

Humour

And so to H. The yo-yo letter, never knowing when it's going to be dropped next. But to humble H goes the honour of starting the longest word found in Shakespeare — honorificabilitudinitatibus, an authentic Elizabethan hippopotomonstrosesquipedalianism (very long word). Is it any wonder H gets dropped?

Secret sources have provided a classified copy of the revised writing competency exam. No more heneral disinterest essay questions. It's a 1000 word vocabulary test. This permits a better evaluation as some students were sneakily using the same words twice or even three times in the essays they wrote. Here's a sample of the questions complete with answers printed at the bottom, upside down of course so you get a little exercise.

1. hippometer
 - a) where you park your hippo
 - b) an instrument for measuring the height of a horse
 - c) what the staff at the diet clinic call the scale to shame you into eating only dehydrated grapefruit.
2. hassenpfeffer
 - a) a spicy rabbit stew
 - b) a card game
 - c) a word you learned on Bugs Bunny
3. harengiform
 - a) shaped like a herring
 - b) a long narrow pan for making French bread
 - c) a word engineers use
4. harpocratic
 - a) government by one of the Marx brothers
 - b) an oath taken by comedians
 - c) anything that's quiet.
5. haptodysporia
 - a) discomfort caused by touching peaches
 - b) a disease caused by eating raw amphibians
 - c) dread of being cut in half
6. hallux
 - a) an African member of the moose family
 - b) your big toe
 - c) a mythological beast created by Dr. Seuss
7. hoggerel
 - a) bawdry poetry
 - b) same as doggerel just spelled differently
 - c) poems about pigs
8. homophobia
 - a) a neurosis common among drinkers of skim milk
 - b) something else your mother didn't tell you about
 - c) fear of monotony
9. hunkerousness
 - a) a quality women look for in men
 - b) being an old fogey
 - c) describing anything that comes in large pieces
10. hundenstrir
 - a) a breed of tail-less dogs
 - b) an Old Norse verse form
 - c) the number 111

cont'd...

...cont'd.

Answers: 1-b, 2-all of the above, 3-a, 4-c, 5-a, 6-b, 7-a, 8-c, 9-b, 10-trick question, no such word. Never trust people who're trying to see if your're competent.

Sandra Petersson

Opinion



While the U of A student body remains effete and apathetic about the cuts in the funding of this institution, the politicians are laughing in their offices.

Let me remind you, that those bastards just screwed the university out of \$15 million. Our SU came up with a proposal to save them money, and hopefully reduce the amount of funding that will get axed. Our glorious leaders said thank you very much for the savings and then gave us the finger by not obeying the intent of the proposal and putting the money back into the University. They showed us exactly how much education matters to their bank accounts.

In case this doesn't bother you, and the idea of higher tuition sounds promising to you — because you can afford it, let me remind you of something else: The funding cuts will affect a lot more than tuition. The various departments and faculty around this university are already preparing for a belt tightening.

Programs and research for next year are being slimmed down. What do you think this will do for the rapidly declining quality of your education? How do you expect your degree to be worth more than paper when the funding for these facilities is getting cuts instead of the increases they desperately need?

Oh, the cuts are not that large? Really? Even when you factor in inflation, and the sustained cuts from years before? Well don't worry, the cuts won't be large next year either, or the year after...

Here we are, complaining about environmental problems, the economy, the world. How do you expect things to become better without education? You are supposed to be smart to be here, so think! Will anything improve with less, more restrictive, lower quality, more expensive education? Anything? Yes, I can think of one thing, some penny-ante politician's poll ratings when an UNEDUCATED majority perceives his short-term gambles as beneficial.

Cutting education funding will hurt us more than anything. Not now, but years later. We are digging our own graves. But who cares? Certainly not those politicians, who will be long-retired when it all hits the fan.

Even now, you can argue that a degree is worth about the same as the equivalent in Scott-Tissue, so how do you expect things to improve when this University will not be able to hire the staff and buy the equipment to train your lethargic little mind?

Hey, but apathy is so easy!

Dragos Ruii

A Letter to Keri...

My father is bald. He has been for, oh, decades now. My grandfather is bald. I do not want to go bald. Balding is the single most worst nightmare in my young, fragile existence. (That line is for Janet Macdonald) I can not think of anything that I would hate more than balding, except losing my Elvis Costello records. However, baldness is not just my concern, or it shouldn't be anyways. Balding should be every young man's worst nightmare. Losing your hair is equivalent to losing your social life. Doesn't it seem that every girl you meet nowadays is asking you to see the ol' hairline. Nobody wants a balder, so you guys who are noticing some of the early signs, like waking up with half your hair on the pillow or having your hair wash off when you shower, well you guys should try to get married as soon as you can, and if possible try to get her to sign an agreement to not sue you in case of future baldness. This is often difficult, so I advise you give her a few glasses of wine before handing it to her.

Marc Simao

"Fanaticism consists of redoubling your efforts when you have forgotten your aim."

George Santayana
(1863-1952)

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