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Arts and Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1480: Oh, you don't really mean that

Give us fake definitions for obscure words. Plus winning Googlenopes and 'Yups.

By Pat Myers
Yesterday at 9:45 a.m. EDT



To galp, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is NOT to glug down beer on your way down the Matterhorn, it's actually to gape or yawn. We don't care. (Bob Staake/Illustration for The Washington Post)

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GALP: To chug a stein of beer while skiing down the Matterhorn.

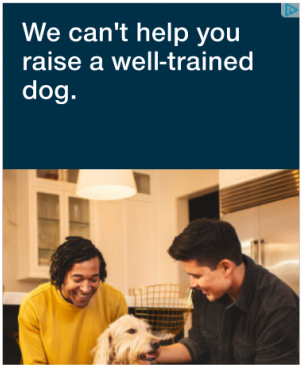
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It's been a full decade since the Empress put up a list of obscure words and asked you to be proudly ignorant of their meanings. Since then, some generous downsizing neighbors thought of her and her weird job, and gave her their "Compact Edition" of the Oxford English Dictionary — in which the complete text of the full-size version (10 volumes, 15,490 pages) has been "reproduced micrographically" as 4,116 pages of ittybittyeenyweeny text, which you peer at, still squintily, with a



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When you come in second in this week's contest, push this button to brag. (acoustic geometry)

(FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at

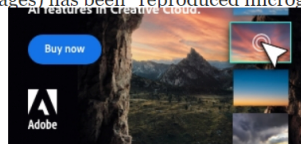
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The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's, published late Thursday, March 17, at wapo.st/conv1480, in which I share some classic ink from previous OED contests.

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago ...](#)

There was also the occasional **Googlewhack**: a phrase that evinced one single hit. All of the entries below checked out when the Empress tried them; search results aren't always consistent for everyone, it seems.

4th place:

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Don't check right time to forget

4 **Perspective**
Oscar nominee 'Drive My Car' is already a winner — as one of the most insightful movies about theater ever made



5 New movies to stream this week: 'Deep Water,' 'Windfall' and more



ANSWERS

All Googleyups: “Ted Cruz looks like a gerbil.”

“Ted Cruz looks like a weasel.”

“Ted Cruz looks like a hedgehog.”

“Ted Cruz looks like a mosquito.”

Googlenope: “Ted Cruz looks senatorial.” (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

3rd place:

Googlenope: “The Palm is too fancy.”

Googlenope: “The Inn at Little Washington is too fancy.”

Googleyup: “McDonald’s is too fancy.” (*Kevin Dopart, Washington*)

2nd place and the water bottles labeled ‘bong water’:

Googlenope: “His comb-over fooled me.” (*Coleman Glenn, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.*)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Googleyups: “Was Abraham Lincoln a real person?” (3 hits)

“Is Homer Simpson a real person?” (6 hits)

“Is Joe Biden a real person?” (3 hits)

Googlenope: “U.S. education is the finest.” (*Richard Lorentz, Woodland Hills, Calif.*)

The end of our ‘nopes: Honorable mentions

Googlenopes:

An advertisement for DiscountMugs.com. It features a large black reusable bag with the 'Kangri' logo on the left. To its right, a smaller image shows a collection of various custom reusable bags and mugs. The text 'DISCOUNTMUGS' is prominently displayed in the center-right, with 'Custom Reusable Bags' and 'DiscountMugs.com' below it. A small 'x' icon is in the top right corner of the ad.

“Putin’s playful side.” (*Dave Silberstein, College Park, Md.; Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.*)

“Dan Snyder is my favorite ...” (*Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.*)

“I do CrossFit, but I don’t like to talk about it.” (*Marty Gold, Arlington, Va.*)

“Washington, D.C., snow preparation” (*Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.*)

“Your mama’s so fatuous ...” (*Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.*)

“I wish I’d saved my sweater vests.” (*Scott Ableman, McLean, Va.*)

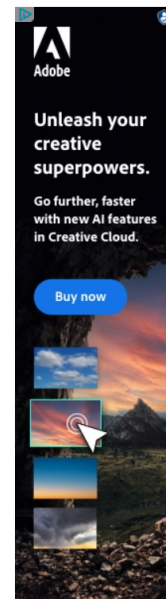
“I wish there were more trailers before the movie” (*Leif Picoult, Rockville, Md.*)

“Small Costco jar” (*Bill Dörner, Indianapolis*)

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An Adobe Creative Cloud advertisement. It features the Adobe logo at the top left. The main text reads 'Unleash your creative superpowers.' followed by 'Go further, faster with new AI features in Creative Cloud.' Below this is a blue 'Buy now' button. The background is a dark, scenic image of a mountain range at sunset or sunrise, with a small inset showing a person's hand interacting with a digital interface.

MOST READ



1 Perspective
Carolyn Hax: How to deal with sister-in-law’s pressure for big family cli time

"I wish my husband watched more football." (*Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore*)

"Not enough people post their Wordle results." (*Andy Schotz, Hagerstown, Md.*)

"That Facebook comment changed my mind." (*Frank Mann, Washington*)

Googleyups!

"Sisyphean vicissitudes," a Googlewhack that showed up in the New York Times (no surprise) sports section (surprise). (*Bill Swedish, Arlington, Va., who last got Invite ink in Week 45, 1994*)



"Stinkbug salsa," "dung beetle gravy," "cockroach pâté," "gerbil pot pie": all Yups. (*Jonathan Jensen*)

"How many calories in a squirrel?" (*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

"Toad whisperer" (6,290 hits). Also: "Horned toad whisperer" (2) (*Dave Prevar, Annapolis, Md.*)

"Vegetables are smarter than fruits." (*Michael Cohen, Greenbelt, Md.*)

Googlewhack: "A wet mule never flies at night." (*John Klayman, Bradenton, Fla.*)

Googlewhack: "Breathtaking muumuu." (*Jeff Contompasis*)

Googlewhack: "I don't leave a trace on the Internet." (*Kevin Dopart*)

Googlewhack: "I learn a lot from infomercials." (*Richard Lorentz*)

Googlewhack: "Underwear-sharing near me." (*Kevin Dopart*)

'Yups & 'Nopes

Googleyup: "Donald Trump swimwear" (over 1,000 hits)

Googlenope: "Bernie Sanders swimwear" (*Ann Martin, Brentwood, Md.*)

Googleyup: "Bluegrass bassoon"

Googleyup: "Death metal dulcimer"

Googlenope: "Dixieland harpsichord" (*Jonathan Jensen*)

Googleyup: "I enjoyed my colonoscopy" (10 results)

Googleyup: "I enjoyed my root canal" (1,300 results!)

Googlenope: "I enjoyed watching the new 'Sex and the City'" (*Mark Raffman*)

Googleyup: "I found my soulmate on Tinder."

Googleyup: "I found my soulmate on Bumble."

Googlenope: "I found my soulmate with Date Lab." (*Jesse Frankovich*)

Tummy Snuggles

2 More than two dozen Senate Republicans demand Biden do more for Ukraine after voting against \$13.6 billion for Ukraine



3 What to expect from Biden's first call with China's Xi on Ukraine



4 Russia-Ukraine live updates: Russian missile hits site near airport in west as fierce resistance stalls ground invasion



5 How permanent daylight saving time would change sunrise and sunset times



Googleyup: “Maus’ banned in Tennessee”

Googlenope: “ ‘Mein Kampf’ banned in Tennessee” (*Kevin Dopart*)

Googleyup: “Clothing-optional bar mitzvah.”

Googlenope: “Clothing-optional bat mitzvah.” (*Craig Dykstra*,
Centreville, Va.)

Googleyup: “I wish I had done more drugs.”

Googlewhack: “I wish I had drunk more beer.”

Googlenope: “I wish I had donated more to charity.” (*Pam Shermeyer*,
Lathrup Village, Mich.)

Googleyup: “Trump praises Putin as genius” (19,900)

Googlenope: “Putin praises Trump as genius” (*Drew Bennett, Rogers*,
Ark.)

Googleyup: “Donald Trump has a sense of humor.”(8 hits)

Googleyup: “Mike Pence has a sense of humor.” (3 hits)

Googleyup: “Vladimir Putin has a sense of humor.” (3 hits)

Googlenope: “Dan Snyder has a sense of humor.” (*Frank Mann*)

Googleyups: “I miss my long commute”; “I miss my cubicle”; “I miss my
boss”

Googlenope: “I miss my staff meetings” (*Scott Ableman*)

Googlenopes: “Tucker Carlson denounced white supremacists”; “Tucker
Carlson denounced racism”; “Tucker Carlson denounced
discrimination.”

Googleyup: “Tucker Carlson denounced epidemiological models.”
(*Duncan Stevens*)

And Last: Googleyup: “Ink is what I live for” (3 hits, about tattooing)
(*John Klayman*)

And Also Last: Googlenope: “Jeff Bezos reads The Washington Post”
(*Jesse Frankovich*)



And Even Laster: Googlenope: “The Style Invitational used to be
funnier” (*Craig Dykstra*)

And Lastest of All: Googlenope: “The Empress is a fair judge.” (*Dave
Prevar*)

Still running — deadline Monday night, March 21: Write a
Wordle-style phrase of five-letter words. See wapo.st/invite1479.

DON'T MISS AN INVITE! [Sign up here](#) to receive a once-a-week
email from the Empress as soon as The Style Invitational and Style
Conversational go online every Thursday, complete with links to the

columns.

The words for Week 1480:

agonistarch

agruw

aiel

anglewitch

batie-bummil

battologist

bawrel

cag-mag

cervylle

chekkelbone

cotty

cowhuby

dartre

dashee

doob

eftersoons

enaluron

epithymy

fankle

fistmeal

fladge

fritinancy

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stoach

sweven

tripudiant

truandal

trypall

wayzgoose

0 Comments

Gift Article



By Pat Myers

Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. [Twitter](#)



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