

Lupton's Laugh & Learn Issue for Sep 26, 2008

Thought for Today

Remember that fear always lurks behind perfectionism. Confronting your fears and allowing yourself the right to be human can make you a far happier and more productive person. David M. Burns

The Learn

Idiom: **between a rock and a hard place**

If you are between a rock and a hard place, you have to make a difficult decision between two things that are equally unpleasant.

"I'm caught between a rock and a hard place. If I go with Susie, it'll be much more expensive and if I go with Julie, Susie probably won't speak to me again."

"To pass this test I must study all night. But if I study all night I'll be too tired to do well on the exam. I'm between a rock and a hard place."

EU leaders struggle between the goals of protecting the environment and stimulating the economy. Since these goals are often in conflict, they feel they are caught between a rock and a hard place.



Confusing Words: **Bring** and **Take**

The very common verbs **bring** and **take** are sometimes troublesome for learners of English. One reason is because **bring** and **take** have almost identical meanings but are used for different "directions" in English: **bring** shows movement **toward** the speaker, but **take** shows movement **away from** the speaker.

If **A** needs something and wants **B** to get it and carry it to him or her, **A** says, "Could you **bring** ___ to me?"

If **A** has something and **A** wants **B** to get it and carry it to **C**, **A** says, "Could you **take** ___ to **C**?"

Examples: Please **take** the baby **from** her bed and **bring** her to me.

If you're finished with your tea, I'll be happy to **take** your cup to the kitchen.

Remember:

Bring shows movement **toward** the speaker: bring ----> speaker

Take shows movement **away from** the speaker: speaker ----> take

wrong: Please bring your father's mail to him. He's upstairs.

right: Please **take** your father's mail to him. He's upstairs.

wrong: I need my calculator. Could you take it to me, please?

right: I need my calculator. Could you **bring** it to me, please?

The Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-rvRadCeOY>

You will enjoy this.

He's got the whole world in his hands. How did he do that?

A Different Kind of Link

The first documented case of the entry of Czechs to the North American shores is of Joachim Gans of Prague, who came to Roanoke, North Carolina in 1585 with an expedition of explorers organized by Sir Walter Raleigh (1552 -1618). That was 35 years before the founding Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts in 1620.

The Laugh

Did You Ever Wonder?

- If a stealth bomber crashes in a forest, will it make a sound?
 - When it rains, why don't sheep shrink?
 - If cops arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
 - Why is the word abbreviation so long?
 - What do you do when you discover an endangered animal that eats only endangered plants?
 - What's another word for thesaurus?
 - Why do kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
 - How do you know when it's time to tune your bagpipes?
 - What do people in China call their good plates?
 - What do you call a male ladybug?
 - What hair color do they put on the driver's license of a bald man?
 - When dog food is new and improved tasting, who tests it?
 - Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds?
 - Do you know about that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?
 - If you are driving at the speed of light and you turn your headlights on, what happens?
 - If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?
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