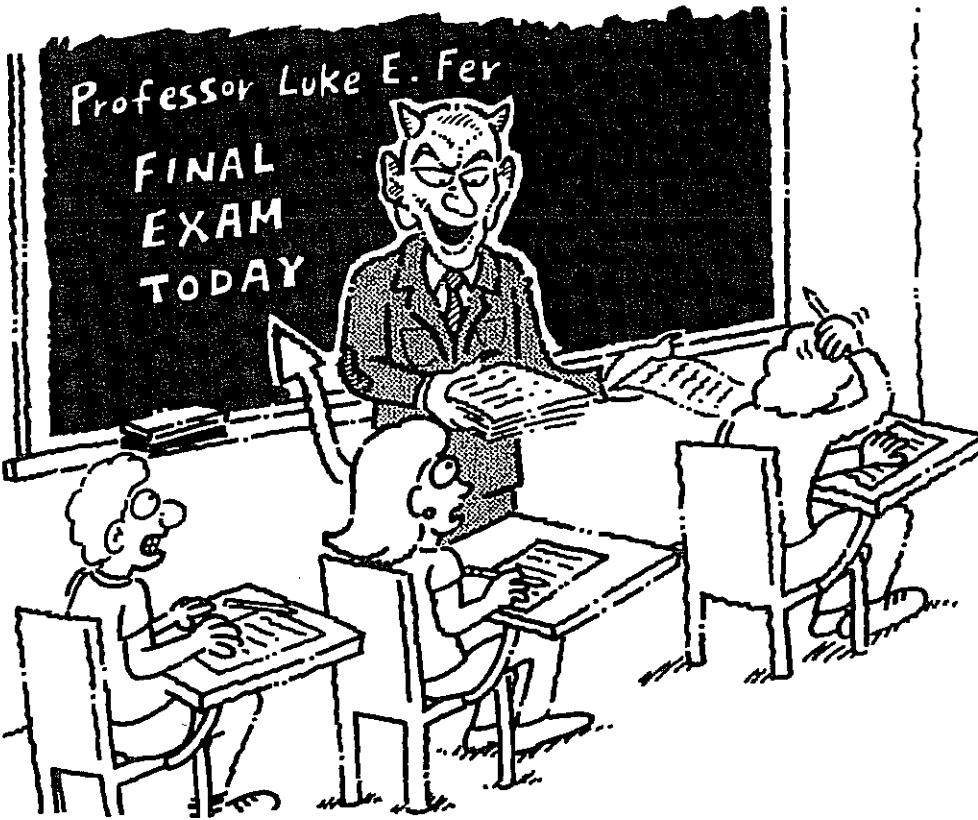
- ❑ The DROMEDARY is widely used as a beast of burden in Northern Africa and Western Asia.
- ❑ A DROMEDARY is also known as an Arabian camel.

DEMONIC

(dee MON ik)

one who works devilishly (a demon for work), a persistent person, force or drive; an evil person

Link: DEMON



"Professor Luke E. Fer was a DEMONIC DEMON when it came time for his final exams."

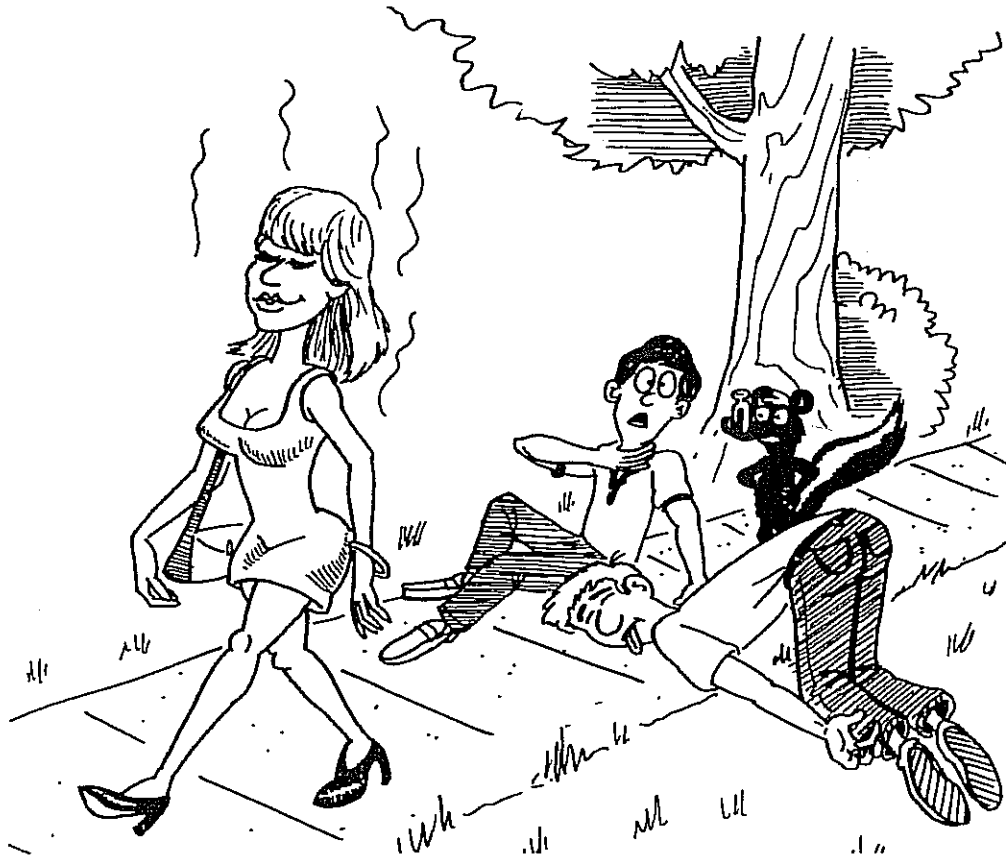
- ❑ Walter had a DEMONIC approach to business, he was only out there for himself and the money.
- ❑ In pursuit of an OLYMPIC medal, Jack's practice habits were DEMONIC; six hours a day on the track was his norm.
- ❑ To have a DEMONIC attitude in attempting to achieve your goals will sooner or later payoff.

NOXIOUS

(KNOCKS ee us)

physically or mentally destructive,
or harmful to human beings

Link: KNOCKS US



*"Her cheap perfume was so NOXIOUS, it
almost KNOCKED US out."*

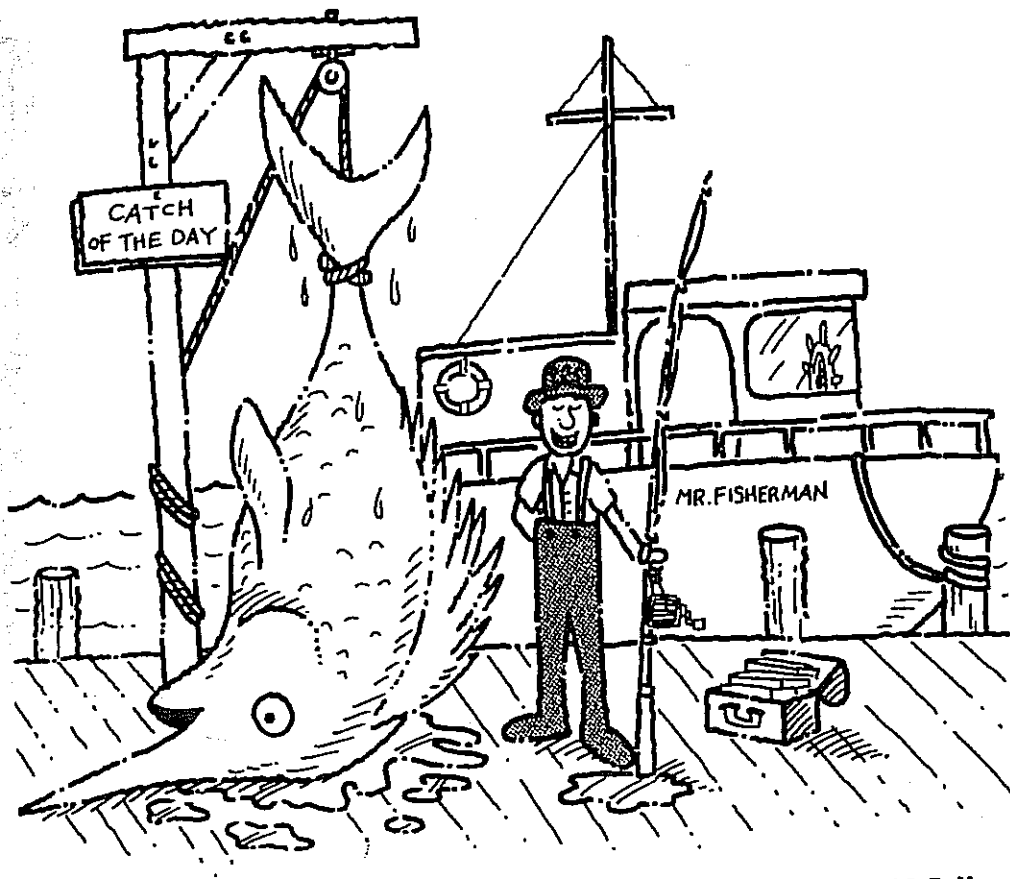
- ❑ The NOXIOUS pollutants discharged into the bay by the paper mill killed all the marine life.
- ❑ It is NOXIOUS to live in big city surroundings if you love spacious, outdoor country-living.
- ❑ (OBNOXIOUS is to be exposed to something NOXIOUS.) Jenny's flirtatious behavior with her best friend's husband was OBNOXIOUS.

PROFICIENT

(pruh FISH unt)

skillful; to be very good at
something

Link: PRO FISHERMAN



"The ultimate PROFICIENT PRO FISHERMAN."

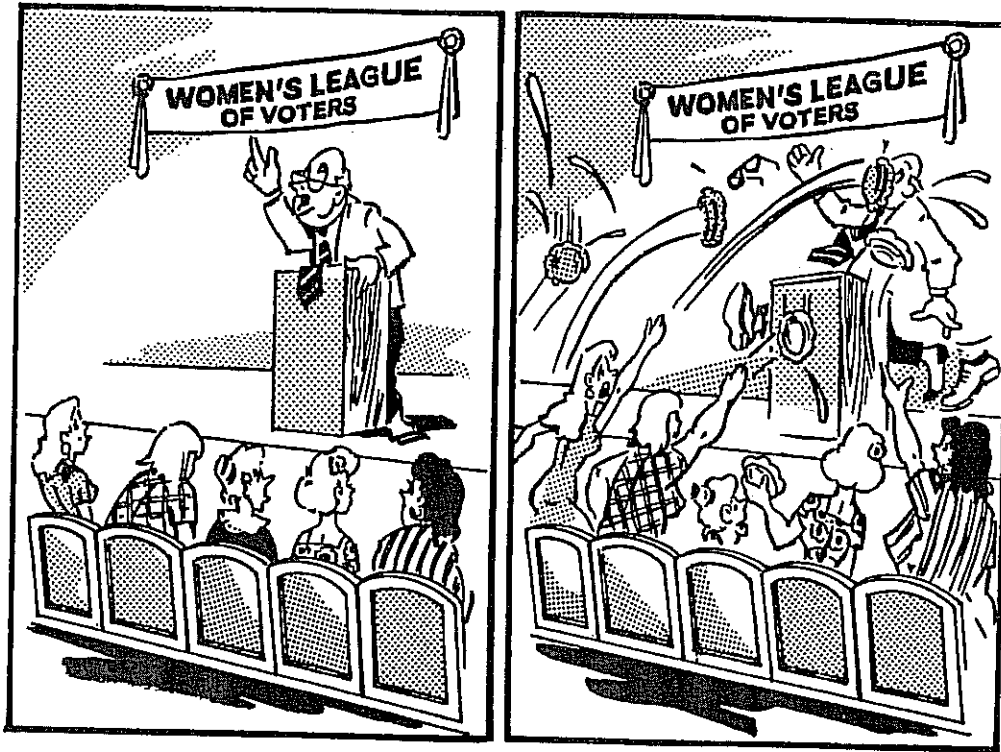
- ❑ Wally was the most competent, PROFICIENT ice skater in our league, but he wasn't good enough to make the Olympic team.
- ❑ June was so PROFICIENT as executive secretary, she was promoted and became vice president of sales.

HARANGUE

(huh RANG)

to lecture, berate; a long
bombastic speech

Link: MERINGUE

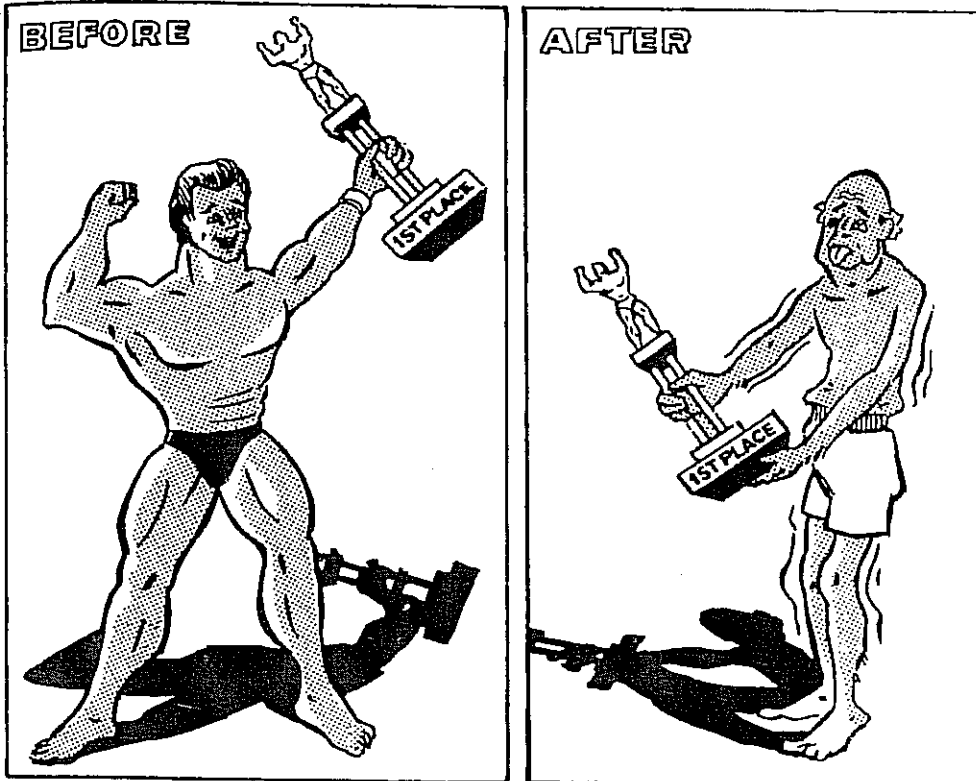


"The mayor's HARANGUE that women should stay home more was met with MERINGUE pies."

- ❑ Our sergeant HARANGUED the recruits for not keeping in step as the platoon practiced marching.
- ❑ Our neighbor is a farmer who goes to town once a week on Saturdays and HARANGUES everyone he meets on how bad the government treats farmers.
- ❑ A perpetual HARANGUER, Jeannie was a feminist who believed everyone who didn't believe as she did was an anti-feminist.

ATROPHY

(AT ruh fee)
to wither away
Link: TROPHY



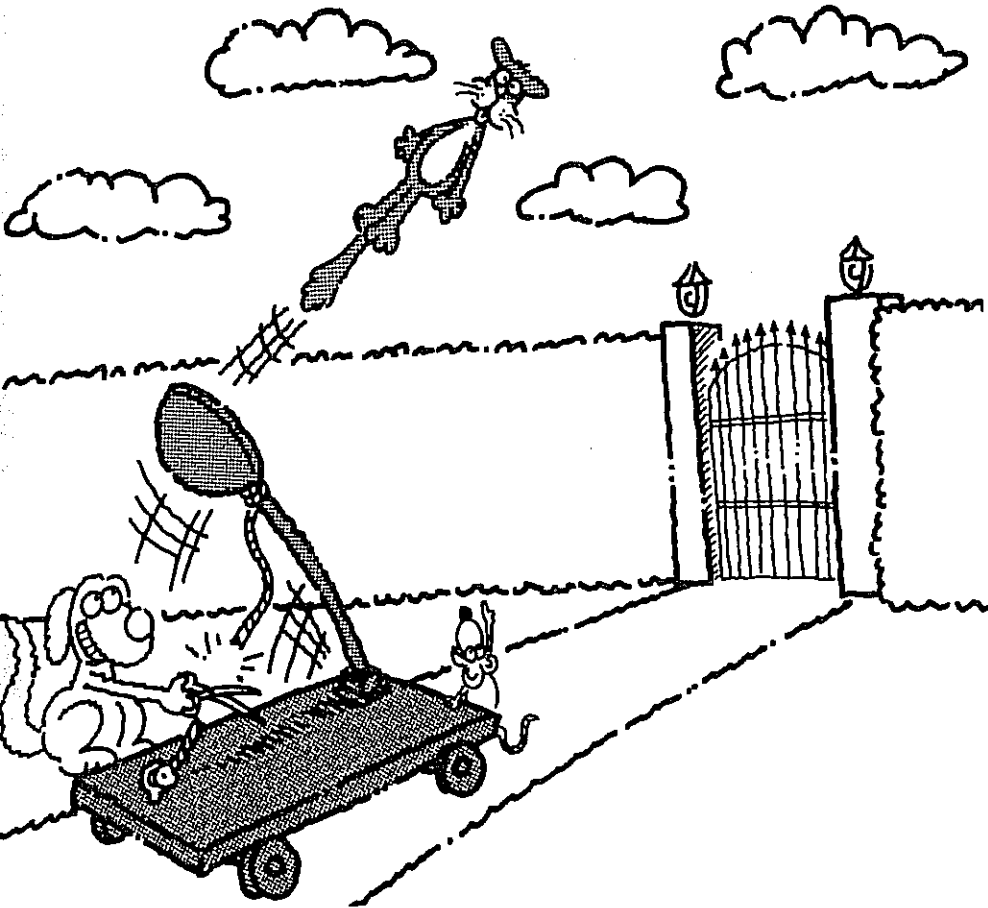
“Once a TROPHY champion, Jim’s muscles ATROPHIED due to a chronic illness.”

- ❑ The author’s interest in writing ATROPHIED after he won the Pulitzer Prize for literature.
- ❑ The ATROPHIC condition of the mummy was apparent as soon as the tomb was opened.
- ❑ The ATROPHYING state of the starving children left no doubt that the rescue mission had arrived just in time.

CATAPULT

(CAT uh pult)
slingshot

Link: CAT



"Testing the first CAT CATAPULT."

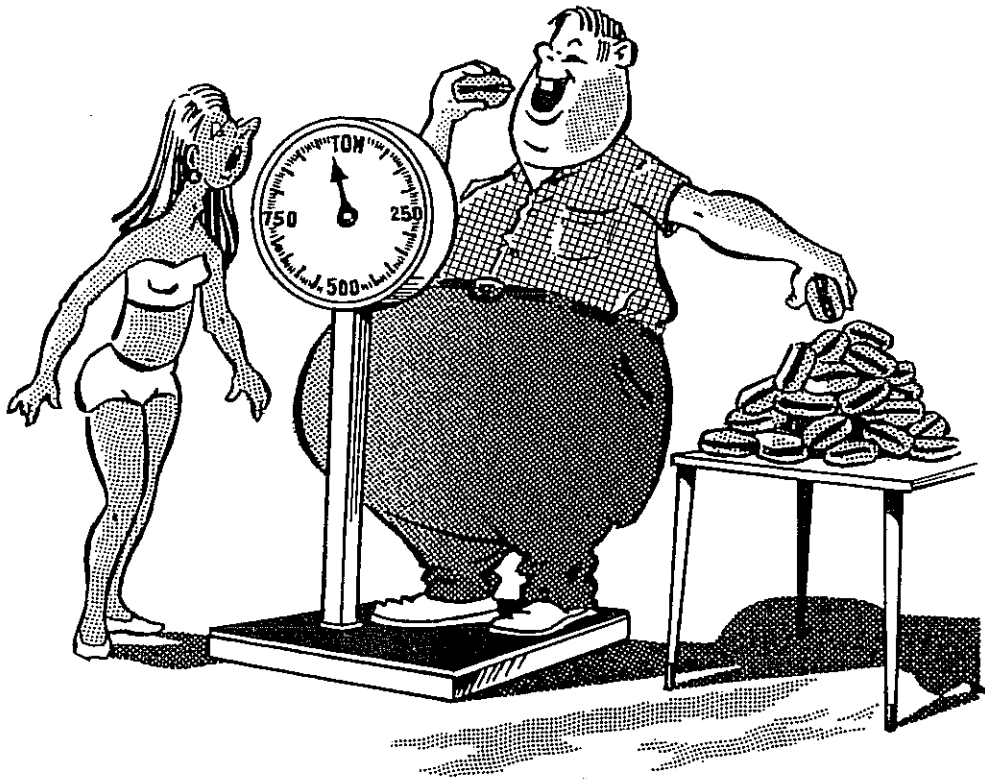
- ☐ When the Dolphins beat the Steelers, the victory CATAPULTED them into first place.
- ☐ The Atlas entry won at Indianapolis by drafting behind the lead car and CATAPULTING forward to take the lead at the finish line.
- ☐ Before the invention of cannons, CATAPULTS were used by armies to attack castles and forts.

GLUTTON

(GLUT en)

one who eats or consumes a great deal; having capacity to receive or withstand something

Link: GUT TON



*"If you're a GLUTTON, your
GUT could weigh a TON."*

- ❑ Every day at school lunch the Pitts children behave in a GLUTTONOUS manner, so much so, it made one wonder if they were ever fed at home.
- ❑ Jack was a GLUTTON for punishment; no matter how many times he was knocked down in the fight, he kept getting up.
- ❑ A baseball freak, JoAnne GLUTTONOUSLY reads every sports book on baseball she can get her hands on.

MUSTER

(MUS tur)

to collect or gather; the act of inspection or critical examination

Link: MUSTARD



*"Each morning the MUSTARD troops
are MUSTERED for roll call."*

- ❑ In 1836 the Texans at the Alamo MUSTERED all the troops available to defend against the invading Mexican Army.
- ❑ The restaurant owner inspected the kitchen and said the eating utensils did not pass MUSTER, and for the dish washer to wash them all over again.
- ❑ He was MUSTERED into the army at the age of eighteen.

BEGET

(bi GET)

to give birth to; to create

Link: FORGET



"The old lady who lived in the shoe BEGAT so many children she would FORGET who was who."

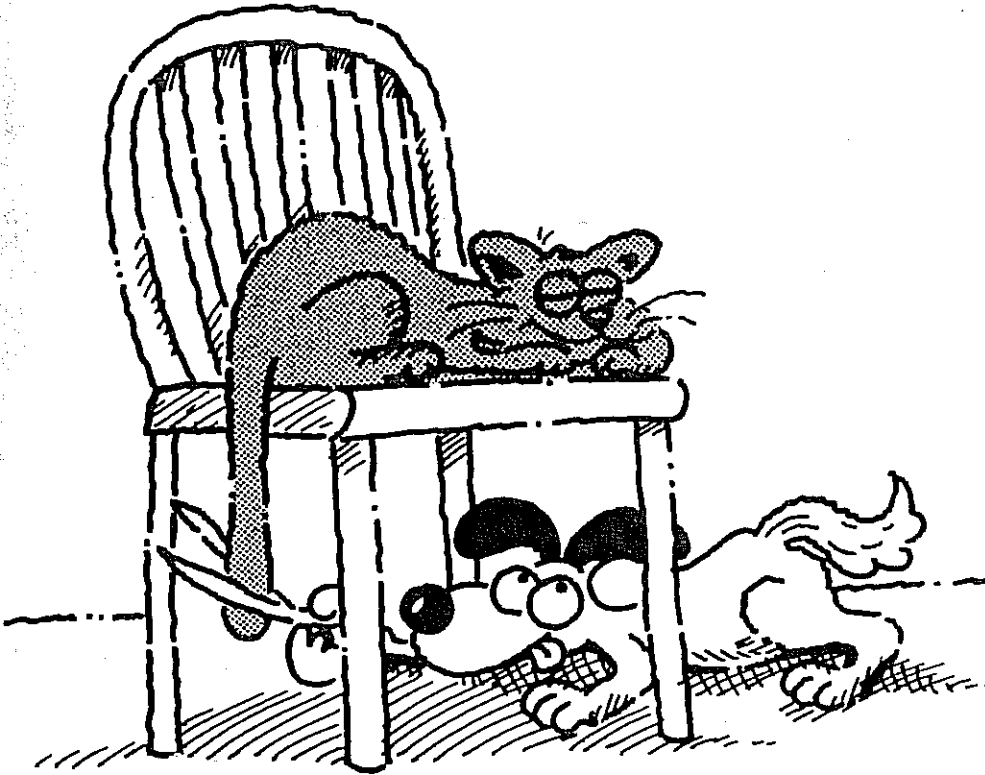
- ❑ Prior to the development of large farm machinery, farmers used to BEGET large families to help them run their farms.
- ❑ Chronic lying becomes a habit which starts out with one small lie, which BEGETS a second lie, which BEGETS a third lie, and so on.
- ❑ The Wright brothers didn't invent the airplane, but they were the BEGETTERS of the first sustained flight in the United States.

CURTAIL

(ker TALE)

to truncate or abridge; to lessen,
usually by cutting away from

Link: CAT TAIL



*"Rex readies himself to CURTAIL
the CAT'S TAIL."*

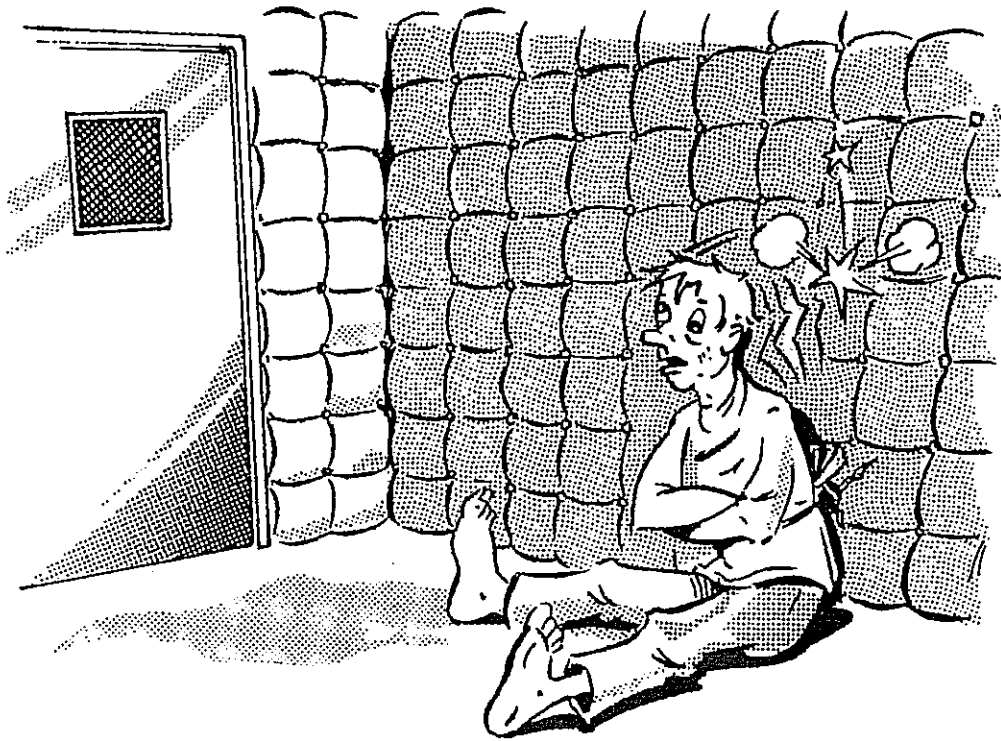
- ❑ The chairman requested that we should CURTAIL any further discussion of women's rights until the women arrived.
- ❑ Sheriff McDougall CURTAILED all further night patrols east of the river until bullet-proof windows were installed in his patrol cars.
- ❑ The factory bosses CURTAILED the employment of any more workers until the strike was over.

PARANOIA

(par uh NOY uh)

a mental illness of unreasonable anxiety, especially believing someone is out to get you, or that you are an important person

Link: DESTROY 'YA



"PARANOIA will DESTROY 'YA."

- ❑ Julie's PARANOIA was so advanced she thought everyone who came to her door was an assassin who had come to kill her.
- ❑ (A person suffering from PARANOIA is said to be PARANOID.) Joshua was absolutely PARANOID about walking under a ladder.
- ❑ When Ramon told his wife she was PARANOID about her hair, he meant she was very sensitive to criticism.

FACILITATE

(fuh SILL uh tate)

to make easier, to help bring about

Link: CELL MATE



*"You're lucky to have a CELL MATE who
FACILITATES a homey atmosphere."*

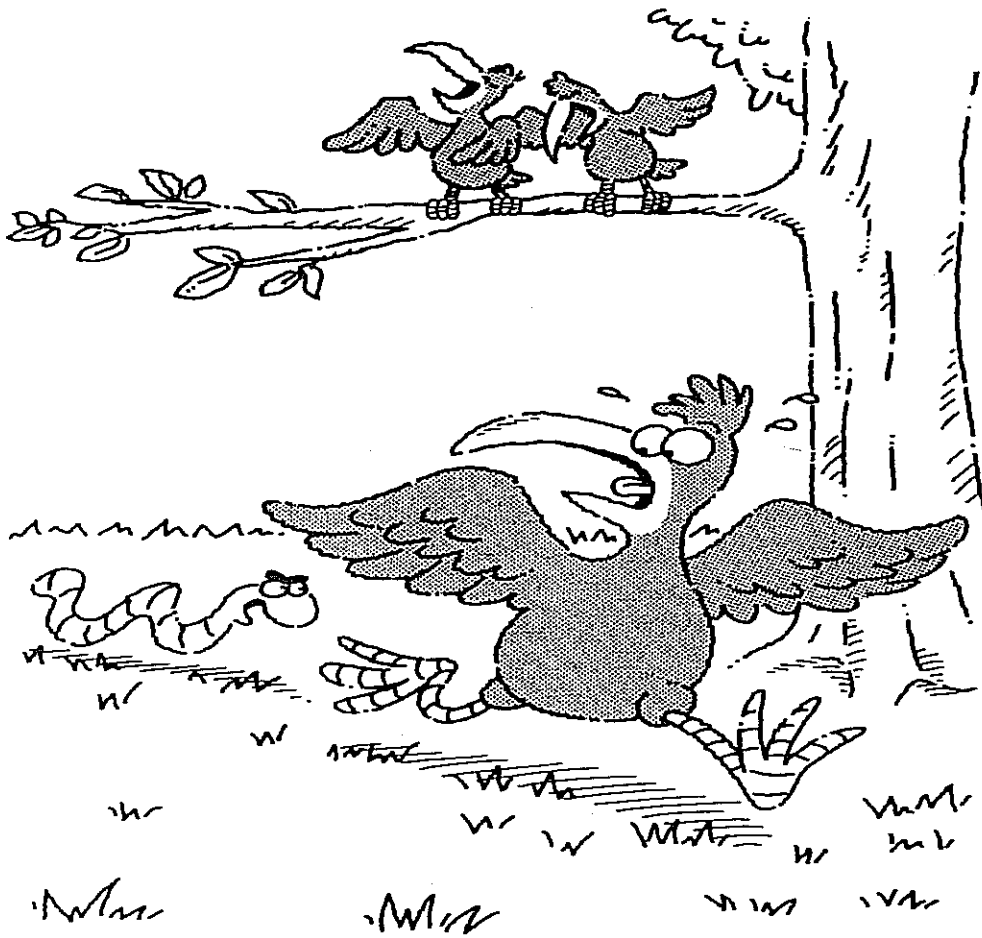
- ☐ Cassette tapes FACILITATE learning a foreign language.
- ☐ In order to FACILITATE the sale of their home, George came down on the price.
- ☐ Jack's tools FACILITATED the repair of the sink.

CRAVEN

(KRA ven)

cowardly

Link: RAVEN



"A CRAVEN RAVEN on the run."

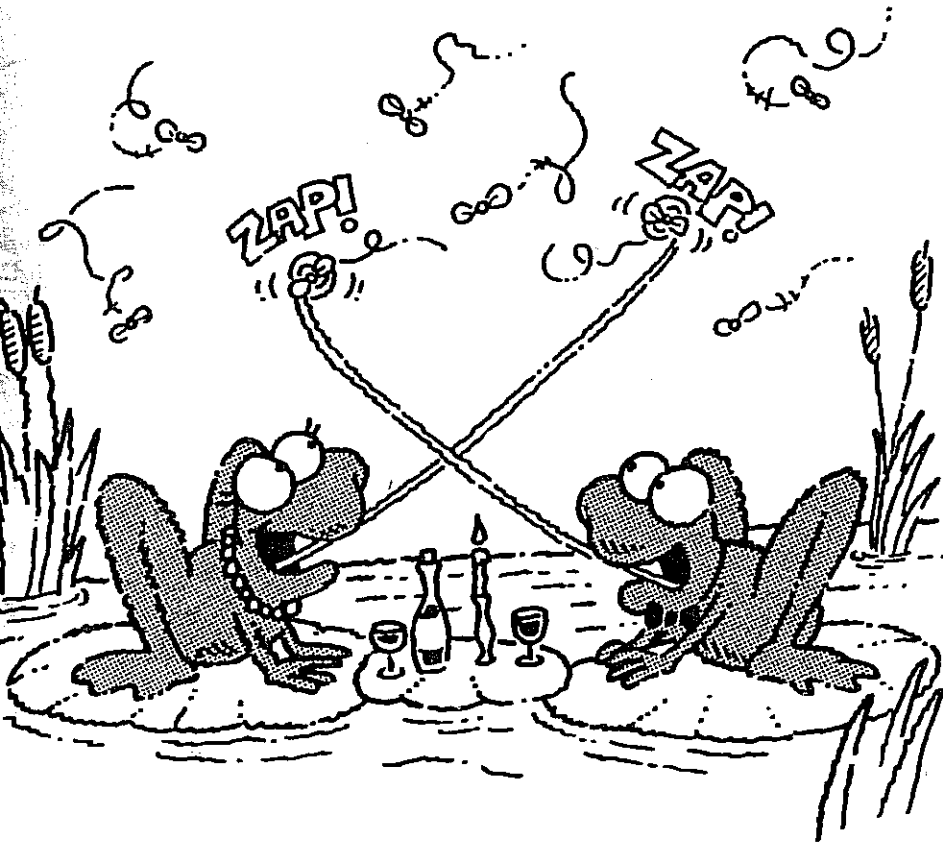
- ❑ The soldier was full of bluster about how bravely he would fight, but his comrades later found him to be CRAVEN once the battle started.
- ❑ To let his wife do his fighting for him was the act of a CRAVEN husband with no backbone.
- ❑ The CRAVENLY act of the assassin, John Wilkes Booth, led to the death of President Lincoln.

MODE

(mowed)

a way or method of doing something;
type, manner, fashion

Link: TOAD



*"TOADS have a special MODE
for catching dinner."*

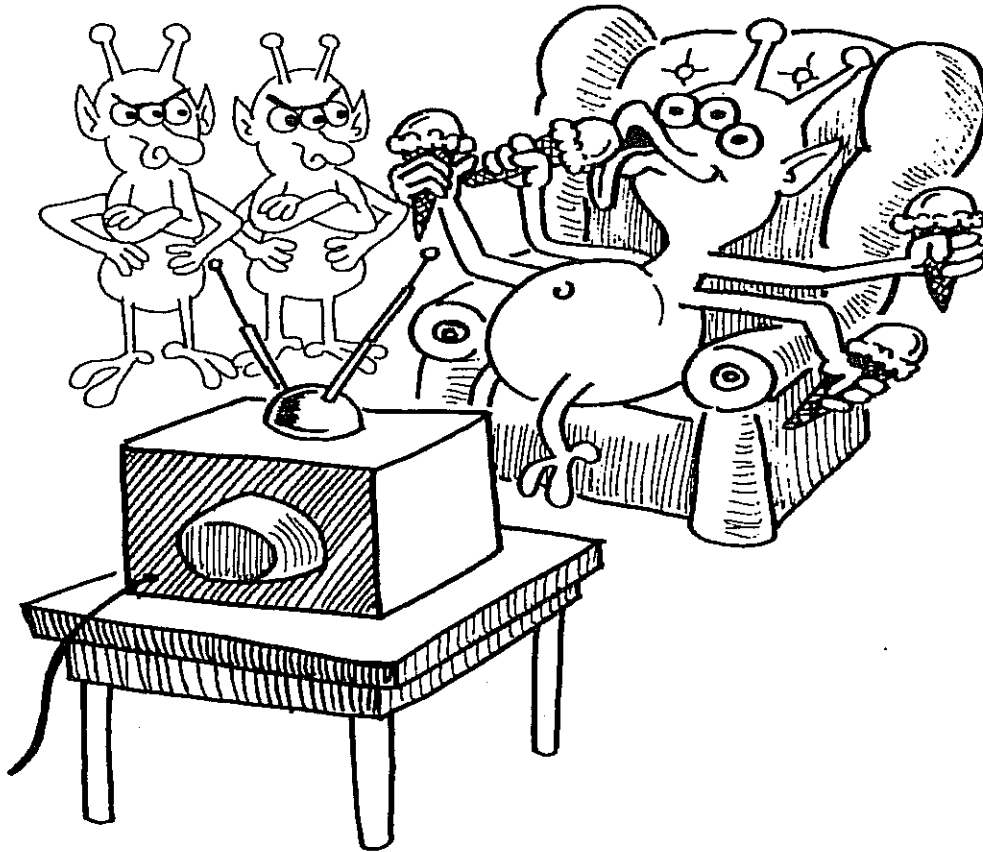
- ❑ Four-wheel drive vehicles have gears to go from two- to four-wheel drive MODE.
- ❑ Once he became a lawyer, Hal put aside his jeans and dressed in the MODE of his contemporaries, conservative dark suits, white shirts and ties.
- ❑ Our vacation was in a laid-back MODE, sleeping-in late and then catching rays on the beach.

ALIENATE

(AY lee uh nayt)

to make hostile; to cause to feel
unwelcome or estranged

Link: ALIEN ATE



*"The chief ALIEN ATE all the ice cream
and ALIENATED his crew."*

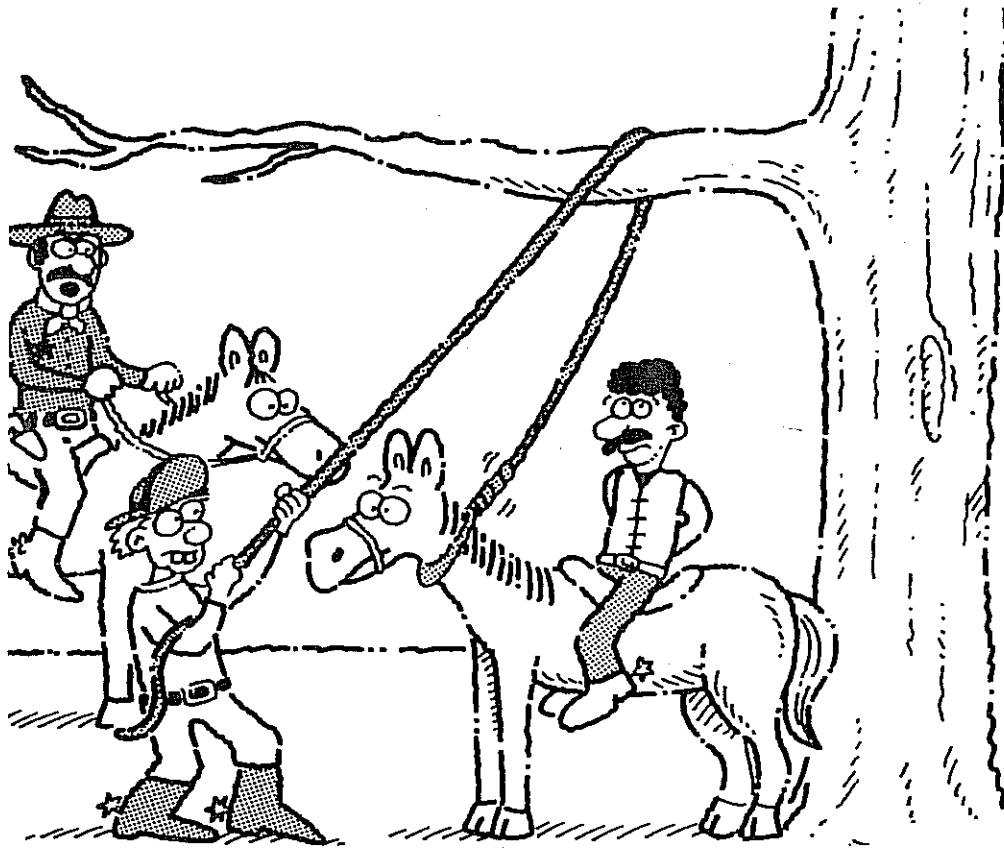
- ❑ Her boss ALIENATED his secretary by shouting at her when she made a mistake.
- ❑ All during school, Bob Smith felt ALIENATED by the other students because he wore his hair down to his knees.
- ❑ Barb was ALIENATED from her group when they learned that she was the town gossip.

OBTUSE

(ob tuse)

insensitive; block-headed,
slow in comprehension

Link: NOOSE



*"Don't be OBTUSE, the horse-thief gets the
NOOSE, not the horse."*

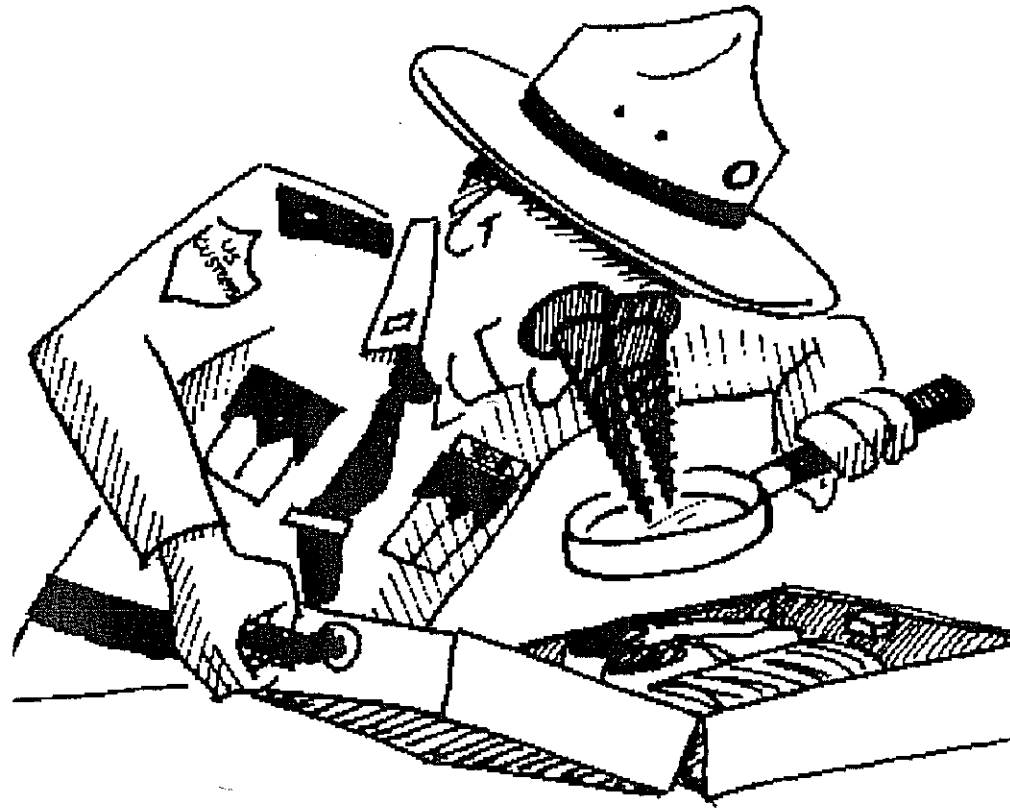
- ❑ Hazel was so OBTUSE she thought a watched pot of water never boils.
- ❑ The OBTUSENESS of some people is due to their unwillingness to accept new ideas.
- ❑ Don't pretend to be so OBTUSE. You know the idea of business investing is to buy low and sell high.

SCRUTINIZE

(SKROOT uh nyze)

to look very carefully; to examine

Link: SCREW EYES



“U.S. Customs officials have SCREW EYES when they SCRUTINIZE baggage.”

- ☐ Newspaper proof readers SCRUTINIZE an entire newspaper each day.
- ☐ Each soldier's uniform is SCRUTINIZED by his commanding officer.
- ☐ I SCRUTINIZED all the books in the library and found several I had wanted.

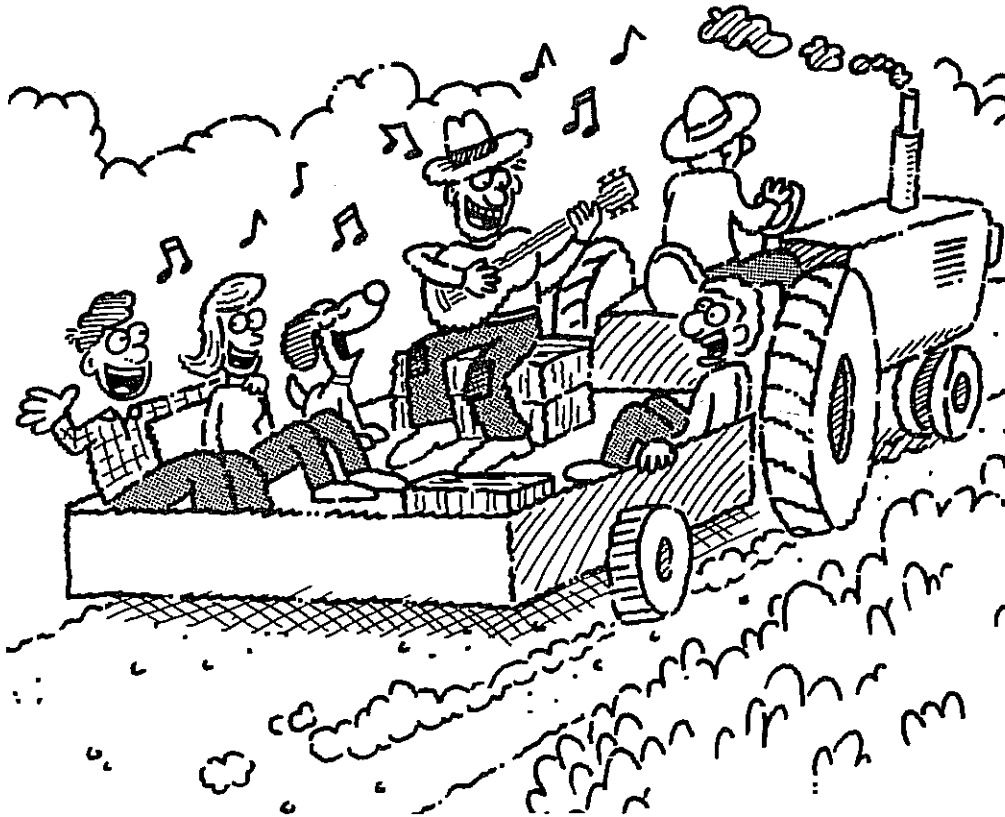
CONGENIAL

(kun JEAN ee ul)

pleasant to be around;

social, agreeable

Link: JEANS



"Folks in JEANS are very CONGENIAL."

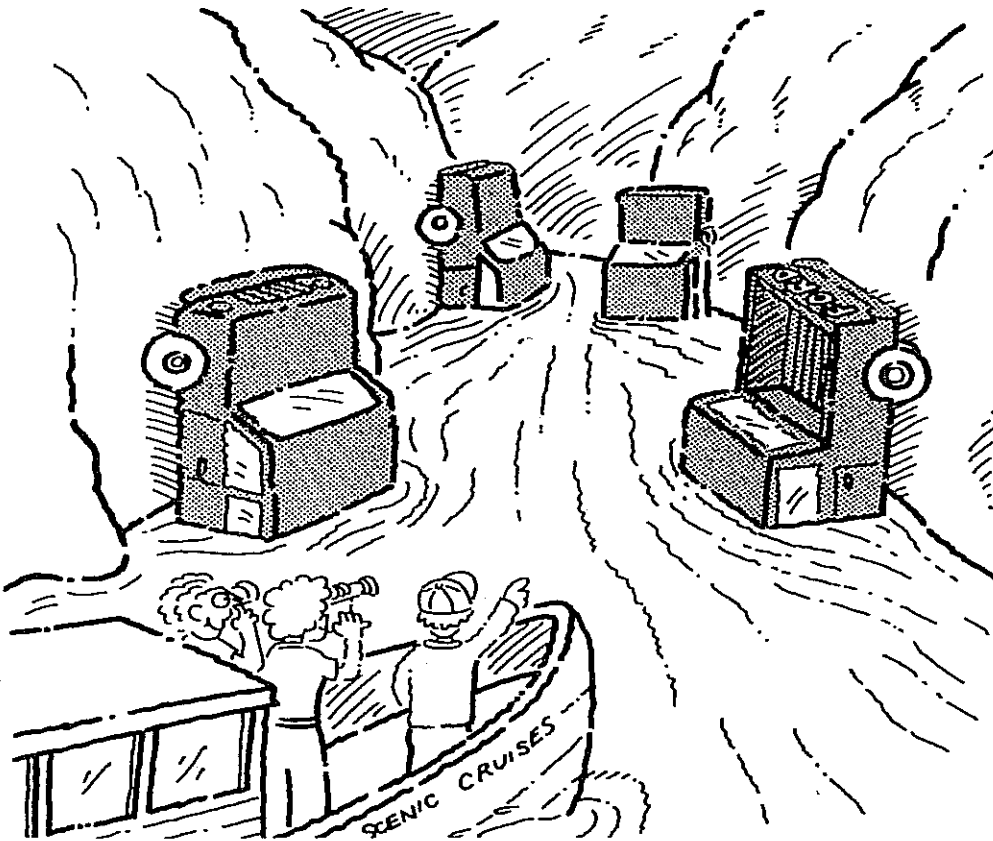
- ☐ Dr. Armstrong was very CONGENIAL, always a smile and a kind word for his patients, and candies for the children.
- ☐ Miss Florida was voted Miss CONGENIALITY in the Miss America pageant.
- ☐ The atmosphere at the property appraiser's office is CONGENIAL. Everyone enjoys their job, and visitors are welcome at any time.

FJORD

(fyord)

a long narrow inlet from the sea
between steep cliffs or hills

Link: FORD



"FORDS in a FJORD."

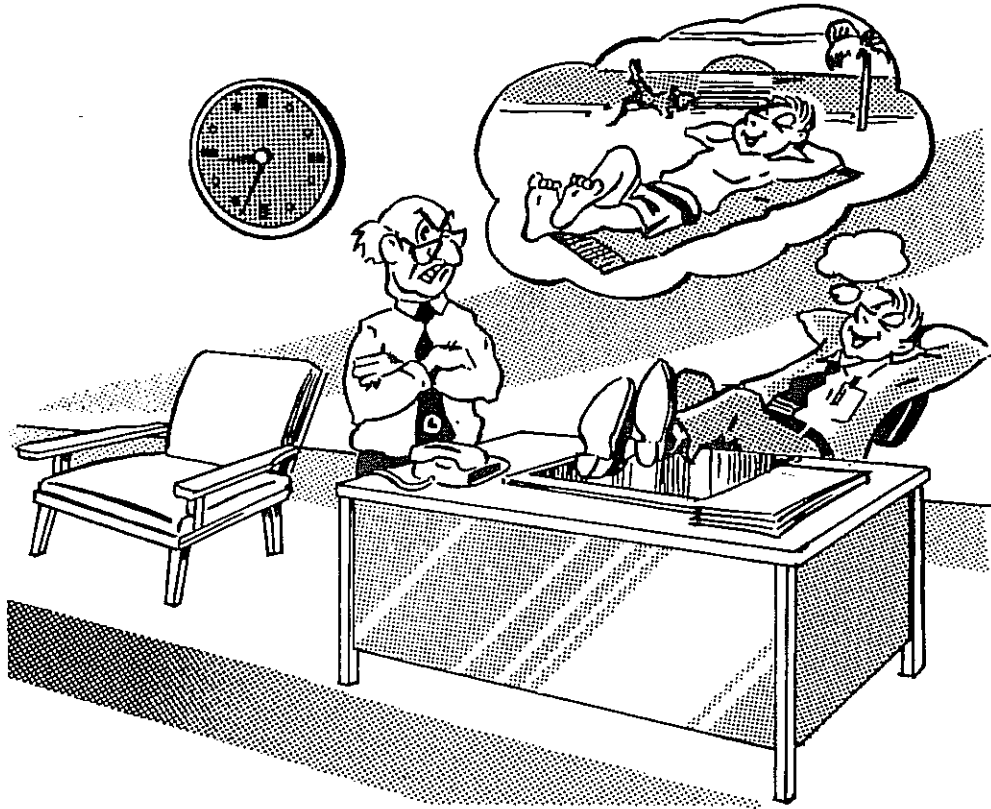
- ❑ Norway and New Zealand are two countries noted for having the most scenic FJORDS in the world.
- ❑ FJORDS are generally deep so that large cruise ships have more than enough water to navigate up their length.
- ❑ The Grand Canyon could be the grandest FJORD of all, if only it were on the coast with an inlet from the sea.

ASPIRE

(ass PIRE)

something one hopes to achieve; goal

Link: RETIRE



"Jim ASPIRED to RETIRE early and become a man of leisure."

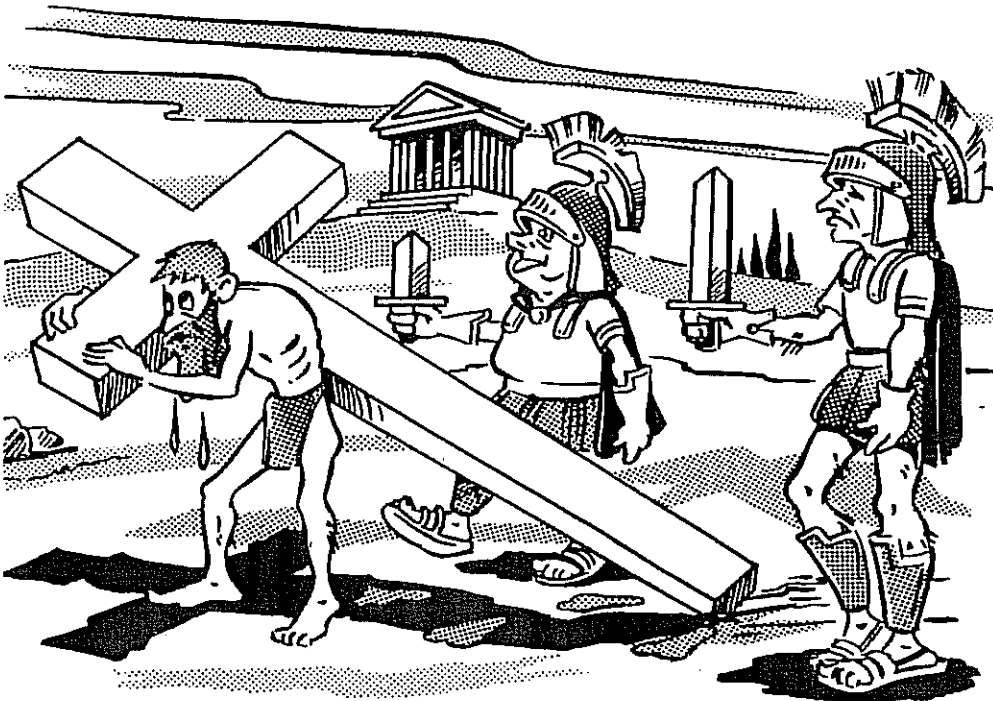
- ❑ Tim ASPIRED to be the valedictorian of his class at graduation and studied hard to reach that goal.
- ❑ The counselor told Jim's parents that his problem in school was he didn't ASPIRE for anything. He had no goals or career direction.
- ❑ As a young child, General Custer had ASPIRED to become a musician, but later decided to become a general instead.

MARTYR

(MAHR tur)

someone willing to sacrifice and even give his/her life for a cause; also one who pretends suffering to gain sympathy

Link: HARDER



"It's HARDER to be a MARTYR."

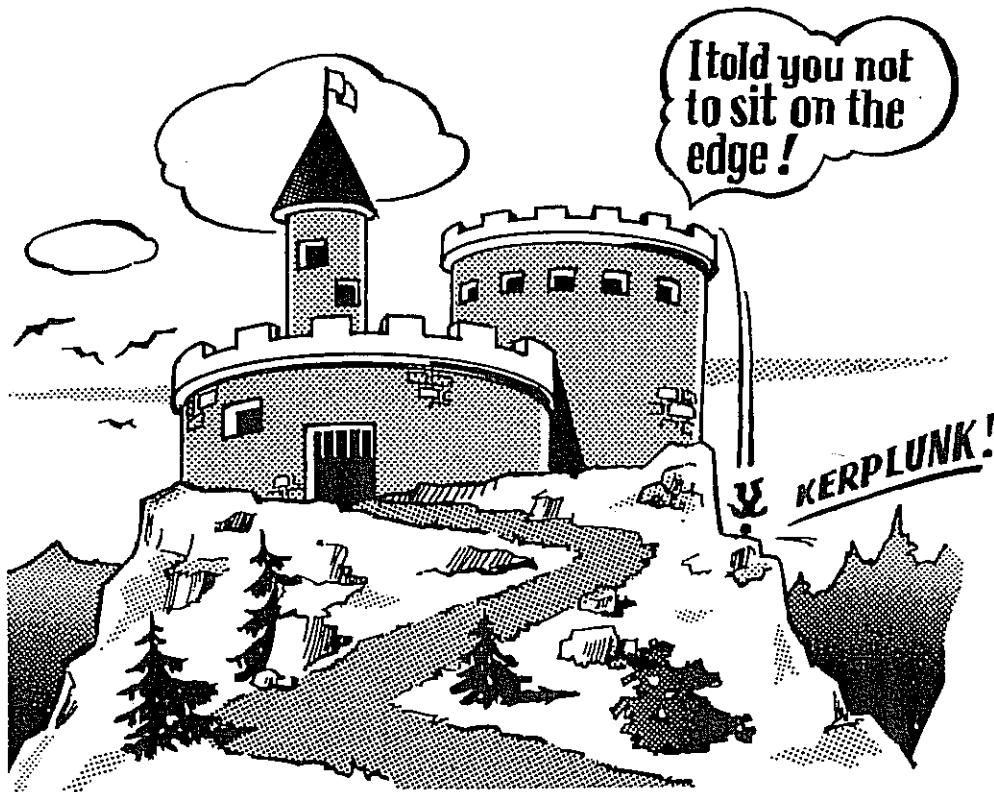
- ☐ She was a professional MARTYR, all-suffering for her children, or so she would tell them ten times a day.
- ☐ Joan of Arc was undoubtedly the most famous MARTYR in modern history, burned at the stake because she refused to go against her beliefs.
- ☐ Jack was a MARTYR to his job; he worked seven days a week and rarely took a day off.

CITADEL

(SIT uh dul)

a fortress overlooking a city;
a stronghold

Link: SIT WELL



*"It pays to SIT WELL on the edge
of a CITADEL."*

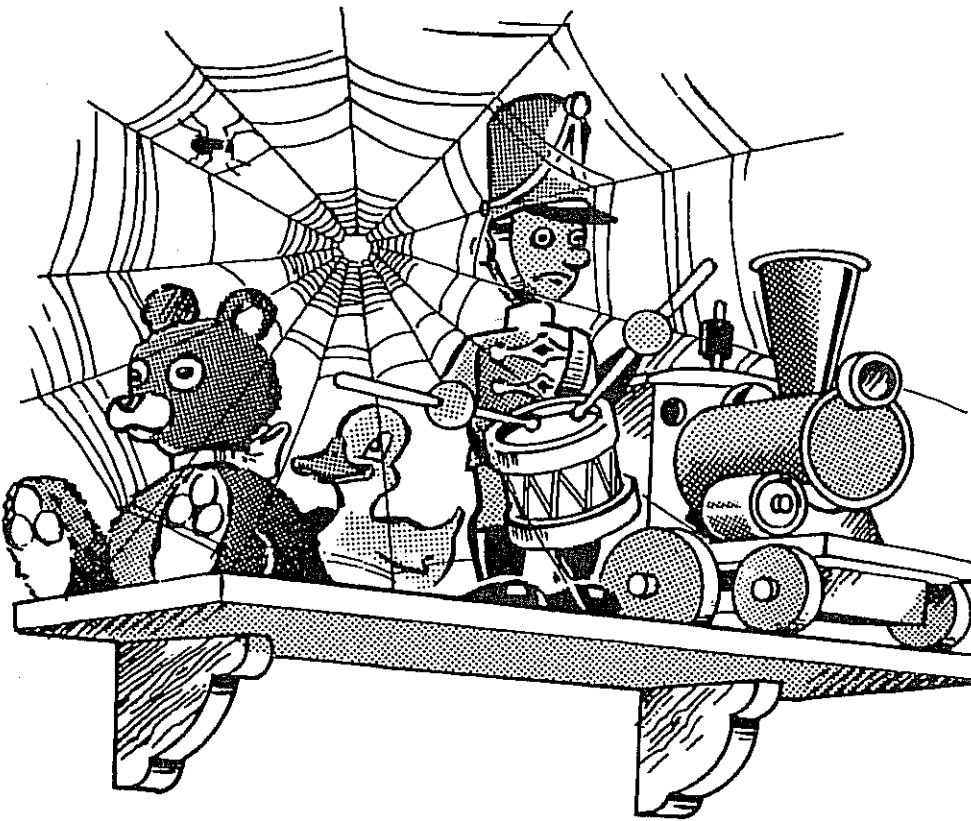
- ❑ Charlie was a CITADEL of strength, always there for you no matter what.
- ❑ West Point is considered a CITADEL of military learning, a fact easily understood when you come to understand that most generals attended West Point.
- ❑ There are many ancient CITADELS in Spain; they are among the attractions most visited by tourists.

DOLDRUMS

(DOHL drums)

a period or condition of
depression or inactivity

Link: DOLL DRUMS



*"All covered with dust, the DOLL DRUMS
were in the DOLDRUMS."*

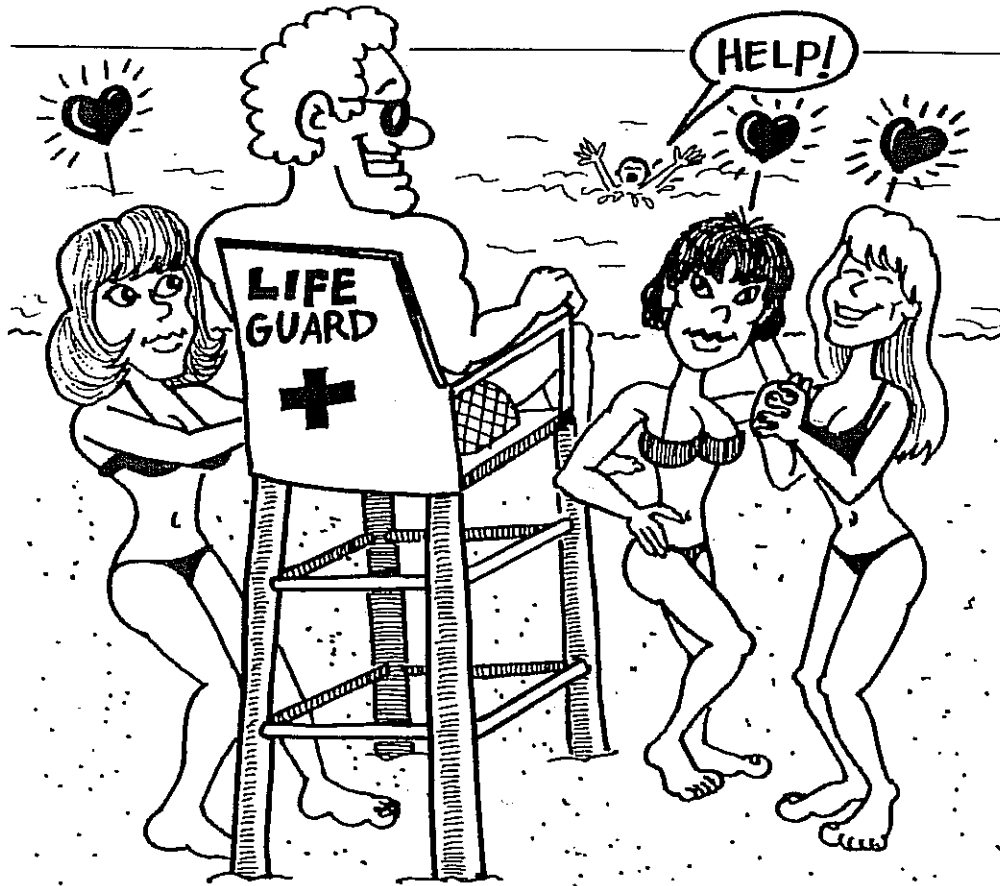
- ❑ Ever since Jackie's dog died, the little fellow has not touched his toys, moping around day after day in the DOLDRUMS.
- ❑ For thirteen days we were becalmed in the Horse Latitudes near the equator, our ship drifting in the DOLDRUMS without the faintest breeze to fill the sails of our vessel.

CONSENSUS

(kun SEN sus)

general agreement

Link: SENDS US



"We are in CONSENSUS, this guy SENDS US."

- ☐ After taking a CONSENSUS of the congressmen present, the bill to legalize nude beaches failed to pass.
- ☐ The CONSENSUS of the faculty was that no more chili dogs were to be served at the school lunch.
- ☐ A CONSENSUS is more than a majority, it means most everyone agrees.

BLATHER

(BLAH thur)

to talk nonsensically

Link: LATHER



*"Karen and Allison BLATHERED until
their mouths LATHERED."*

- ❑ Everything the media reported about the supposed plane disaster never happened. It was a bunch of BLATHER by uninformed journalists.
- ❑ Children have great imaginations, and often BLATHER about ghosts that supposedly enter their rooms and either scare them or play with them.

DEFAME

(di FAYME)

to libel or slander; take
away a good name

Link: RENAME



*"When the good name of William Bonney was
DEFAMED, reporters RENAMED him
'Billy the Kid'."*

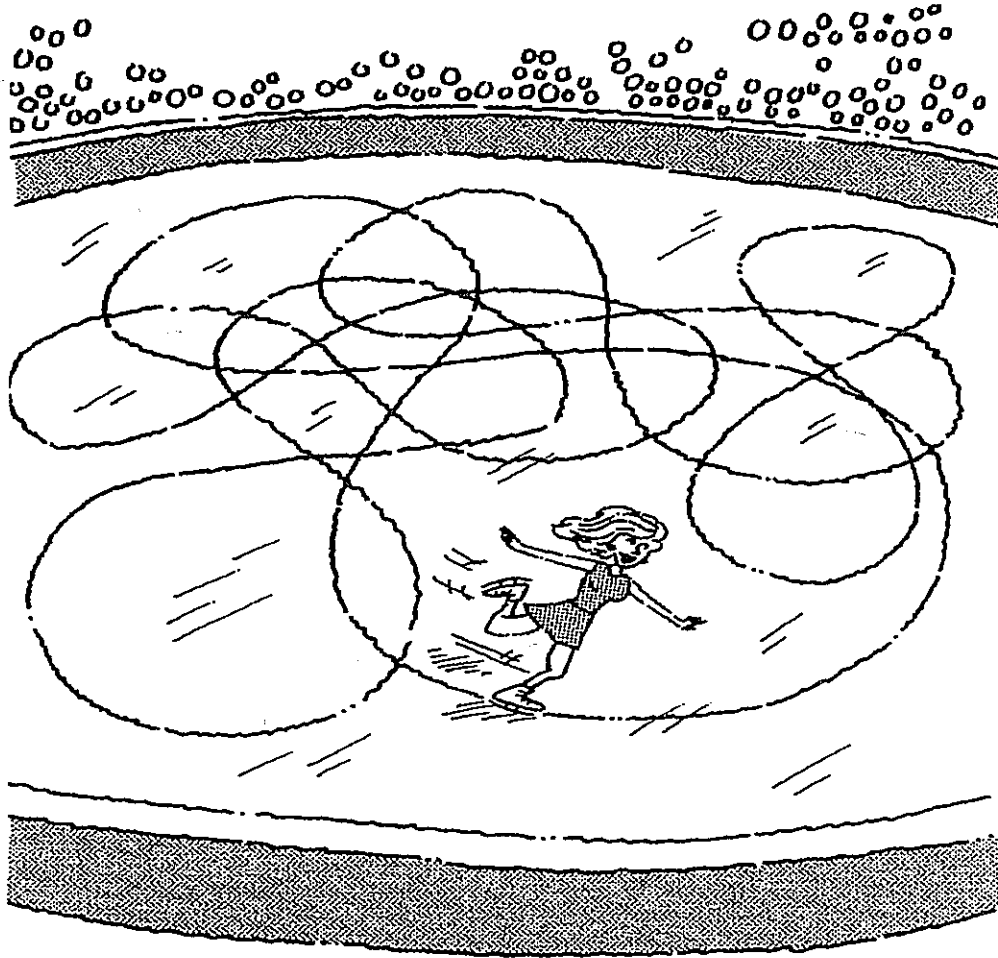
- ☐ DEFAMED and defeated, Napoleon was exiled to the Island of Elba.
- ☐ False accusations have DEFAMED the reputations of many fair ladies by unscrupulous, lying men.
- ☐ Thomas Jefferson was once quoted as saying, "DEFAMATION is becoming a way of life inso-much that a dish of tea cannot be digested without the stimulant."

CURVILINEAR

(kurv ah LIN ee ur)

formed, bound, or characterized
by curved lines

Link: CURVY LINES



*"The skater's CURVY LINES outlined her
CURVILINEAR skating program."*

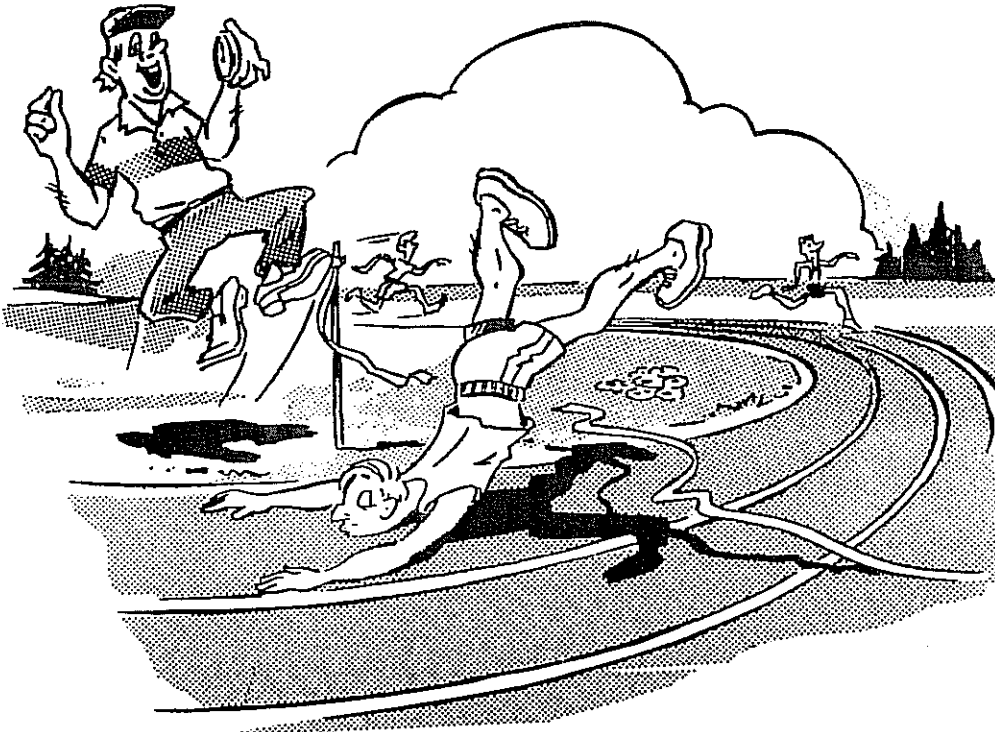
- ☐ Squares and rectangles have no CURVILINEAR lines.
- ☐ Surveyors have special instruments to lay out CURVILINEAR streets in subdivisions.

ELAPSE

(ee LAPS)

to pass or go by (said of time)

Link: COLLAPSE



“Ted ran the mile in the ELAPSED time of three minutes, forty-seven seconds, and then COLLAPSED.”

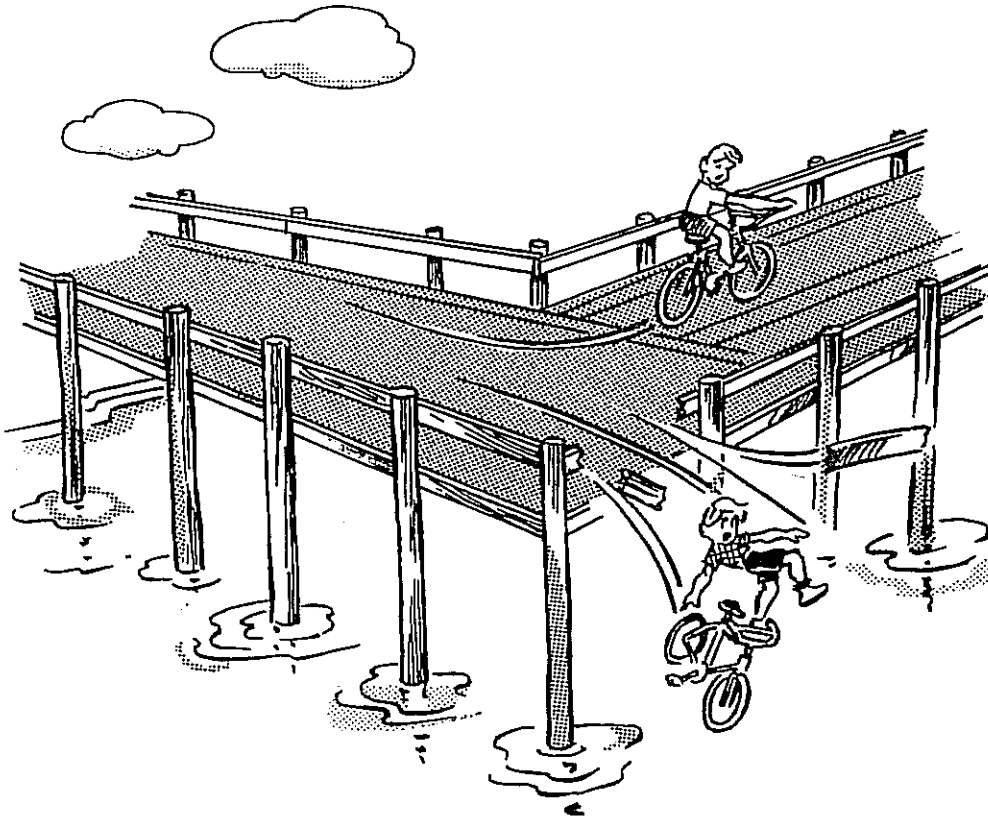
- ❑ Time ELAPSES slowly when someone is waiting for important news.
- ❑ Two years ELAPSED before they were to meet again, but all the time Jonathan knew Annette was the girl he was going to marry.
- ❑ During World War II, the siege of Stalingrad lasted five months; in the ELAPSING battle 750,000 Russians and 400,000 Germans died.

VEER

(ve ur)

change in direction

Link: PIER



*"Vern, I told you to VEER
at the end of the PIER."*

- ❑ When you arrive at the castle, VEER left around the wall and follow the foot trail until you come to the valley.
- ❑ Without warning, Flight #638 suddenly VEERED off the runway and slammed into a small plane parked outside the hanger. Fortunately no one was seriously hurt.
- ❑ Arthur never VEERED from the path of honor and dignity.

KARMA

(KAHR muh)

fate, destiny; to detect good or bad vibrations
from something or someone

Link: HARM-A



“No HARM-A will come if you have good KARMA.”

- ☐ All his life he possessed a protective KARMA that kept him out of harm's way.
- ☐ Louise often told her friends it was her KARMA to die young and beautiful.
- ☐ Genghis Khan emanated a KARMA of death and destruction.

ASTUTE

(uh STOOT)

quick in discernment; shrewd,
clever, keen

Link: SUIT



"Larry thought a new SUIT would make him appear more ASTUTE for his job interview."

- ❑ Louisa has a natural ASTUTENESS in dealing with angry people and winning them over to her view, thereby settling matters amicably.
- ❑ Like many gamblers, John thought he was very ASTUTE when it came to betting on horses. Only his wife kept telling him if he was so ASTUTE, he would realize he lost more often than he won.
- ❑ Mary was known to be very ASTUTE. She was always the first to finish her assignments.

MISNOMER

(miss NO mur)

an incorrect or inappropriate name

Link: MISS HOMER



“What a MISNOMER, our little MISS HOMER struck out five times in a row.”

- ❑ A nickname like “Speedy” is a MISNOMER when directed toward one who is slow at what they do.
- ❑ We usually have dinner at this very small Italian restaurant called The Spaghetti Factory, obviously a MISNOMER of major proportions.
- ❑ It was no MISNOMER when they called Harry Houdini, “The Great Houdini,” as he was the greatest escape artist of his time.

RESURGENT

(re sur jent)

a rise after defeat

Link: SERGEANT



"A RESURGENT SERGEANT."

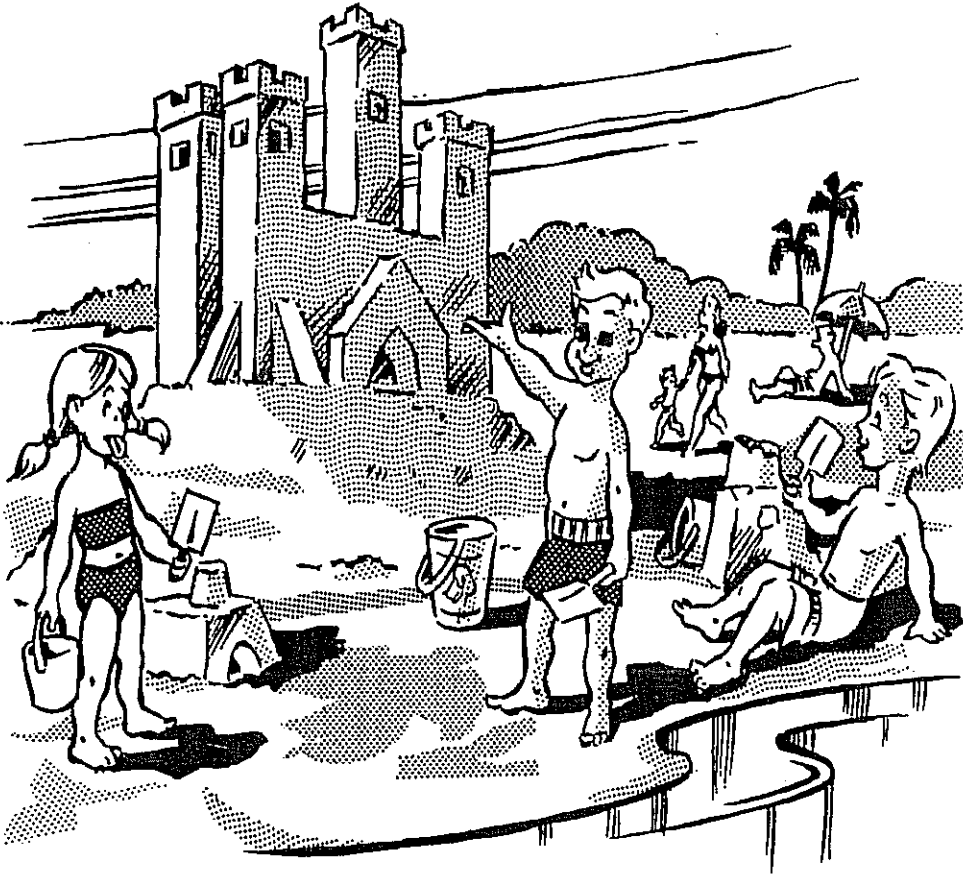
- ❑ After losing last year, the RESURGENT Frank Morrow said he was going to run for class president.
- ❑ The RESURGENT little boy was determined to ride his bike without training wheels.
- ❑ RESURGENCE and strong determination helps most climbers conquer Mount Everest.

ARTISAN

(AHRT uh sun)

a worker skilled in a craft

Link: ART IN SAND



"Little Jimmy was a SAND CASTLE ARTISAN."

- ❑ The ARTISANS of Pueblo, Mexico are known for their beautiful pottery.
- ❑ The ARTISANS arrived early in the morning to repaint and landscape the house.
- ❑ The Italian painter and sculptor Michelangelo was both an artist and an ARTISAN.

DRACONIAN

(dray KOH nee un)

hard, severe, cruel

Link: DRACULA



*"Count DRACULA often behaved in a
DRACONIAN manner."*

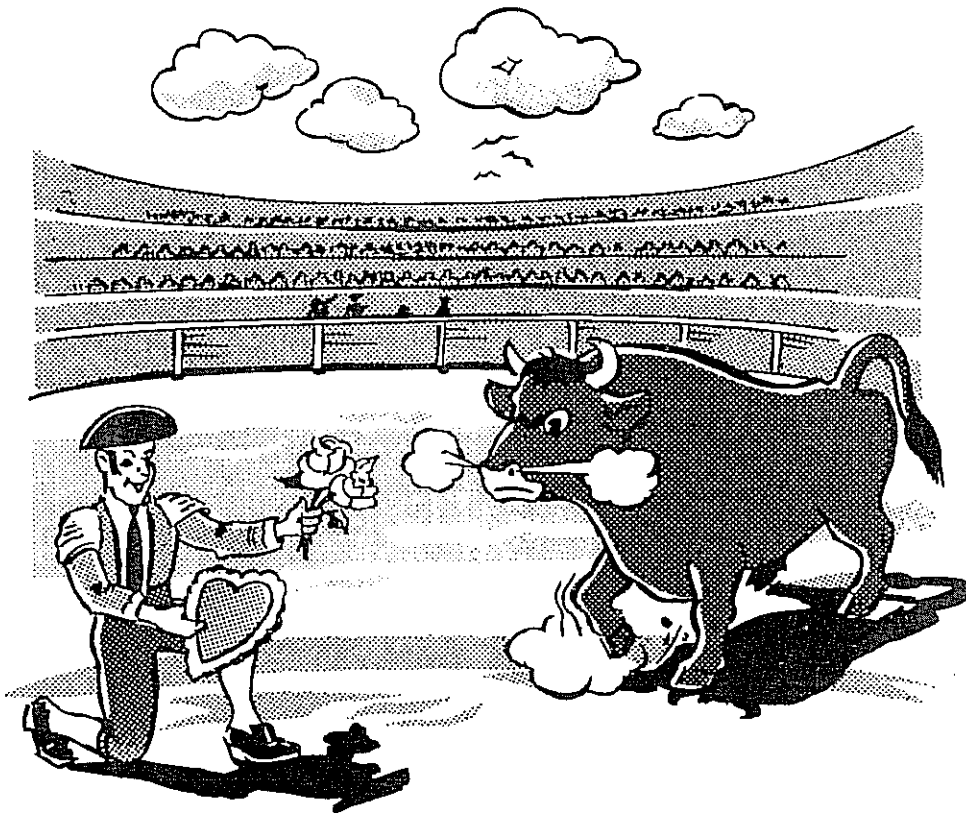
- ❑ Mr. Jeb had a DRACONIAN personality. Nothing his students did pleased him, and rarely did half of his students get passing grades.
- ❑ Judge McNamara handed down a DRACONIAN sentence to the defendant, sixty days for littering.
- ❑ The word DRACONIAN did not originate with the fictional character, Count Dracula, but with an ancient Greek official named Dracula who created a harsh code of laws.

AMENABLE

(ah MEE nuh bul)

agreeable, responsible to authority, pleasant, willing to give in to the wishes of another

Link: MEAN BULL



*"The matador tried to be AMENABLE
to the MEAN BULL."*

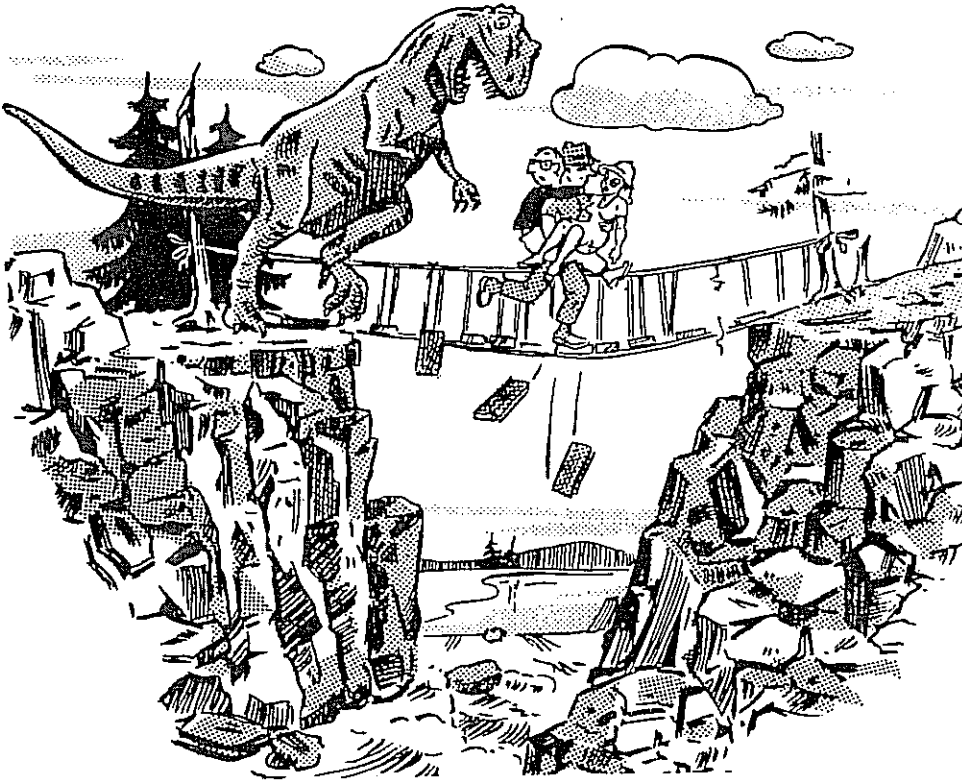
- ☐ Jack was such a classy guy, always AMENABLE to any reasonable solution to a problem.
- ☐ The Seminole Indians were AMENABLE to our sharing revenue from the games at their bingo hall.
- ☐ Jane was AMENABLE to calling back tomorrow when the main office would be open.

PRECARIOUS

(pruh KA REE us)

unsafe, unsteady, unstable

Link: CARRY US



"To escape the dinosaur, Mississippi Jones CARRIED US to safety across a PRECARIOUS bridge."

- ❑ It was a PRECARIOUS moment; we were out of town, without any money and without any gas.
- ❑ The PRECARIOUSNESS of their situation did not fully strike the fishermen until their small boat arrived at the dock only moments before the storm struck.
- ❑ Isabel's habit of arriving at work late almost every morning made her job future PRECARIOUSLY uncertain.

CRITERION

(kry TEER ee un)

a standard or rule by which something can be judged; a basis for judgment

Link: LIBRARIAN



"A CRITERION for any LIBRARIAN is that she must know how to read."

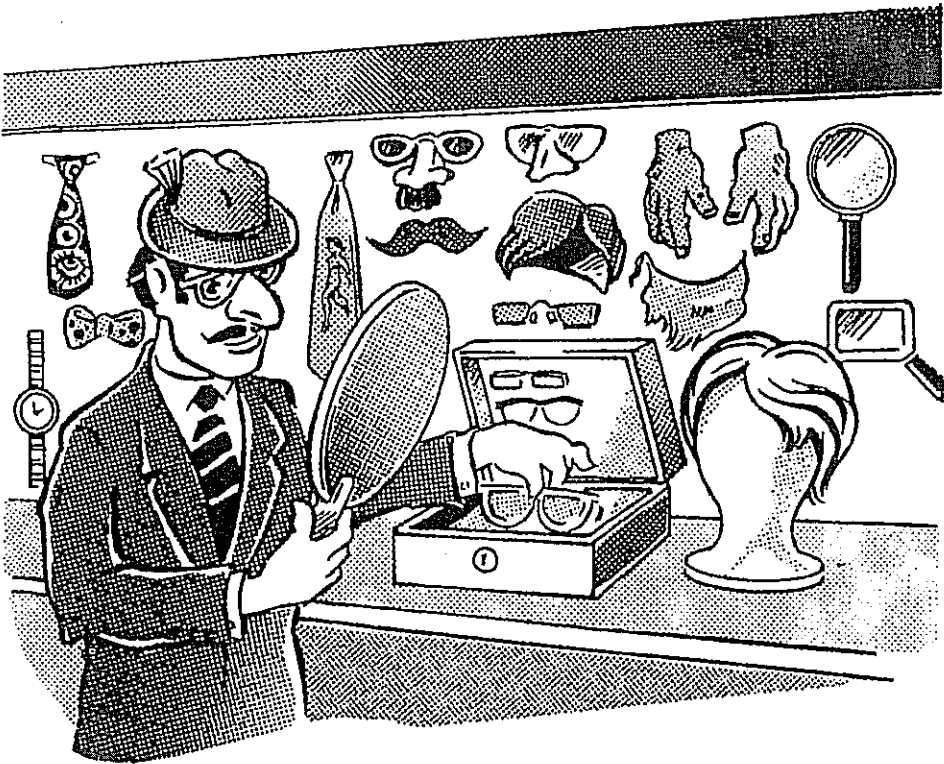
- ❑ There is no special CRITERION for making a fortune, but some say the fastest way is to marry rich.
- ❑ (CRITERION is singular. CRITERIA is plural.) The physical CRITERIA for a good basketball player are to be seven feet tall and jump like a kangaroo.

GUISE

(gyze)

appearance, semblance

Link: DISGUISE



*"A master of DISGUISE, Sherlock Holmes
concealed his real GUISE."*

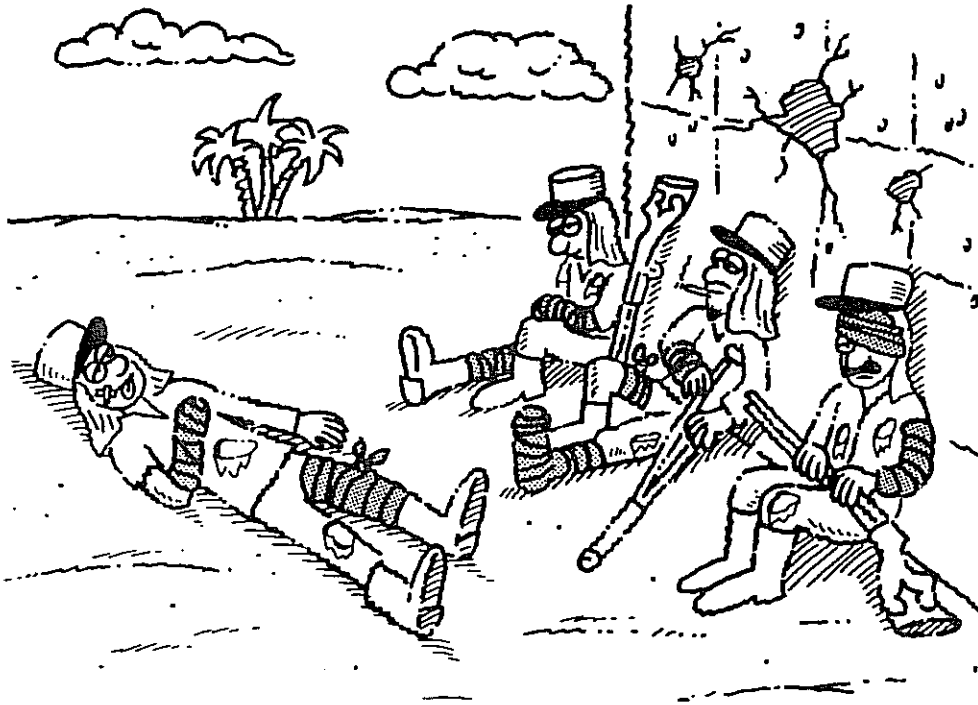
- ❑ Every night the undercover detective would enter the toughest part of town in the GUISE of a junkie, uncovering the identity of many drug pushers.
- ❑ (A false appearance can also be a GUISE.) Amy was extremely cautious of advances made toward her by Harold because, as she put it, he had the GUISE of an angel, but the intentions of a devil.

LESION

(LEE zhun)

wound, injury; especially one
created by a disease

Link: LEGION



*"Soldiers of the French Foreign LEGION
suffering from their LESIONS."*

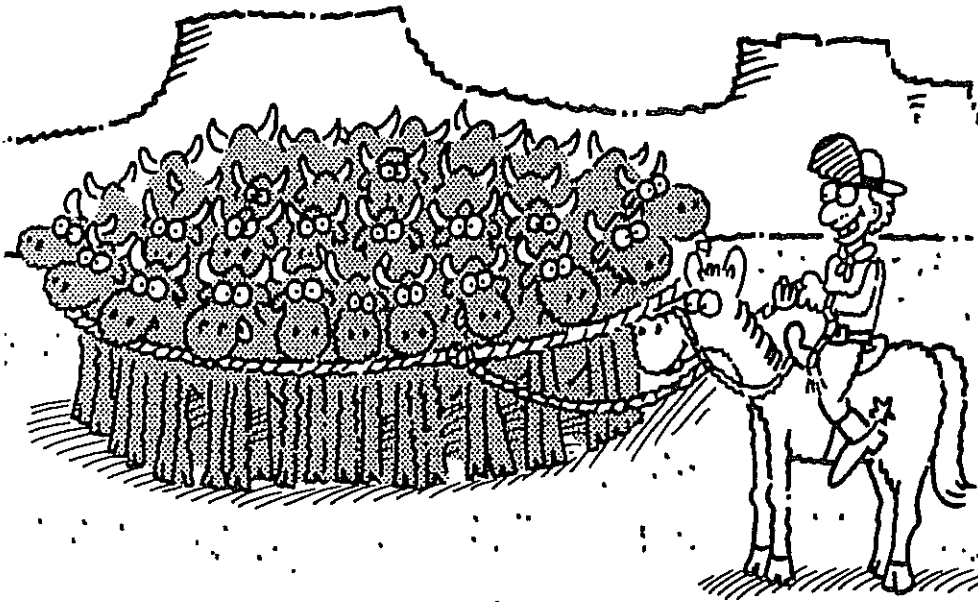
- ❑ The nurses told Crystal to keep the bandage on her knee until the LESION healed; otherwise the open sore would be prone to infection by air-borne bacteria.
- ❑ When a person has a LESION, even a small one that will not heal, it is time to see a doctor.
- ❑ Ebola is an infectious disease characterized by open LESIONS of the skin.

GIRD

(gyrd)

to encircle as with a belt; to
prepare as for action

Link: HERD



*"Curly GIRDED the HERD with
his trusty lasso."*

- ❑ Johnny's job each week of the soccer season was to GIRD the field with a line of white chalk to mark the boundaries of the playing field.
- ❑ Jack hoped he could stop the invasion of weeds from his neighbor's yard by GIRDING his lawn with a pre-emergent herbicide.
- ❑ GIRDED for action, the tanks moved forward into battle formation.

FETISH

(FET ish)

an object of unreasonable obsessive
reverence or attention

Link: BRITISH



*"The BRITISH, they say, have an
absolute FETISH for tea."*

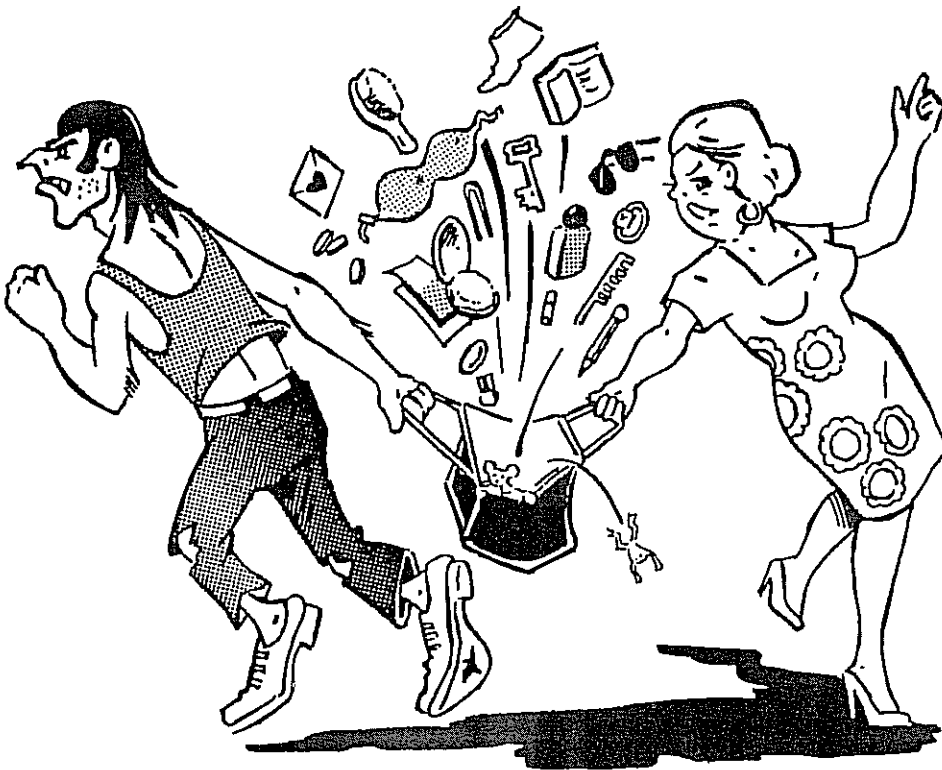
- ❑ Her psychologist said the reason Darlene had a FETISH of washing her hands a dozen times a day was because she had a guilt complex about something in her past life, and she was trying to wash the guilt away.
- ❑ Chocolate was more than a FETISH with Mary; she had to have a chocolate fix several times a day.

DISPERSE

(dis PURS)

to scatter in various directions;
distribute widely

Link: PURSE

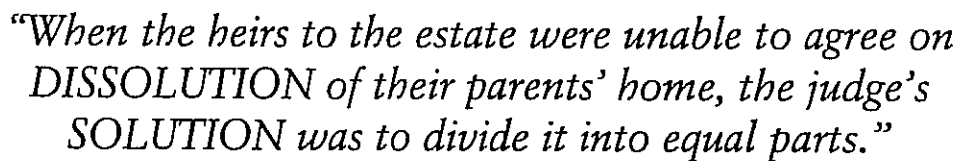


*"When the thug grabbed Dee's PURSE, all
its contents were DISPERSED."*

- ❑ Bonaparte DISPERSED his troops strategically all along the mountain's ridge where they could fire down upon the Austrian Army as it advanced up the hill.
- ❑ The police arrived and DISPERSED the crowd with threats of arrest if they did not leave the parade grounds.

(dis uh LOO shun)

Link: [SOLUTION](#)



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FORAGE

(FOR uj)

to search or hunt for
food and provision

Link: FOREST



*"Wild animals FORAGING for
food in the FOREST."*

- ❑ When the last of our provisions were gone, it was decided that two men would take our only rifle and go FORAGING for game.
- ❑ We FORAGED through the shed for plywood, tin sheets and boards, anything with which to board up the windows and doors before the full force of the hurricane struck.

DENOUNCE

(di NOUNS)

to condemn; to expose critically

Link: BOUNCE



"The other kangaroos DENOUNCED poor Roger when he was unable to BOUNCE."

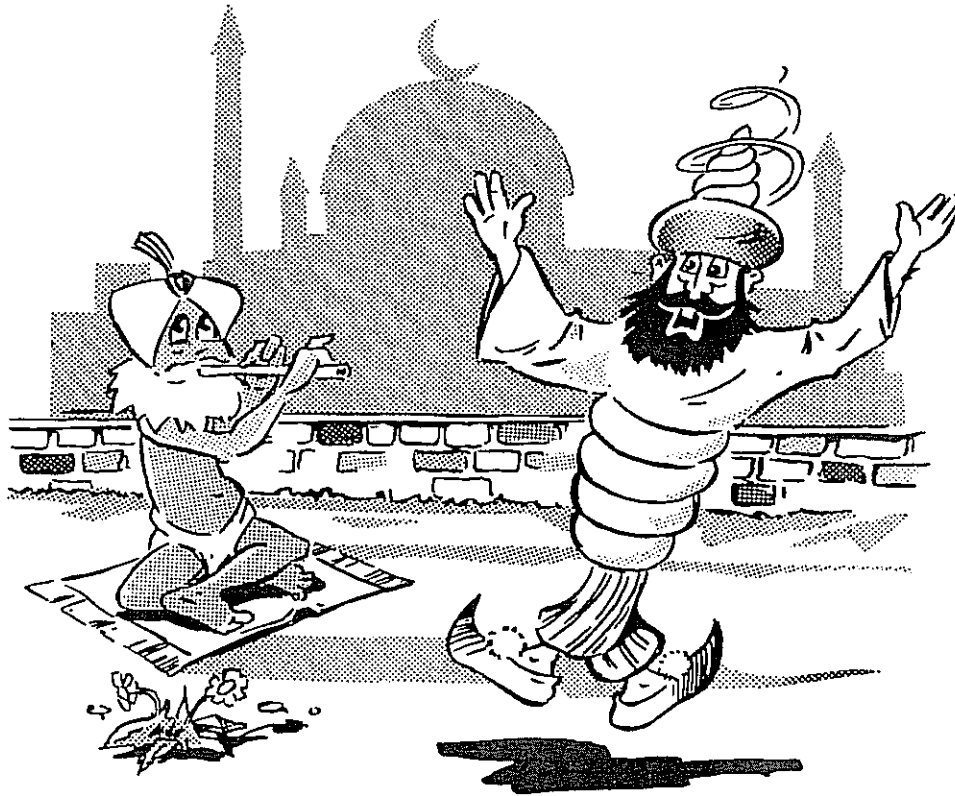
- ❑ As an act of conscience, the young terrorist DENOUNCED his fellow terrorists and confessed their criminal acts to the police.
- ❑ The captured soldiers were asked to DENOUNCE their government and join in the revolution of the people.
- ❑ The world was flabbergasted with the Russian government's DENUNCIATION of Stalin so soon after he died.

TORQUE

(tork)

a turning or twisting force

Link: TURK



*"Tommy the TURK doing his famous
TORQUE TURK dance."*

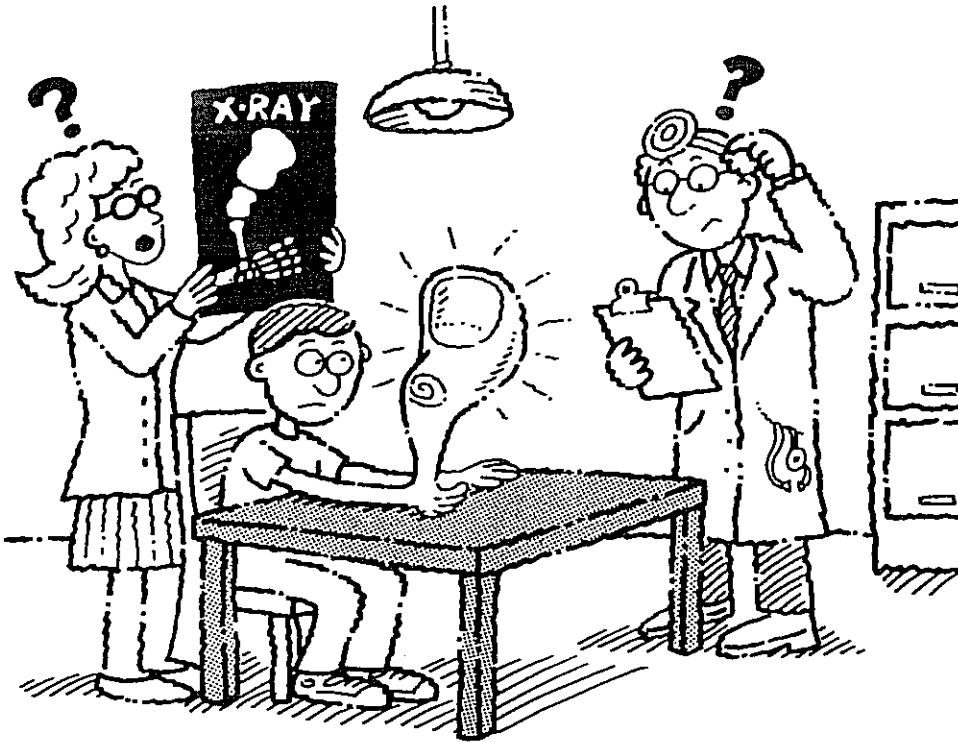
- ❑ We all took our turn, but none of my brothers or I could apply enough TORQUE to open the jar of strawberry jam.
- ❑ When the propeller broke off one side, this created a TORQUE so great it tore the engine right out of its mount.
- ❑ The wrench handle was too short to generate the TORQUE required to loosen the bolt.

FATHOM

(fa THUM)

to understand fully;
to penetrate the meaning of

Link: FAT THUMB



*"Doctors could never FATHOM the reason
for Larry's FAT THUMB."*

- ❑ Her friends thought they had FATHOMED the reason Estelle applied for entrance in an all-boys college: She never had any dates.
- ❑ The jury found it hard to FATHOM how the defendant could commit such a terrible crime.
- ❑ (In nautical terms, FATHOM is six feet of water depth.) We dropped anchor in four FATHOMS of water and made plans to stay for the night.

DOCILE

(DAHS ul)

easily taught or controlled;
obedient, easy to handle

Link: FOSSIL



"A DOCILE FOSSIL."

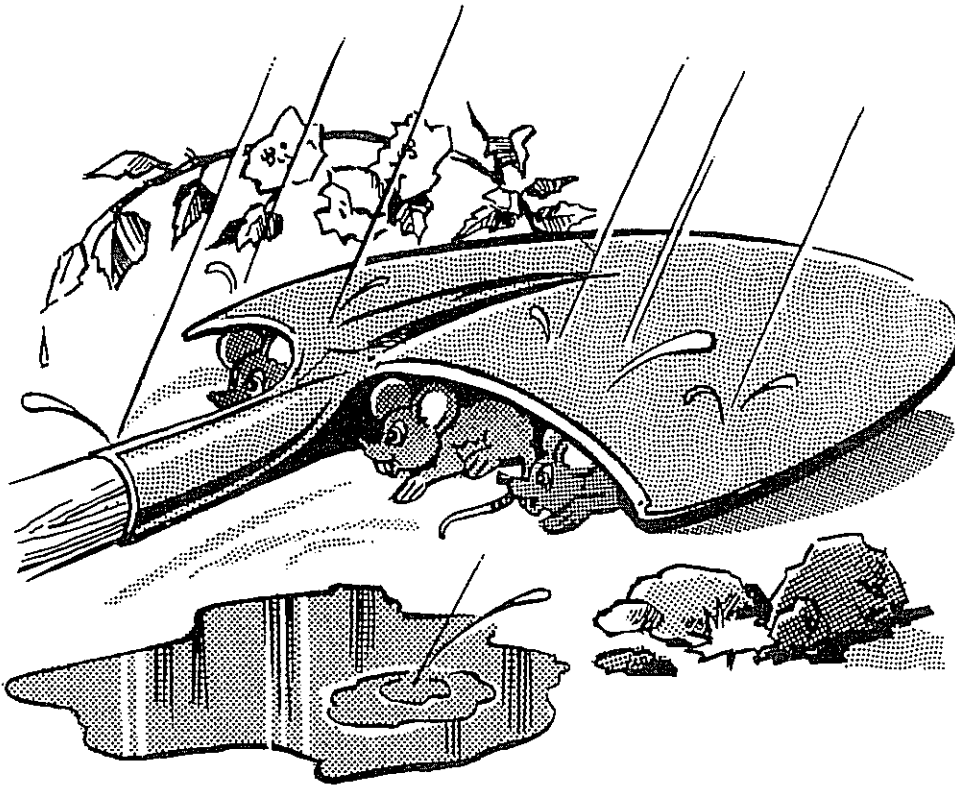
- ❑ A desirable quality of basset hounds is that they are DOCILE, and that is why they are sought as house pets.
- ❑ Cameron was a fierce competitor on the football field, but his wife said he was a sweet, DOCILE husband.
- ❑ The baby lion's DOCILITY fooled the zoo handler into believing she wouldn't scratch or bite until she proved otherwise by chewing off part of his ear.

HOVEL

(HUV ul)

a small, miserable dwelling;
an open, low shed

Link: SHOVEL



"The mice's HOVEL was an old, rusted SHOVEL."

- ❑ In the famous play, *Tobacco Road*, the characters were poor tobacco farmers who live in HOVELS, shacks made of cardboard and discarded wooden boxes.
- ❑ Compared to the Summertons' palatial estate on Long Island, Jane said her apartment in the Bronx was a HOVEL.
- ❑ The HOVELS where the homeless live consist of the most squalid structures.

BALM

(balm)

something that soothes, heals or comforts; an oil or ointment

Link: PALM



*"There's nothing like a BALMY breeze
whispering through PALM trees."*

- ☐ The nurse gave me some kind of white BALM to put on my insect bites to soothe the pain.
- ☐ It was a BALMY day, perfect for a game of golf or a trip to the beach.
- ☐ After sweating through his final exams, the sound of the bell at the end of class was a BALM to Pete's nerves.

DIVINE

(di VYNE)

to foretell a prophecy;

to infer, to guess

Link: VINE



*"How was Tarzan to DIVINE this was
the time his VINE would break?"*

- ❑ Stockbrokers make their living helping their clients DIVINE when to buy and when to sell stocks.
- ❑ When you have been a policeman for years, you can almost DIVINE when your prisoner is telling the truth as opposed to when he is lying.
- ❑ (DIVINE also means supremely pleasing.) It was a DIVINE party, and a great time was had by all.

ALTERNATIVE

(all ter na tive)

the choice between two mutually exclusive possibilities; a situation presenting such a choice

Link: TURN NATIVE



*"It's an ALTERNATIVE lifestyle,
he TURNED NATIVE."*

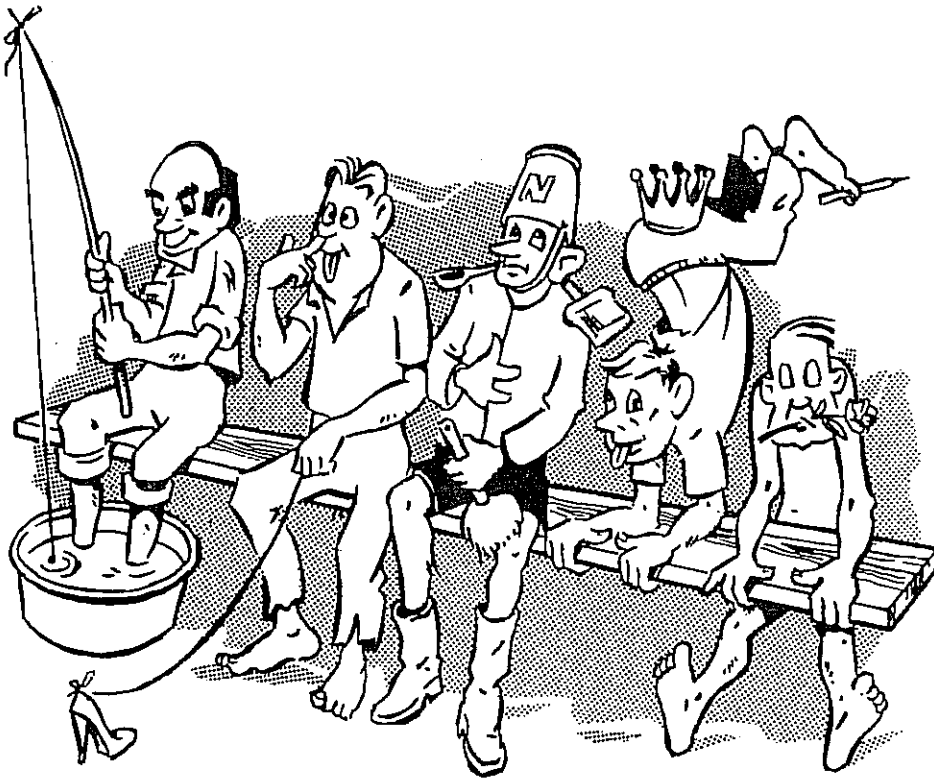
- ❑ "I've had six by-pass operations," said Harry. "It's no fun, but better than the ALTERNATIVE."
- ❑ The ALTERNATIVE to playing in the band was to go out for the football team.
- ❑ The hikers decided there was no ALTERNATIVE; they had to get through the pass before the rains came.

COUNTENANCE

(KOWNT uh nanz)

a person's face, especially the expression

Link: COUNT THE NUTS



*"By their facial COUNTENANCE alone
it was easy to COUNT THE NUTS."*

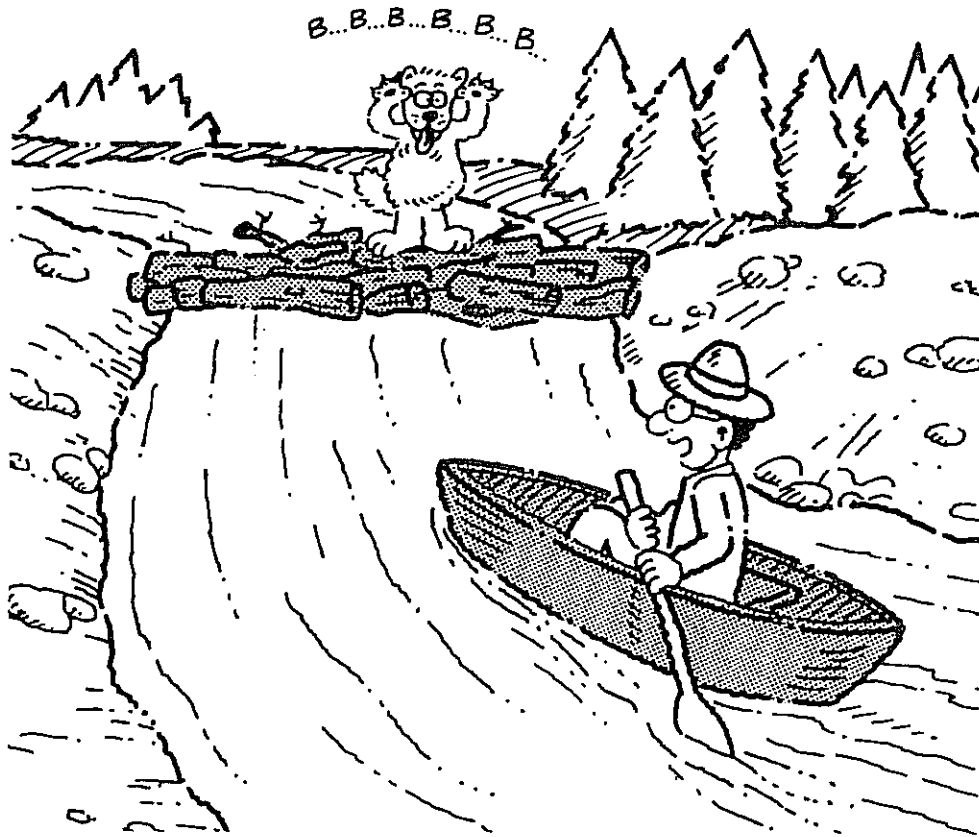
- ❑ The submarine commander's COUNTENANCE belied his true feelings of anxiety and fear.
- ❑ John Barrymore had a magnificent series of COUNTENANCES, one for every part he played.
- ❑ (To COUNTENANCE something is to tolerate or approve of it.) The coach COUNTENANCED the players' horseplay, even though he didn't approve of it.

BADGER

(BAJ ur)

to tease, annoy, harass persistently

Link: BADGER



"A BADGERING BADGER."

- ❑ "Don't BADGER me," Louis said to his daughter. "I promised I'd take you to the mall, so please be patient until I finish my work."
- ❑ The school bully BADGERED Rog endlessly, until one day Rog became so provoked that he socked him in the mouth.
- ❑ BADGERING is not the most admirable quality to possess; however, it is common among teenagers who constantly BADGER their younger siblings.

WANE

(wain)

to decrease gradually .

Link: RAIN



"Snowmen WANE in the RAIN."

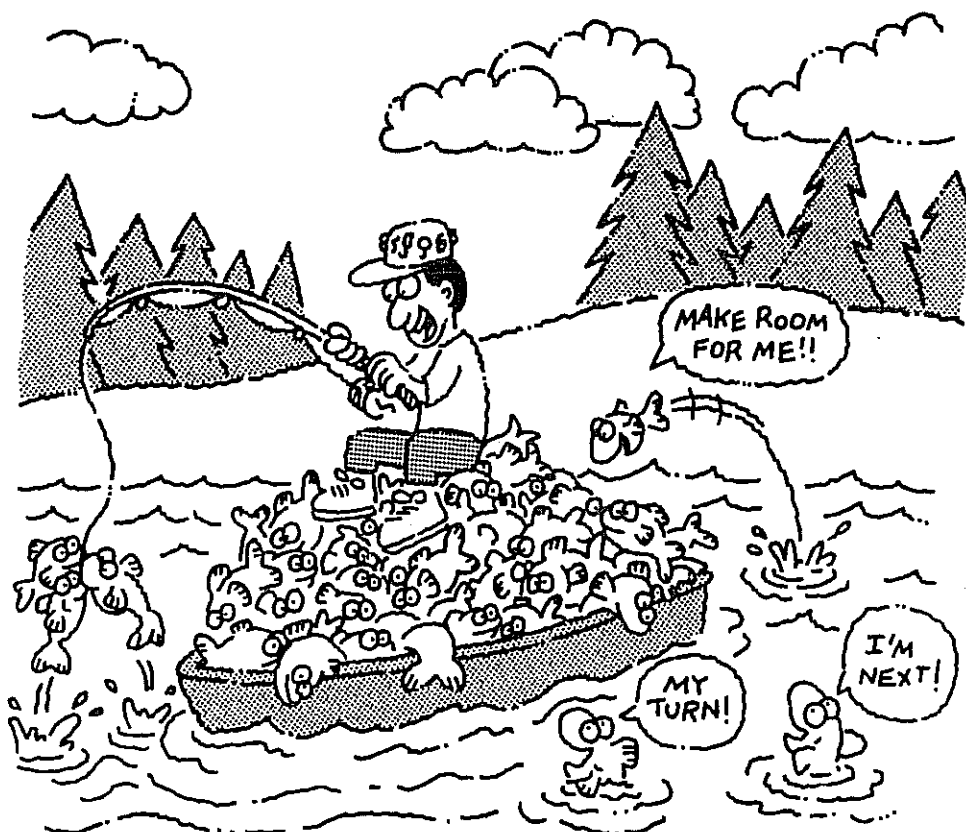
- ❑ Marilyn's interest in a new beau began to WANE when she discovered Jack had invited three other girls as his date for the junior prom.
- ❑ With a WANING of air in his air tank, the diver knew he had to return to the surface.
- ❑ A WANING interest by theater-goers prompted the theater to shut down.

FRAUGHT

(fraught)

teeming with; laden; full;
involving; accompanied by

Link: CAUGHT



*"Eric CAUGHT a boatload in
a lake FRAUGHT with fish."*

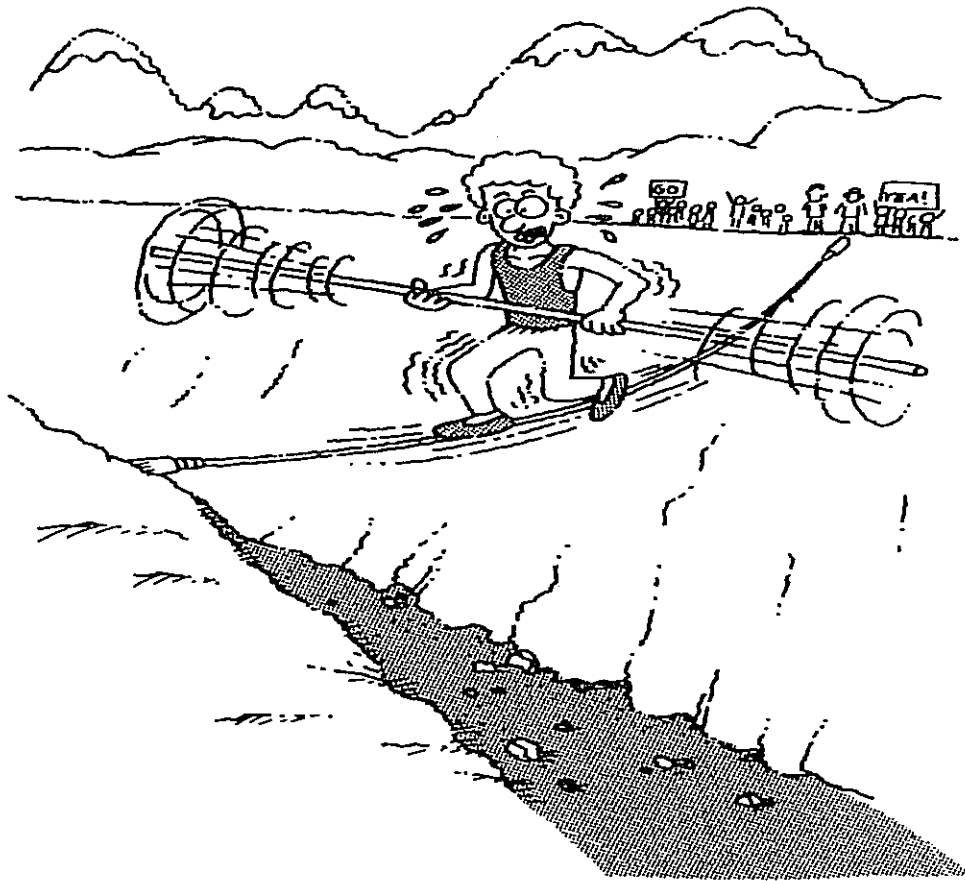
- ❑ The freighter was FRAUGHT with cargo.
- ❑ Although Mark Twain's books were FRAUGHT with humor, they nevertheless drove home good advice for their readers, young and old.
- ❑ FRAUGHT with guilt about losing her temper with the children, Mary tried to make it up to them by treating them to ice cream after supper.

CHASM

(KAZ um)

a deep opening in the earth's surface; a gorge;
differences of opinion, interests, loyalties

Link: SPASM



"A SPASM in the CHASM."

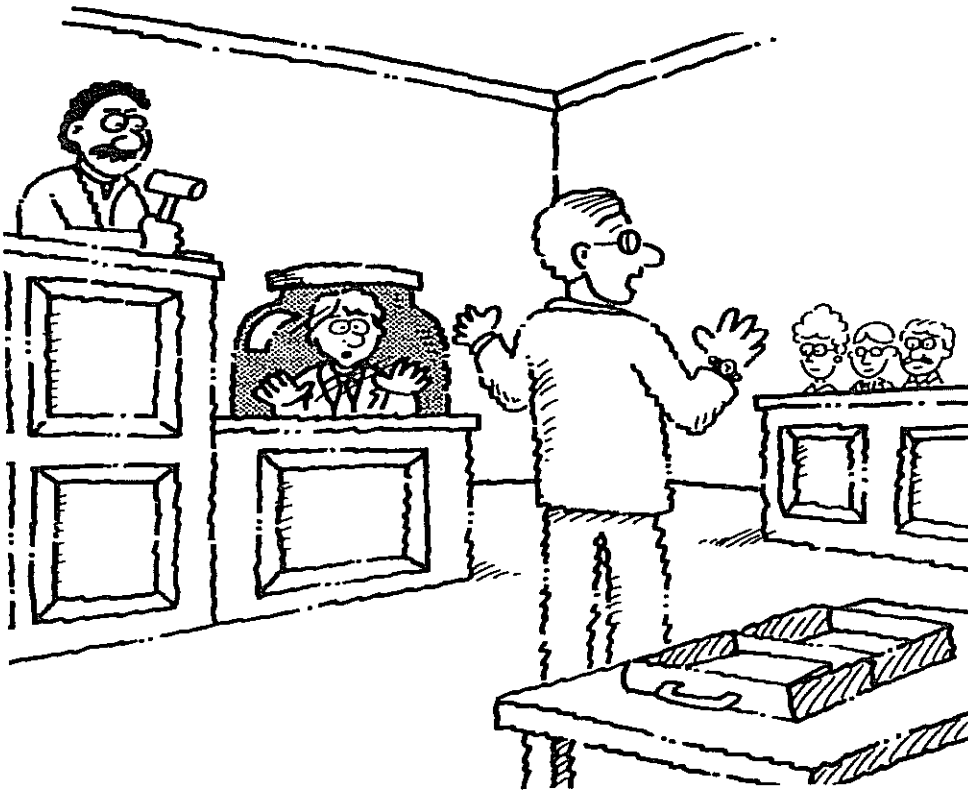
- ❑ "There are CHASMS and there are CHASMS," said the professor. "The Grand Canyon is one big CHASM, but I fear some of you have CHASMS where your noggins ought to be."
- ❑ There was a CHASM of difference between their attitudes of what a marriage should consist of.

ERUDITE

(ER yoo dyte)

deeply learned, scholarly

Link: AIRTIGHT



"Knowing that his case was AIRTIGHT, the defense attorney became confident and ERUDITE."

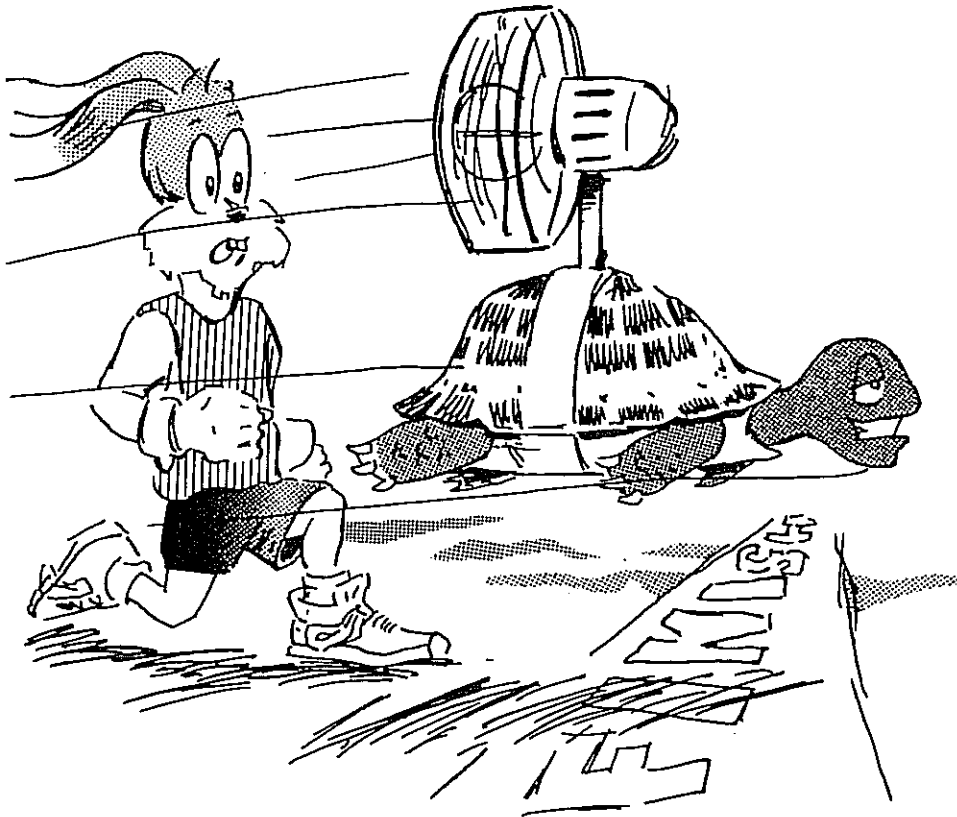
- ❑ Most professional speakers are ERUDITE, with the understanding of proper grammatical structure and a large vocabulary at their command.
- ❑ Students who plan to go to law school take classes in speech and debate in order to become verbally ERUDITE.
- ❑ (To be ERUDITE is to have ERUDITION.) The extent of Dr. Smith's library is an indication of his ERUDITION.

ALSO-RAN

(AWL so ran)

one who is defeated in a race, election,
or other competition; loser

Link: AWESOME FAN



*"The tortoise was an ALSO-RAN until he
strapped on an AWESOME FAN."*

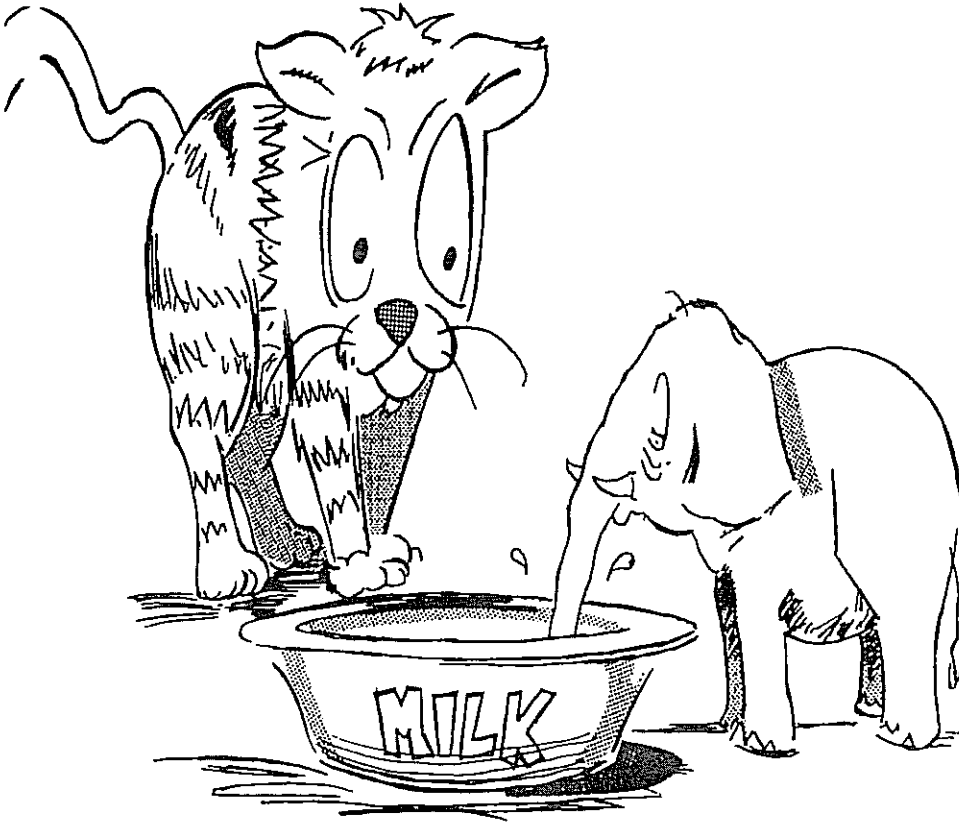
- ❑ Even though George Bush received millions of votes in the presidential election, he was an ALSO-RAN to Bill Clinton.
- ❑ With twenty thousand runners in the New York Marathon, even if you defeat nineteen thousand nine hundred and ninety eight, you would still be an ALSO-RAN.

ELFIN

(EL fin)

small and sprightly;
mischievous, fairylike

Link: ELEPHANT



*"An ELFIN ELEPHANT is a strange
sight to see."*

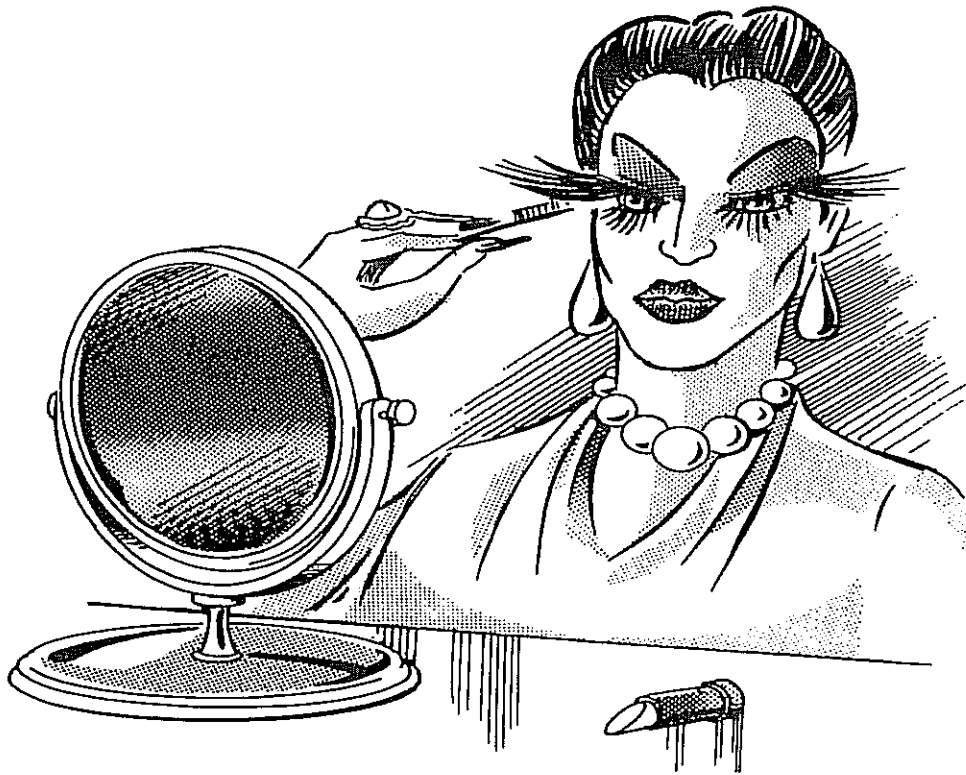
- ❑ Jane is very small and has a magical, ELFIN charm about her until she starts to sing. Then she sounds like a bullfrog in a pond.
- ❑ The entire family had an ELFIN quality, like little people who belonged in the Land of Lilliputians.

AGGRANDIZE

(uh GRAN dyze)

to exaggerate, to cause to appear
greater in power, influence

Link: GRAND EYES



"Ladies acquire GRAND EYES with mascara and false eyelashes to AGGRANDIZE their eyes."

- ❑ George was the principal AGGRANDIZER of his own achievements, making the little ones bigger and the bigger ones unbelievable. He was self-AGGRANDIZING to the point where his boastfulness created a negative impression.
- ❑ The greatest AGGRANDIZEMENT of the entire evening was when the Russian claimed that Russia had won World War II without any help from the United States or the other allies.

ENSEMBLE

(ahn SOM bul)

a coordinated outfit or costume;
a musical group

Link: HANDSOME DEVIL



*"James Bond was a HANDSOME DEVIL
in his spy ENSEMBLE."*

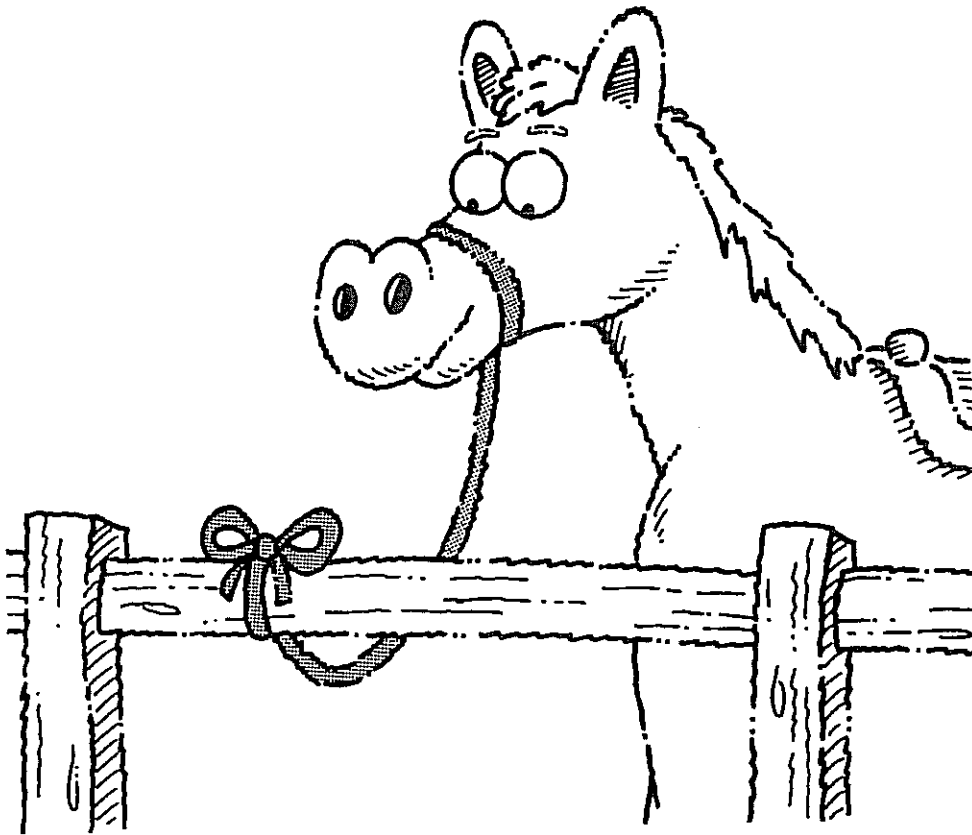
- ❑ The popular ENSEMBLE for students today is blue jeans and a T-shirt.
- ❑ A French fashion designer will work an entire year to get ready to show his ENSEMBLES.
- ❑ The wedding ENSEMBLE consisted of a troupe of gypsy musicians, dancers and singers.

TETHER

(teh thur)

a rope or chain that allows limited movement;
the limit of one's resources or strength

Link: LEATHER



*"Horses are TETHERED with a
rope or LEATHER strap."*

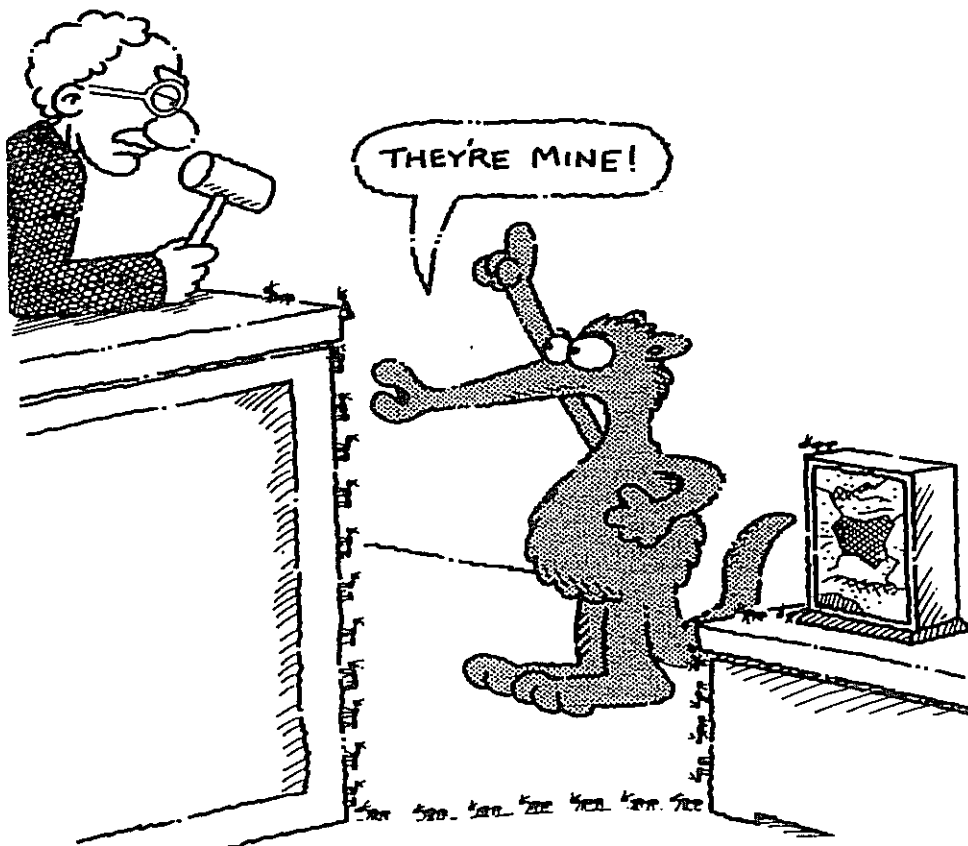
- ❑ Norman told the guys that he had too much work to go camping, but we knew it was because his wife had him TETHERED to a short leash and wouldn't let him go.
- ❑ We TETHERED the boat to the dock with lines both fore and aft.

CLAIMANT

(KLAY ment)

a person making a claim

Link: CLAIM ANT



"A CLAIMANT CLAIMING ANTS."

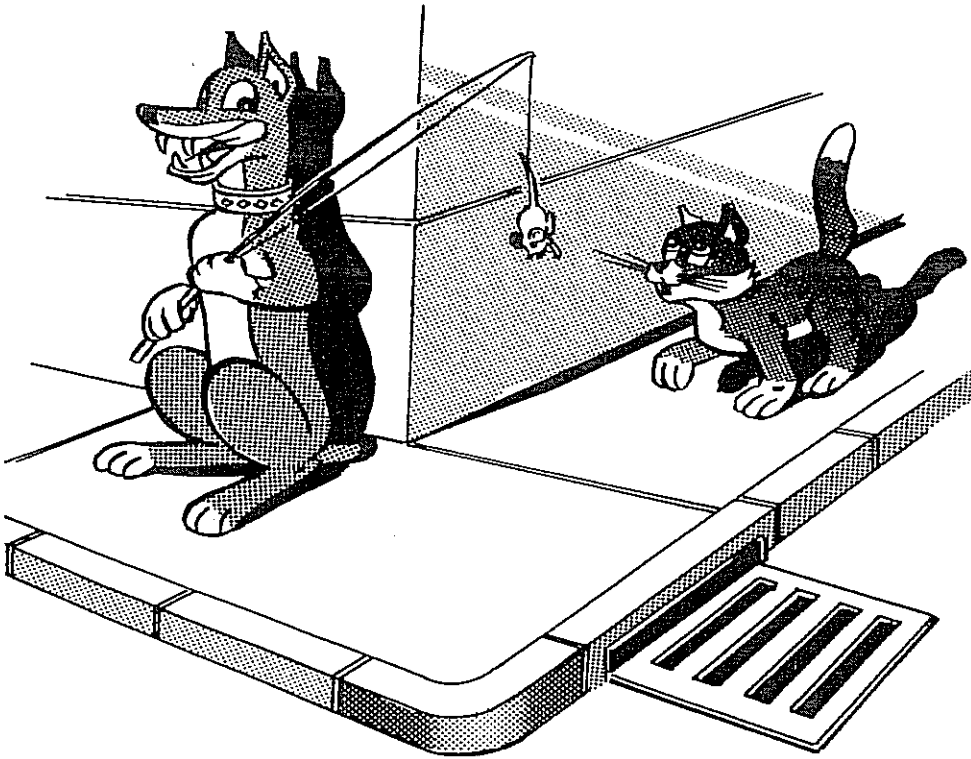
- ❑ The CLAIMANT of the Virginia City silver mine was Scott "Wormy" McClennahan, a miner.
- ❑ The judge awarded all six of the CLAIMANTS an equal share of the insurance money.
- ❑ Rosalie not only wanted the house in her divorce from Robert, but she was also the CLAIMANT of his doll collection.

ENTICE

(in TICE)

to lure, to attract, to tempt
in a pleasing fashion

Link: MICE



*"The best kind of bait to use to ENTICE
cats is MICE."*

- ❑ The delicious aroma of a hamburger stand often ENTICES the passerby to stop for a snack.
- ❑ An ENTICING feature of working in a bakery is that you get to eat all the doughnuts you want.
- ❑ Your job proposal in Michigan is ENTICING, but my family likes it here in Palm Beach; Michigan's winters are too cold for native Floridians like us.

PHILANTHROPY

(fi LAN thruh pee)

love of mankind, especially through
charitable gifts and deeds

Link: PHIL ANTHROPY



*"PHIL ANTHROPY was a
PHILANTHROPIST."*

- ❑ Will Rogers was a famous PHILANTHROPIC humorist who always said he never met a man he didn't like.
- ❑ In the movie, *Good Sam*, Gary Cooper's character was so PHILANTHROPIC, giving to anyone in need and keeping so little for his own family, that his wife left him.

MISANTHROPY

(MIS an thruh pee)

someone who hates mankind

Link: MISS ANTHROPY



"MISS ANTHROPY was a MISANTHROPIC person."

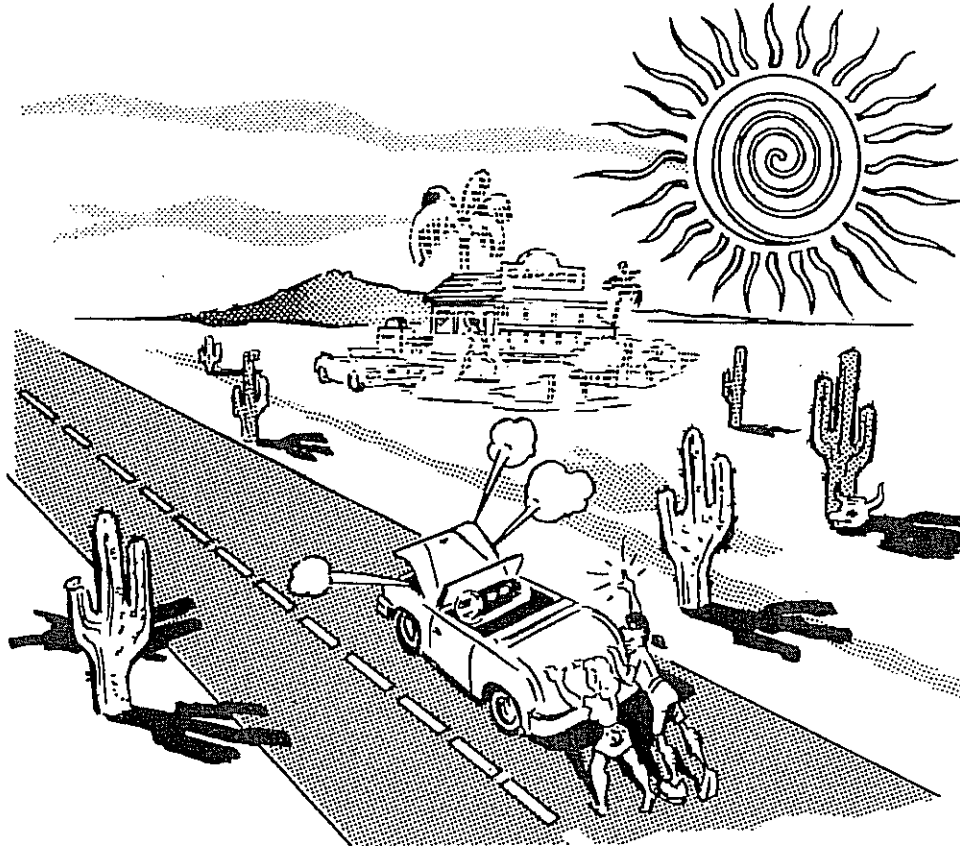
- ❑ A more MISANTHROPIC person you never did see. He hates everyone.
- ❑ Some people live their entire lives never realizing they have a MISANTHROPIC attitude about the world, because first and foremost they have never liked themselves.

MIRAGE

(muh RAJGE)

unreal reflection; an optical illusion

Link: GARAGE



"The GARAGE they thought they saw crossing the desert was only a MIRAGE."

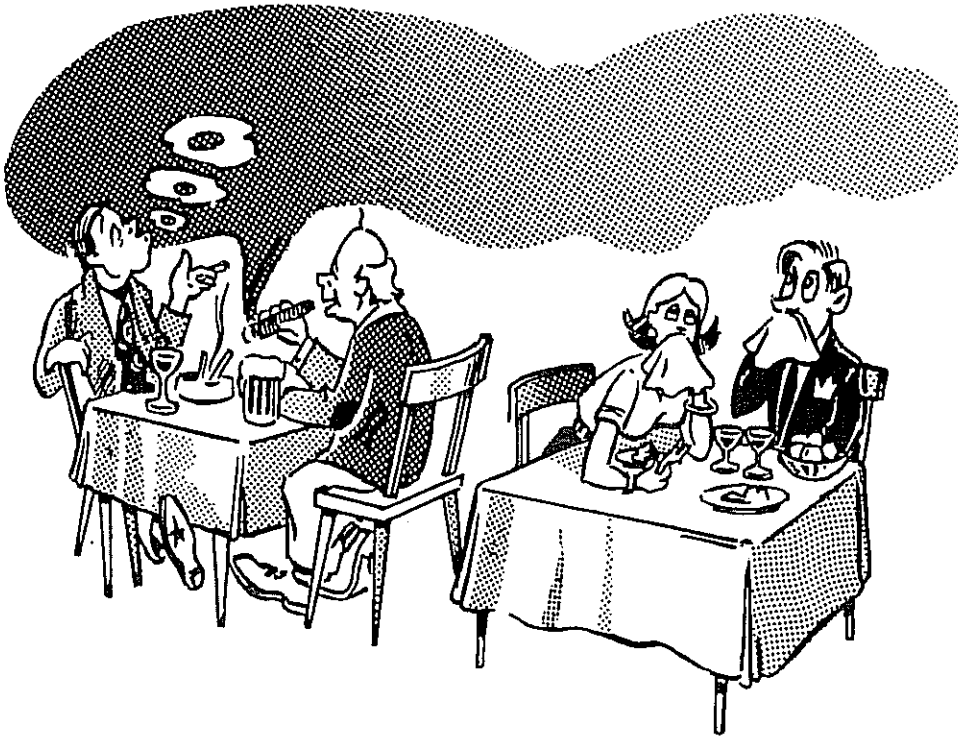
- ☐ Her beauty was mostly a MIRAGE created by the art of cosmetics.
- ☐ Desert caravans often see MIRAGES on days when the sun reflects heat waves off the burning sands.
- ☐ The MIRAGE of the lake was a welcome sight to the parched desert traveler, until he bent down to take a drink and got a mouthful of sand.

NOISOME

(NOY sum)

stinking; offensive; disgusting

Link: ANNOY SOME



"Inconsiderate, NOISOME smokers are likely to ANNOY SOME."

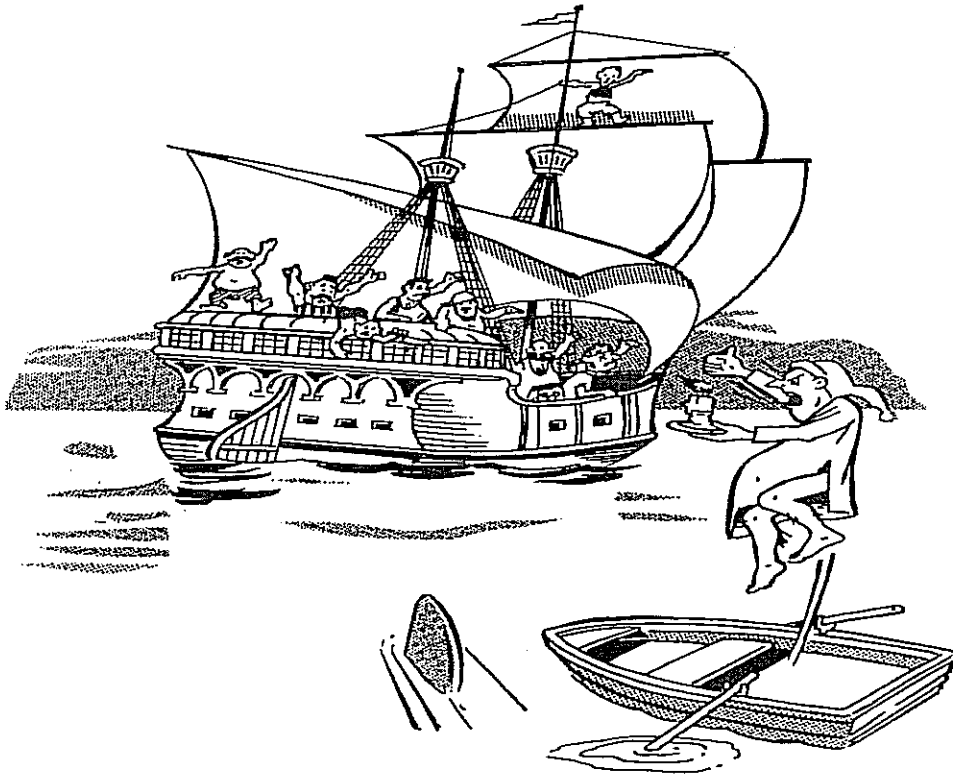
- ❑ Tobacco smoke is now considered so NOISOME in the majority of public places that smoking has become off limits.
- ❑ The comedian's act was absolutely NOISOME; all of his jokes depended entirely on four-lettered vulgarities.
- ❑ When I opened the garbage can, the odor was so NOISOME I thought I might suffocate before I could get the lid back on.

COUP

(koo)

the violent overthrow of a government by a small group; a victorious accomplishment

Link: CREW



"In a midnight COUP, the mutinous CREW of 'The Bounty' threw Captain Bligh off his ship."

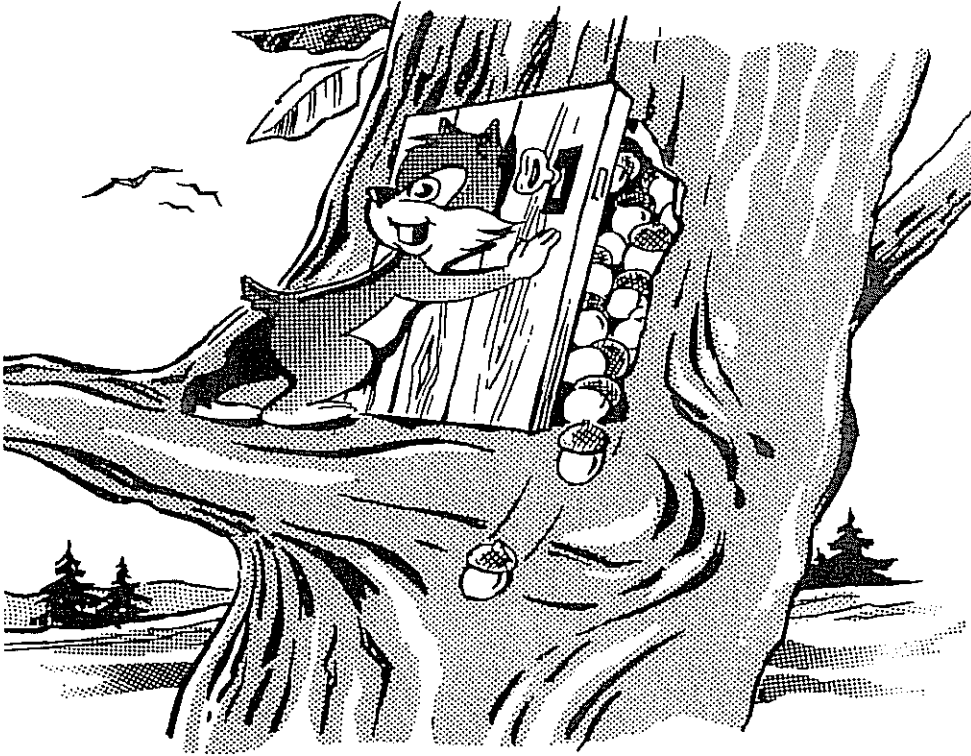
- ❑ In this century alone there have been almost one hundred military COUPS in Latin America.
- ❑ It was a real COUP for James when his teammates elected him captain of the basket weaving team.
- ❑ "What a COUP!" Rachel Reed declared when she convinced her parents to let her to go to Daytona Beach for spring break.

HOARD

(hoard)

to accumulate for future use;
stockpile

Link: STORED



“A squirrel’s HOARD of nuts must be STORED for the approaching winter.”

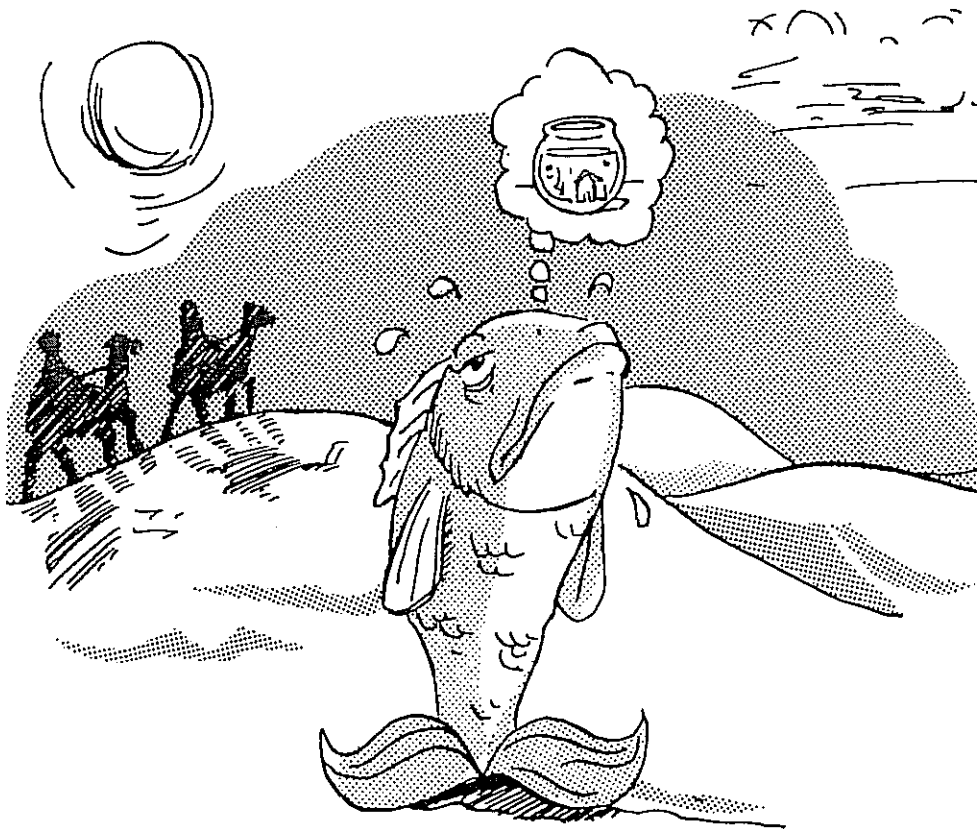
- ❑ Whenever there is a hint of a gold shortage, people often HOARD the precious metal.
- ❑ We told Ed there was no point in his HOARDING all the cake; he might as well share with us before it spoiled.
- ❑ The government announced during the national crisis that HOARDERS would be punished with jail sentences.

LANGUISH

(LANG gwish)

to become weak or feeble;
sag with loss of strength

Link: LAND FISH



"A FISH on LAND will quickly LANGUISH."

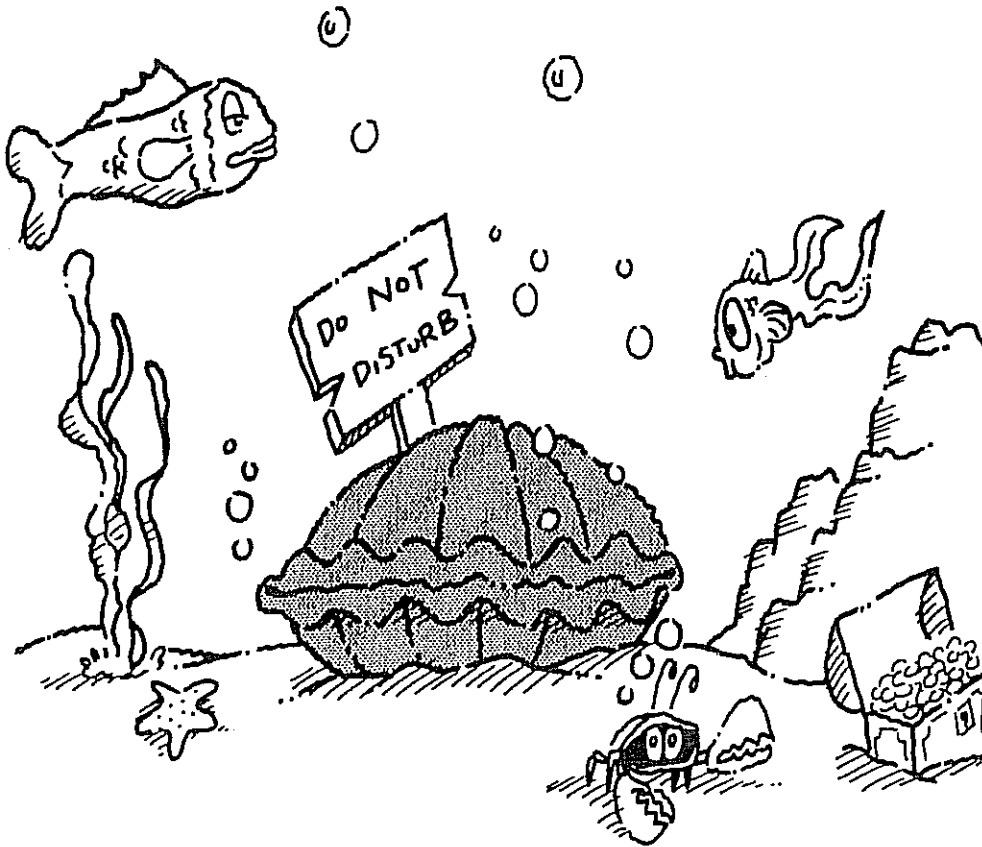
- ❑ An outdoorsman all his life, Mr. Franklin quickly LANGUISHED in his job as a night watchman.
- ❑ It was so hot in the theater, Charlotte soon began to LANGUISH.
- ❑ (To LANGUISH is to be LANGUID.) The fish in the aquarium hardly stirred, moving LANGUIDLY when they moved at all.

CLOISTER

(KLOY stur)

a tranquil, secluded place

Link: OYSTER



"An OYSTER in his CLOISTER."

- ❑ Mary regarded her sewing room as a CLOISTER where she could withdraw from the hectic life of a mother of six and enjoy moments of privacy.
- ❑ (To CLOISTER someone is to place them in a place of seclusion, although they may or may not be in the company of others.) Jim CLOISTERED himself in his hotel room for the entire week of his vacation.

OUST

(owst)

to eject; to force out; to banish

Link: HOUSE



"The landlord OUSTED the tenant from the HOUSE when he didn't pay his rent."

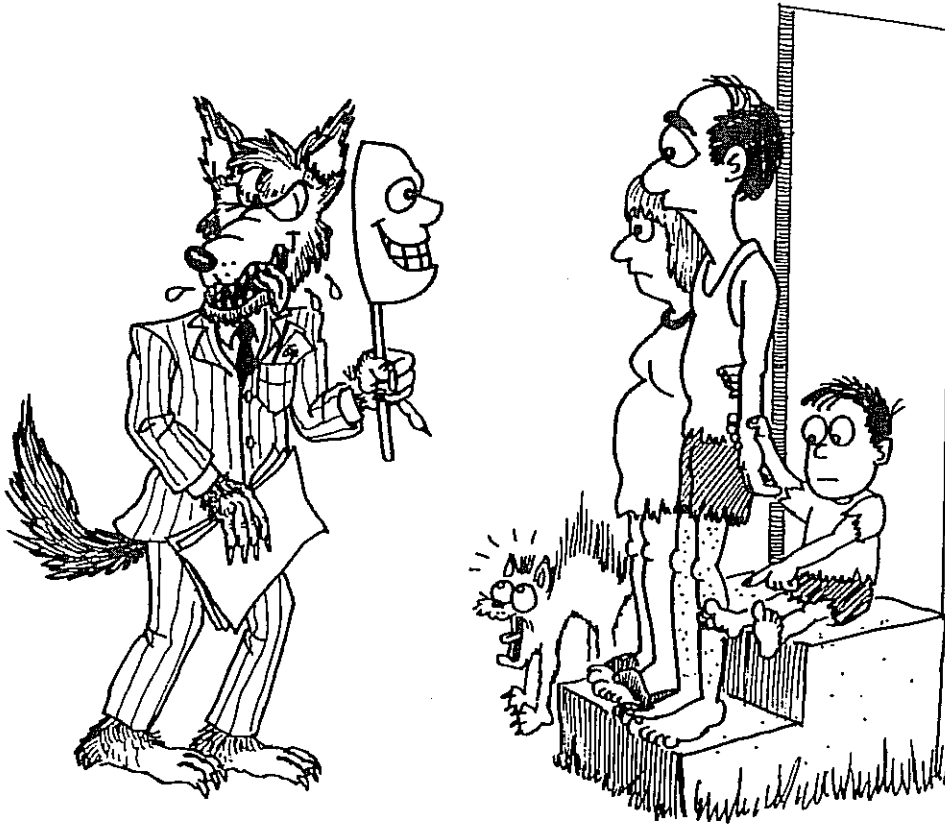
- ❑ The people in his part of the stands wanted to have Roger OUSTED for making too much noise during the tennis match.
- ❑ The head referee then reported to the tournament director that an OUSTER had taken place on court number one.
- ❑ Later, after Roger's OUSTER by the ushers, he complained to the management that he should be allowed to cheer anytime he wanted.

CREDITOR

(KRED uh tor)

a person to whom money is owed

Link: PREDATOR



"Beware the CREDITOR who is a PREDATOR."

- ❑ Mr. Randolph's lawyer recommended he declare bankruptcy; he had too many CREDITORS and not enough assets with which to pay.
- ❑ The entire banking industry is based entirely on performing as a CREDITOR for depositors, then turning around and becoming CREDITORS for borrowers.
- ❑ Anyone who has CREDIT also has a CREDITOR.

PILLAGE

(PIL luhge)

to rob of goods by violent seizure,
plunder; to take as spoils

Link: VILLAGE



*"Blackbeard the Pirate gives last minute orders before
his crew PILLAGES the VILLAGE."*

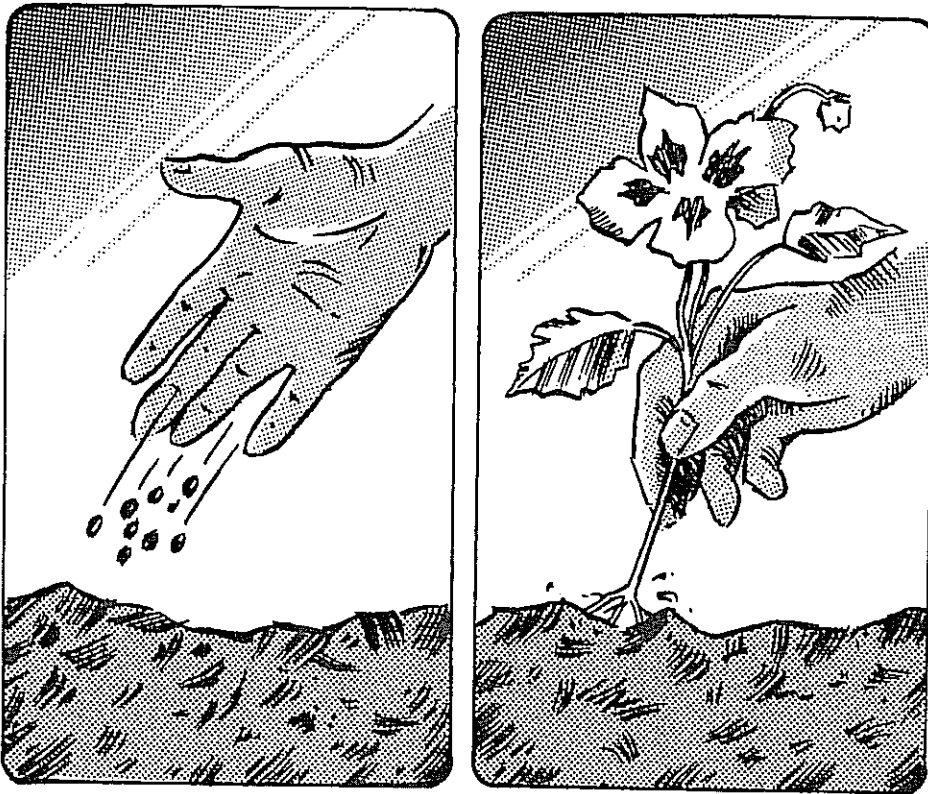
- ❑ The enemy invaders PILLAGED the village, taking everything not tied down and killing the cows and chickens.
- ❑ After the kids and their school friends PILLAGED the refrigerator, there was nothing left but a little catsup and mustard.

ANTECEDENT

(an tuh SEED unt)

going before; preceding; an occurrence or event preceding another

Link: HAND SEED



"The HAND that plants the SEED is the ANTECEDENT to the hand that picks the flower."

- ☐ The steam engine was the ANTECEDENT to the gasoline engine.
- ☐ Your ancestors were your ANTECEDENTS.
- ☐ The atomic bomb was the ANTECEDENT to the hydrogen bomb.

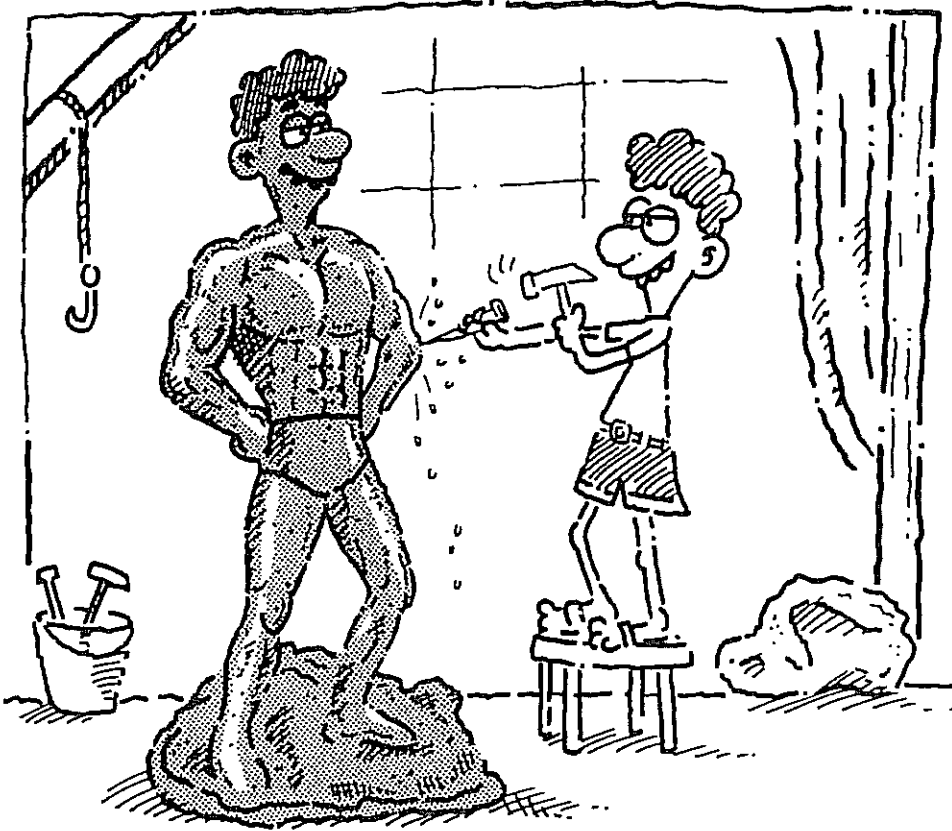
EMBODY

(em BAH dee)

to give bodily form to; to personify;

to make part of a system

Link: BODY



*"Jimmy sculpted a statue with the likeness of his face,
but which EMBODIED a BODY he'd never have."*

- ❑ Virginia Satir was a wonderful therapist who EMBODIED in her own life the loving principles she taught to her students.
- ❑ The EMBODIMENT of basic Christian virtues is to be found in the Boy Scouts' oath every scout must take to become a member.

VERBATIM

(VER bay tym)

using exactly the same words,
word for word

Link: VERN'S BAT



*"VERN wrote his coach's batting instructions
VERBATIM on his BAT."*

- ❑ The coach called the team together and said from that moment on, every player who wanted to stay on the team had to obey his rules VERBATIM.
- ❑ The witness told the judge he couldn't recite what the accused had said VERBATIM, but the essence of what he said was he thought the police were "on the take."

TRUNCATE

(TRUNK kate)

to shorten by cutting off

Link: TRUNK CUT



"The lumberjack TRUNCATED the tree when he CUT the TRUNK halfway to the top."

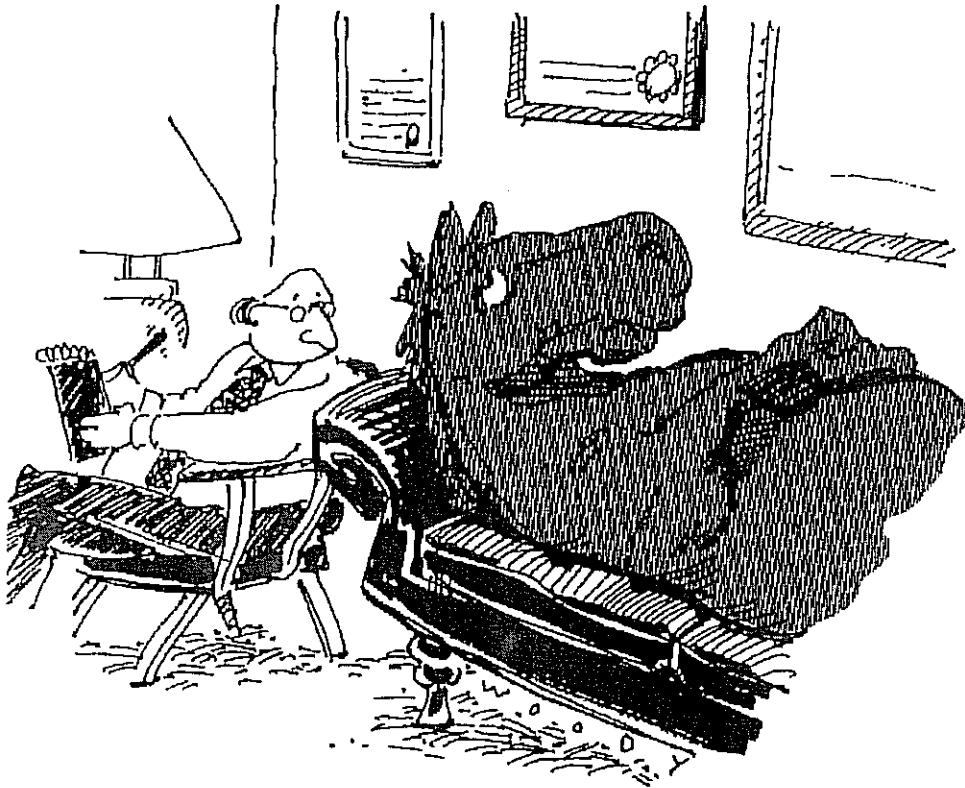
- ❑ Observing that his listeners were falling asleep, the president TRUNCATED his speech so everyone could go home.
- ❑ Because of unforeseen circumstances, our vacation was TRUNCATED after the first week.
- ❑ We TRUNCATED the brush around our house so we could have a better view of the lake.

REMORSE

(re MORSE)

a strong feeling of sadness or guilt for
having done something wrong

Link: HORSE



"Even HORSES feel REMORSE."

- ❑ John refused to feel any REMORSE for what he considered the right thing to do.
- ❑ The REMORSE we feel for hurting those we love is the beginning of being able to say we're sorry.
- ❑ When the pall bearers came forward with the casket, the wife let out a REMORSEFUL sob.

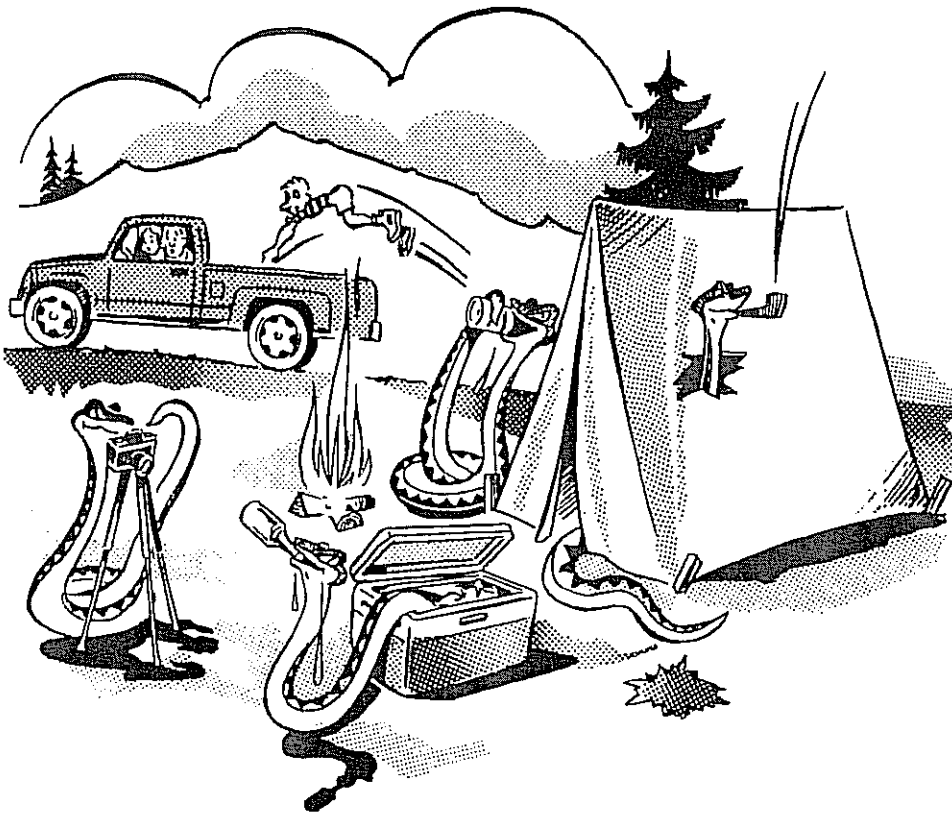
FORSAKE

(for SAYK)

to abandon, to give up,

to renounce

Link: FOUR SNAKES



"The Higgins family wisely decided to FORSAKE their campsite in favor of FOUR SNAKES."

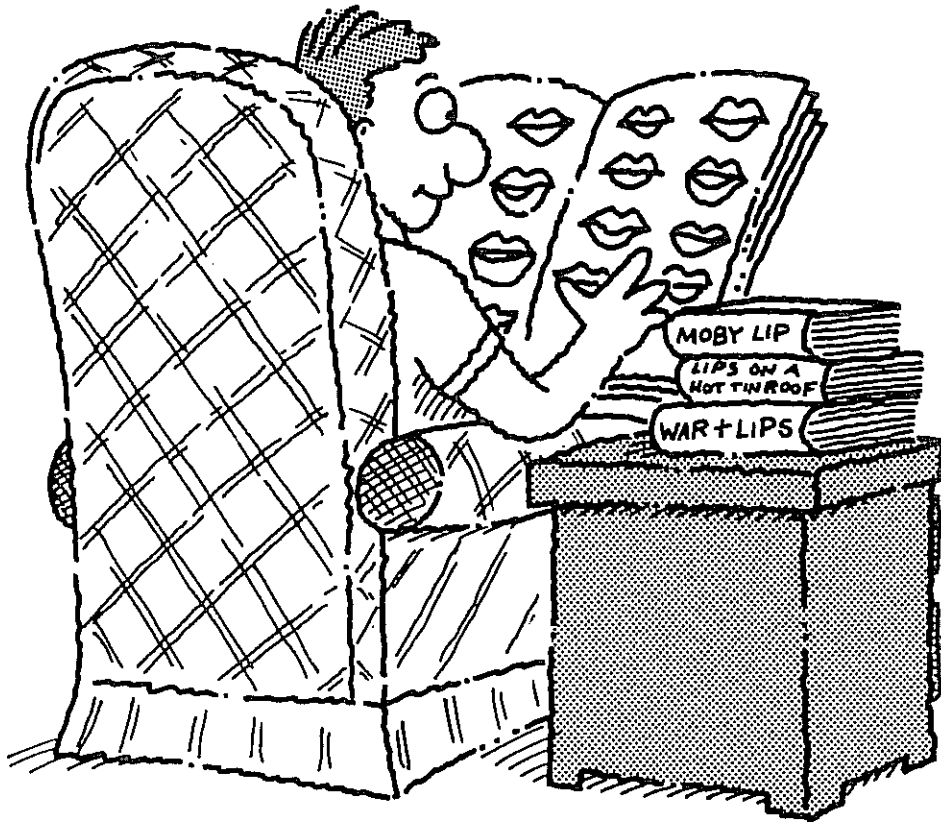
- ❑ The parents urged their daughter to FORSAKE her life as a model and return to their home to become a school teacher.
- ❑ All the general's troops had FORSAKEN him, and he had no choice but to follow them and return to safe ground.

DEFT

(deft)

dexterous, skillful

Link: DEAF



"The DEAF are DEFT at reading lips."

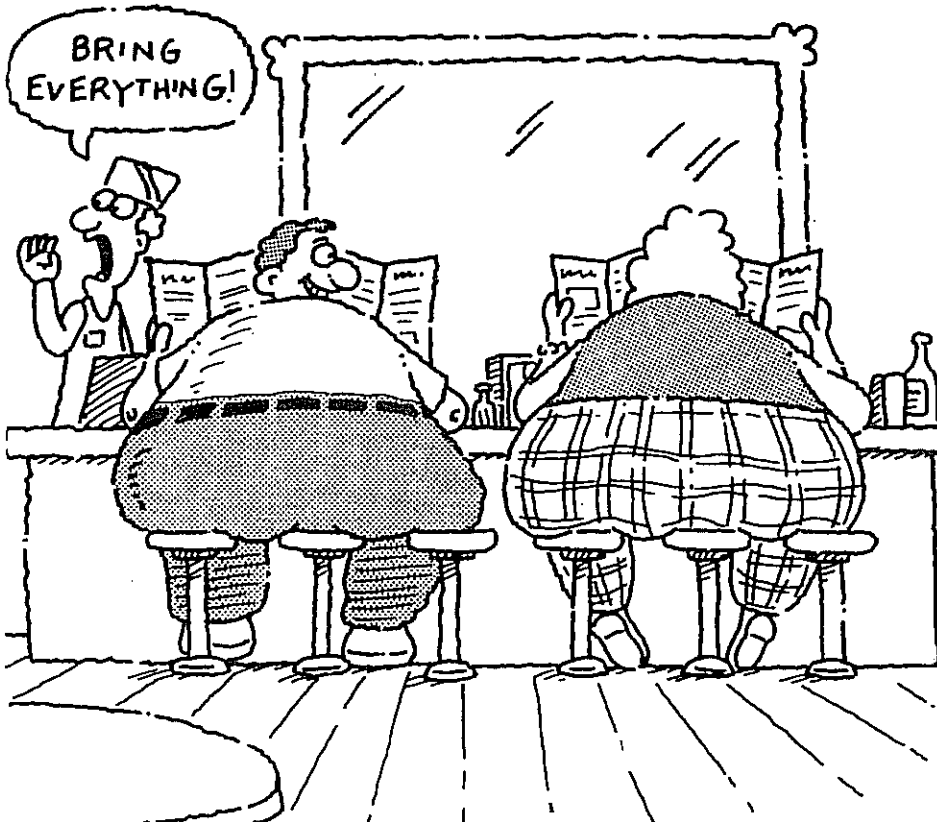
- ☐ The quarterback DEFTLY avoided the linebacker's rush while calmly throwing a touchdown pass.
- ☐ In one DEFT move, the policeman subdued the thief and took him to the ground.
- ☐ The magician was so DEFT with a pack of cards that he could deal off the bottom with everyone watching, and no one was the wiser.

UBIQUITOUS

(yoo BIK woh tus)

the quality of being everywhere
(or seeming to) at the same time

Link: BIG AS US



*"When you're as BIG AS US you
feel UBIQUITOUS."*

- ❑ Computers were once rare, but today are more UBIQUITOUS than typewriters.
- ❑ The UBIQUITY of fast-food restaurants around the world has become an established fact.
- ❑ Cowboy boots are as UBIQUITOUS as blue jeans at a rodeo.