

Experimental Senior-High School of Patras

ENGLISH COURSE
2015-2016

THE FUNNIEST JOKES EVER SAID

(According to research by Cambridge University)

THE IDEA

Everyone loves telling the one joke that gets the whole room laughing, but it's a hard task.

How do you know which zingers are going to make people chuckle, and which are destined to sink like an anchor?

So you don't have to risk looking like an idiot by telling another bad joke, as a group of scientists have figured out the funniest jokes ever.

It should be noted that the people being told the jokes by researchers at Oxford University were undergraduates at the London School of Economics, so they might prefer high-brow gags.

Some of the jokes are long, some are short, and two feature bears for some reason, but are they really the funniest jokes in the world? You decide.

JOKE NO. 1: True love lasts forever



It's the World Cup Final, and a man makes his way to his seat right next to the pitch. He sits down, noticing that the seat next to him is empty. He leans over and asks his neighbour if someone will be sitting there. 'No,' says the neighbour. 'The seat is empty.' 'This is incredible,' said the man. 'Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Final and not use it?' The neighbour says, 'Well actually the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away. This is the first World Cup Final we haven't been to together since we got married.' 'Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that. That's terrible....But couldn't you find someone else, a friend, relative or even a neighbour to take her seat?' The man shakes his head. 'No,' he says. 'They're all at the funeral.'

JOKE NO.2: Off to work

A guy shows up late for work. The boss yells, 'You should've been here at 8.30!' He replies. 'Why? What happened at 8.30?'



JOKE No.3: Kid vs Barber



A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer. 'This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it.' The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, 'Which do you want, son?' The boy takes the quarters and leaves. 'What did I tell you?' said the barber. 'That kid never learns!' Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store. 'Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?' The boy licked his cone and replied, 'Because the day I take the dollar, the game is over!'

JOKE NO.4: Racing a bear



Two campers are walking through the woods when a huge brown bear suddenly appears in the clearing about 50 feet in front of them. The bear sees the campers and begins to head toward them. The first guy drops his backpack, digs out a pair of sneakers, and frantically begins to put them on. The second guy says, 'What are you doing? Sneakers won't help you outrun that bear.' 'I don't need to outrun the bear,' the first guy says. 'I just need to outrun you.'

THE RESULTS

Researchers at Oxford University tested the jokes on 55 LSE students and asked them to score the gags.

The group thought the funniest was the one about the kid vs the barber, but surely humour is subjective?

Professor Robert Dunbar who led the research gave some insight into the perfect joke: 'The task of professional comics is to elicit laughs as directly and as fast as possible.'

'They generally do this most effectively when ensuring that they keep within the mental competence of the typical audience member.'

'If they exceed these limits, the joke will not be perceived as funny.'

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING!

Nikiforos Giakoumelos

Stefanos Dimopoulos

Terry Karabalis

Antony Kostopoulos