

Punctionaryの試み(9)

Punctionary(1)補遺(その 2)

豊田 一男

A Trial of a Punctionary (9)
The Second Supplement to Punctionary (1)

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Abstract

Punctionary is a coined word by the present writer which means a “dictionary of puns.” This ninth collection is the second supplement to Punctionary (1) that deals with puns based on polysemic words or homonyms.

agree

Did you hear about the lady who is so argumentative that she won't eat anything that agrees with her?

- Focus:** 1) *I agree* completely with you.
2) Humid air doesn't *agree* with me.

art

“The art that conceals the art,” as the thief remarked when he slid an expensive oil painting under his coat.

- Focus:** 1) He has a great collection of Japanese *art*.
2) Television is ruining the *art* of conversation.

awakening

He was a marvelous preacher. At the end of his sermon, there was a tremendous awakening.

- Focus:** 1) It was a pleasant *awakening*.
2) His religious *awakening* came after the tragic death of his parents.

bill

My wife brings me more bills into the house than a Congressman.

- Focus:** 1) I would like to discuss the amount of this *bill* for car repairs.
2) When a *bill* is passed in parliament, it becomes law.

blind

The lady of the house was having a shower when she heard the front bell ring.

'Who is it?' she shouted.

'Blind man,' came the reply.

'I'll be right there,' said the lady, and got out of the bath and went downstairs without stopping to put on any clothes.

She opened the door to a very startled man who said, 'Where do you want the Venetian blinds fitted?'

- Focus:** 1) He was *blind* from birth.
2) Could you pull down the *blinds*?

blue

Shelly: Are there any colors you can actually touch?

Chunk: Oh, yes, I've often felt blue.

- Focus:** 1) It was a sky of deepest *blue*.
2) He's been feeling really *blue* since he failed the exams.

boy

Under "Experience" on the application blank, she wrote, "Oh, boy!"

- Focus:** 1) He's just a *boy*; he doesn't know how to act around girls.
2) *Boy!* Just look at that!

bud

"What did the bee say to the rose?"

"Hi, bud!"

- Focus:** 1) The plants were showing a few *buds* by late April.
2) "Hey, *bud* can you help me out, please," he called.

bun

Why did the lady have her hair in a bun?

Because she had her nose in a cheeseburger.

- Focus:** 1) I'll have a sweet *bun* with my coffee.
2) She wore her hair in a *bun*.

caliber

Said the circus manager to the human cannonball, “ You can’t quit! Where will I find another man of your caliber? ”

- Focus:** 1) She is a scientist of high *caliber*.
2) This is a pistol of small *caliber*.

canvas

Rick My brother’s a boxer.

Nick What’s his fighting name?

Rick Rembrandt - because he’s always on the canvas.

- Focus:** 1) The *canvas* in sails is so strong that it lasts for years.
2) She paints with oil on *canvas*.

cataract

Hubert: Why is it bad to look at Niagara Falls too long?

Erastus: That’s a mystery.

Hubert: You may get a cataract in your eye.

- Focus:** 1) Age is not a factor in *cataract* surgery.
2) The melting snow caused water to come rushing down the mountain in *cataracts*.

charge

“I’m sending you to prison for three months.”

“What’s the charge?”

“There’s no charge. Everything is free!”

- Focus:** 1) We entered the theater free of *charge*
2) He was arrested on a *charge* of murder.

cool

Why did the boy put his radio in the refrigerator?

He wanted to hear cool music.

- Focus:** 1) The tea was *cool* enough to drink.
2) He’s a *cool* guy!

conduct

Q: Why does lightning shock people?

A: Because it doesn’t know how to conduct itself.

- Focus:** 1) Plastic and rubber won’t *conduct* electricity, but copper will.
2) The students *conducted* themselves well in class today.

crab

"I got a pearl out of an old oyster."

"My sister got a real diamond out of an old crab."

- Focus:** 1) We walked along the beach collecting small *crabs* in a bucket.
2) He's a real *crab* - always finding fault with everything.

crack

Beth: I fell down a dozen times while I was skating today. I was so embarrassed.

Seth: Why? Did anyone laugh at you?

Beth: Well, the ice cracked up.

- Focus:** 1) A vase fell and *cracked*
2) Everyone in the class just *cracked up*.
cf. crack up どっと笑い出す

current

There's an actress who is in love with her electrician, but he's only her current attraction.

- Focus:** 1) The *current* was switched off so that the train crews could walk safely on the tracks.
2) Who's your *current* girlfriend?

degree

Advanced education: killing yourself by degrees.

- Focus:** 1) She has a *degree* in chemistry.
2) The economy seems to be improving by *degrees*
cf. by degrees 少しずつ

double

Q: What's the easiest way to double your money?

A: Fold it.

- Focus:** 1) The Federal government has *doubled* its tax on liquor.
2) Take a sheet of paper and *double* it.

dry

Q: Why is a surgeon who doesn't drink like a shipyard?

A: Because he is a dry doc.

NOTE: doc = doctor

- Focus:** 1) My boat is in *dry* dock now for repairs.
2) In a *dry* town, stores can't sell alcohol.

E

Alphabetically speaking, it's the I's of a woman that disturb the E's of a man.

Focus: I's = eyes E's = ease

fall

Q: When does Humpty Dumpty play baseball?

A: In the fall.

Focus: 1) He took a bad *fall* and broke his ankle.

2) In the *fall*, the leaves turn to bright colors.

cf Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,

Humpty Dumpty had a great fall;

All the king's horses and all the king's men

Couldn't put Humpty together again.

feel (ing)

Ecstasy: the feeling you feel when you feel you are going to feel a feeling you never felt before.

fine

Judge I'll fine you just ten dollars this time. But if it happens again, I'll throw you into jail.

Offender: I get it, Your Honour. Fine, today; cooler, tomorrow.

Focus: 1) If it's *fine* tomorrow, we'll go out.

2) He was *fined* \$100 for speeding.

NOTE: cooler =(slang) prison

flat

Silly Billy: Dad, did you manage to fix my robotic toy?

Father: No, it's not broken, the battery's flat.

Silly Billy: Well, what shape should it be?

Focus: 1) His car alarm had been going off for two days and, as a result, the battery was *flat*.

2) The farmland near the river is very *flat*.

follow

Hospital Visitor: But how did you break your neck?

Patient: I just followed my doctor's prescription.

Hospital Visitor: How could you break your neck doing that?

Patient: It flew down the stairs - and I followed it.

Focus: 1) A dog *followed* its owner down the street.

2) Most members of the political party *followed* the orders of their leader.

fresh

"What do you call a rude cabbage?"

"A fresh cabbage."

- Focus:** 1) We enjoy *fresh* vegetables and fruit, straight from the garden.
2) The little boy was *fresh* to the teacher.

get on

"Is everyone in the bus?" asked the driver before he closed the door.

"No," called a lady, "wait until I get my clothes on."

All the passengers in the bus turned towards the door to look at the woman. She got on with a bag full of laundry.

- Focus:** 1) The bus soon came and he *got on*
2) *Get* your hat and coat *on*.

get over

"Have you heard the joke about the brick wall?"

"No."

"I won't tell you, you'd never get over it!"

- Focus:** 1) How is he going to *get over* that high fence?
2) I can't *get over* the way the manager treated the players.

get up

There's definitely a connection between getting up in the morning and getting up in the world.

- Focus:** 1) I *get up* at six every morning.
2) He *got up* in the world by working very hard.

gone

Teacher: Poppy, don't you know the bell has gone?

Soppy Poppy: I haven't got it, miss!

- Focus:** 1) Has the bell *gone*?
2) When I came back, my suitcase was *gone*

gun

The biggest guns in most corporations are those who have never been fired.

- Focus:** 1) The man fired his *gun* at the policeman.
2) He is a big *gun* in city government.
cf. He *was fired* from his job.

habit

If you don't own a riding habit, you should acquire a walking habit.

- Focus:** 1) He has an annoying *habit* of biting his nails.
2) She put on her riding *habit*.

hand

"The other night I looked at a lady's hand and one glance told me she was going to be really lucky."

"How could you tell?"

"She had four aces."

- Focus:** 1) I write with my left *hand*.
2) He carefully inspected his *hand*.

NOTE: hand: In a game of cards, your **hand** is the set of cards that you are holding in your hand at a particular time or the cards that are dealt to you at the beginning of the game (COBUILD)

have

When it comes to children, the have-nots have, and the haves have not.

- Focus:** 1) The *have-nots* usually vote for the Democrats.
2) The new government gives to the *haves* and forgets the poor.

high

Q: Which animal has the highest intelligence?

A: A giraffe.

- Focus:** 1) He is six feet *high*.
2) The car went away at *high* speed.

hit

- (1) *Larry*: I just read in the paper about a guy who jumped out of a window in Times Square. Now why would anyone do such a thing?

Harry: Probably wanted to make a hit on Broadway!

- (2) After knocking down a woman pedestrian who was jay-walking, the cab driver stopped and helped the irate lady to her feet.

Refusing his assistance, she shrieked, "You stupid, reckless creature! You must be blind!"

"What do you mean, blind?" snapped the hackie. "I hit you, didn't I?"

NOTES: jay-walk 信号無視で道路を横切る

hackie (米口語) = taxi driver

- Focus:** 1) She *hit* against the post.
2) The drama made a big *hit*.
3) He tried to *hit* the mark with an arrow.
4) He was *hit* by a car while he was crossing the street.

hold up

"Why must you be strong to be a policeman?"

"You must be able to hold up a line of cars with one hand."

- Focus:** 1) What *holds up* the bridge?
2) The policeman was *holding up* the traffic.

home

Club: Place where you feel more at home than at home.

- Focus:** 1) Is Mr. Smith *at home*?
2) Please make yourself *at home*.

hug

"How does a boat show its affection?"

"It hugs the shore."

- Focus:** 1) Jane threw her arms around him and *hugged* him tight.
2) The sailboat *hugged* the coast in the strong wind.

issue

Birth control is a way of avoiding the issue.

- Focus:** 1) He died without *issue*.
2) Taxes are the main *issue* in the election.

justice

Friend: I don't think the photo you took of me does me justice.

Alec: You don't want justice, you want mercy!

- Focus:** 1) The judge seeks *justice* for everyone.
2) This photo doesn't do him *justice*.

lark

Judge: Why did you steal that bird?

Prisoner: For a lark, sir.

- Focus:** 1) A *lark* is a small brown bird which makes a pleasant sound.
2) They hid her passport for a *lark*.

last

Advertisement in a newspaper:

VERY CHEAP COATS

LAST THREE DAYS

- Focus:** 1) His *last* days before his death were peaceful.
2) Well-made shoes *last* a long time.

lemon

A job seeker was asked at the unemployment office in southern California if he had had any experience picking lemons.

"I sure have," he said. "I was married four times."

- Focus:** 1) *Lemons* are squeezed for juice to make lemonade.
2) I just stood there like a *lemon*

leading

"I hear you've got a leading part at the National Theatre."

"That's right. I'm working as an usherette."

NOTE: usherette= a woman who works in a cinema, showing people to their seats

- Focus:** 1) The mother is *leading* her child by the hand.
2) The soprano has the *leading* role in the opera.

leap

Q: When does a broad jumper jump highest?

A: In a leap year.

- Focus:** 1) The dancer made a series of *leaps* around the stage.
2) The year 2004 will be a *leap* year.

leave

"So Jones is dead. Did he leave his wife much?"

"Oh, nearly every night."

- Focus:** 1) He *left* his wife a lot of money.
2) She *left* her children at home.

leave off

Rick: Do you want to come to an Adam and Eve party?

Nick: Oh, yes!

Rick: Right, leaves off at eleven.

- Focus:** 1) The rain *left off* around noon.
2) He *leaves off* his gloves when he skis.

left

Q: Which side of an apple pie is the left side?

A: The side that hasn't been eaten.

- Focus:** 1) She writes with her *left* hand.
2) There's plenty of work *left*

letter

Since letters are made up of words, how can words be made up of letters?

- Focus:** 1) I wrote a long *letter* to him.
2) The word 'level' has five *letters*

library

After dinner last night, our hostess suggested we adjourn to the library for coffee. But when we drove over there, it was closed.

- Focus:** 1) I borrowed three books from the public *library*.
2) He is reading in his *library*.

lick

Bill : How can we lick this air pollution?

Ben : Well, we could go outside and stick our tongues out!

- Focus:** 1) Children like to *lick* ice cream cones.
2) The hockey team *licked* their opponents 5 to 0.

little

Teacher: Please pay a little attention!

Silly Billy: I'm paying as little as I can.

- Focus:** 1) The difference between a *little* money and no money is enormous.
2) I see him very *little*.

longer

I told my wife she should wear her dresses longer - about three years longer.

- Focus:** 1) Stay here a little *longer*
2) Which is *longer*, the Nile or the Mississippi?

look

Doctor: Mrs. Smith, I have to tell you, I don't like the looks of your husband.

Patient's Wife: Neither do I, but he's good to the children.

- Focus:** 1) That actor is known more for his *look* than for his acting ability.
2) From the *look* of the sky we will have snow.

lot

Gardening is man's effort to improve his lot.

- Focus:** 1) We own a small *lot* next to our house.
2) Her *lot* was not a happy one.

lump

Every morning I have coffee with two lumps - my wife and her mother.

- Focus:** 1) Put two *lumps* of sugar in my coffee.
2) Do hurry up, you great *lump!*

make up

"Darling, I've made up my mind to stay home this evening."

"It's too late, Henry. I've made up my face to go out."

- Focus:** 1) The model *makes up* her face before a job.
2) He *made up* his mind to be a singer.

normally

He doesn't walk normally.

- Focus:** 1) The machine is working *normally*.
2) *Normally* I would go fishing, but the weather is bad.

on

(1) *Paul* : Do buses and trains run on time?

Saul : Usually, yes.

Paul : No, they don't. Buses run on wheels and trains run on the tracks.

(2) *Bill* : What's on at the cinema this week?

Ben : Same old thing, the roof.

- Focus:** 1) The train arrived *on* time.
2) Don't play *on* the sofa.
3) There's a musical *on* at the theater.

opener

"Why couldn't the fans get soda pop at the double header?"

"Because the home team lost the opener."

- Focus:** 1) She uses an electric can *opener* to open cans.
2) He hit a home run in the *opener*.

overlook

Nose: the one feature we tend to overlook.

- Focus:** 1) The cabin on the hill *overlooks* the valley below.
2) You have *overlooked* this important fact.

pass out

When my grandfather was born, they passed out cigars. When my father was born, they passed out cigarettes. When I was born, they passed out.

- Focus:** 1) The teacher *passed out* pencils to her class.
2) I *passed out* when I saw all that blood.

place

"Doctor, I've broken my arm in two places."

"Don't go back to either of them."

- Focus:** 1) Tokyo is a very expensive *place* to live.
2) I have a sore *place* on my arm.

pop

Q: Why did the little girl put her father in the fridge?

A: She wanted ice cold pop.

- Focus:** 1) My *pop* recently retired from work.
2) They call it soda in the Eastern U.S. and *pop* in the Midwest.

put up

Do you have suitable accommodations where I can put up with my wife?

- Focus:** 1) We *put up* at a small inn.
2) I can't *put up* with the noise any longer.

ring

Q: What ring is never worn?

A: The ring of a doorbell.

- Focus:** 1) She wears a wedding *ring*.
2) There was a *ring* at the door.

roughly

"This is, roughly, what I intend to do," she explained hitting her husband in the eye.

- Focus:** 1) The police treated the criminal *roughly* because he tried to run away.
2) It will cost *roughly* \$5,000.

ruins

An archaeologist is someone whose career is in ruins.

- Focus:** 1) We went to Greece to see the *ruins* of ancient temples.
2) After the fire, the museum lay in *ruins*.

say

"Let's say grace." "Grace."

- Focus:** 1) Don't forget to *say* "Thank you."
2) I *said* grace before Thanksgiving dinner.

shortening

A good cook uses shortening before dinner, and a good speaker uses it after dinner.

- Focus:** 1) *Shortening* the school year gave us a longer vacation.
2) I added *shortening* to the pie crust ingredients.

shot

"My brother's in jail charged with murder."

"Say, that's serious. How did it happen?"

"My father was sick and the doctor told my brother to give him a shot in the arm to relieve his pain - and my brother thought if one shot would help - why not empty the six-shooter into him? "

NOTE: a six-shooter 6連発のピストル

- Focus:** 1) The doctor gave the little boy a *shot* in his right arm.
2) He took a *shot* at me with the rifle and missed.

shrink

Q: Why are children like denim?

A: Because they shrink from washing.

- Focus:** 1) This shirt doesn't *shrink* in the wash.
2) He *shrinks* away from big barking dogs.

spare

Q: Why great bowlers play slowly?

A: Because they have time to spare.

- Focus:** 1) I have no money to *spare*
2) In bowling "to *spare*" is to cause all the pins to fall with two rolls of the ball.

sponge

"Why are you cleaning up the spilled soup with your cake?"

"It's a sponge cake! "

- Focus:** 1) Get a *sponge* I spilled some juice.
2) That company makes delicious *sponge* cake.

still

Q: What do liars do when they die?

A: Lie still.

- Focus:** 1) As soon as the conductor appeared, the audience became *still*.
2) She *still* hated him, even after he died.

stole

Judge You say your arrest was due to a misunderstanding.

Prisoner Yes, your honor. My wife kept saying she wanted a mink stole for her birthday so I finally went out and stole one.

- Focus:** 1) A *stole* is a long, wide scarf for women which is worn round the shoulders.
(COBUILD)
2) A thief *stole* my car.

stroke

I never see my husband at breakfast. Being a boxer, he never gets up before the stroke of ten.

- Focus:** 1) Tom knocked him down with one *stroke*
2) We left the spot at the *stroke* of twelve.

take off

When a man has a birthday he takes a day off, but when a woman has a birthday she takes a year off.

- Focus:** 1) He *took* three days *off* last month.
2) He *took off* 20 pounds.

trunks

Q: Why can't two elephants go swimming at the same time?

A: Because they only have one pair of trunks.

- Focus:** 1) An elephant put out its *trunk* and picked up a peanut.
2) I put on my swim *trunks* and headed for the beach.

trying

"What did the judge say after he'd finished work?"

"It's been another trying day!"

- Focus:** 1) The state *tried* the criminal for theft.
2) Being lost in a bad snowstorm was a *trying* experience.

wire

Q: Why is a son at college like an electrician?

A: Because they both wire constantly for money.

- Focus:** 1) Electricians *wired* the house for electricity.
2) I *wired* money to my daughter in San Francisco.

with

"Would you shoot a horse with a wooden leg?"

"No, I'd shoot him with a gun."

- Focus:** 1) I met a girl *with* blue eyes at the party.
2) He cut down the tree *with* an ax.

withdrawal

A man showed up at a party without his wife, and the hostess asked him about her. He explained that she was sick at home.

"I hope it's not serious."

"Not really," he replied. "I closed her checking account today, and she's having withdrawal symptoms."

- Focus:** 1) Her sudden *withdrawal* from the championship caused a lot of press speculation about her health.
2) I made a *withdrawal* of \$100 from my savings account.

NOTE: withdrawal symptoms (麻薬などの) 禁断症状

year

Diner: Waiter, bring me a bottle of wine, please.

Waiter: What year?

Diner: This year! We'd like to drink it with our dinner!

- Focus:** 1) In what *year* of Showa were you born?
2) They drank a French wine of a *1986* vintage.

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