



Title	Answering Strategies
Author(s)	Nelson, R. William
Citation	大阪外大英米研究. 1987, 15, p. 73-101
Version Type	VoR
URL	https://hdl.handle.net/11094/99102
rights	
Note	

The University of Osaka Institutional Knowledge Archive : OUKA

<https://ir.library.osaka-u.ac.jp/>

The University of Osaka

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

William R. Nelson

INTRODUCTION

In 1983 a research project was initiated to compare the learning and retention curves generated by students who had studied in different ways. The goal set for each group was exactly the same, a rote learning task involving one hundred opposing pairs of English words and phrases. What differed was the tools they had to study with; one group used a computer and a learning program; the other used a prepared written dictionary. At regular intervals, all participants were given written tests that consisted of a number of items randomly selected from the total inventory of pairs. In addition to those tests, all available participants, including the control group, were tested one month and one year after the learning phrase had been completed.

Each test item presented one member of a pair of opposites; subjects were then asked to supply the other member. Because many of the test items were American English idioms, and because the original experiment was set up as a well-defined learning task, finding the matching members of each of the pairs proved to be formidable. Had the experiment not been set up as a specific learning task, more of the subjects' responses, which reflected their accurate understanding, would have been counted as correct. The resultant shifts in the data would have obviously affected the final form of Appendix A which is a complete inventory of the test items ranked according to the percent of correct response. The statistical results of the above research were published in the *Journal of Osaka University of Foreign Studies* (70 No. 1, 1985) under the title 'It's the Books Against the Computers! Who Wins?'

This current paper takes a closer look at the answers generated by the participants. All the subjects' answers to the Pre-Test (which was administered to both those who would become the experimental group as well as to the control group), but only the control subjects' answers to the One-Month and One-Year tests compose the corpus of data employed for this current study. The experimental group's answers to the One-Month and One-Year tests were excluded because they had prolonged exposure to the target pairs during the learning phase of the experiment. Their answers, naturally affected by this exposure, reflected their attempts to remember, and therefore, were of little value in disclosing other strategies employed in trying to work out acceptable opposites. These strategies can be roughly divided into five types in which the subject: 1. refers to elements of Japanese culture, 2. uses his or her Japanese understanding of loan words, 3. utilizes previous English education, 4. employs humor, or 5. just guesses. In the first strategy (which for brevity I will henceforth refer to as S1), the subject utilizes some understanding or adage from his or her own culture. A good example of this type can be seen in the answers (Appendix B) to 'turn one's stomach'; many of these answers parallel a Japanese understanding and use of the word 'stomach' (hara). The second strategy (S2) is similar to the first, but in S2 the subject uses his or her native understanding of a loan word borrowed from English. Their answers to items containing 'smart' ('sumato' which refers to one's slimness) serve as examples. Strategy three (S3) in which the subjects employ their previous English education can be divided into two sub-categories: a. learned items, such as 'look up to,' and b. partially learned items where they only recognize elements. 'The top of the barrel' and 'inagile' are two typical examples of their answers. Strategy four (S4) is rather small and difficult to verify, but the appearance of two teachers' names.....one as the opposite of 'dumb as an ox'forced me to form another category, humor. And last but not least, strategy five (S5), guessing, into which all seemingly unmotivated answers are thrown. Seen in this light, S5 functions in a way analogous to schizophrenia in the world of psychoses.

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

DISCUSSION

In this section, I would like to highlight some of the more interesting answers, give some examples of each of the strategies employed, and direct your attention to Appendix B which is a complete inventory of all the pairs tested and of all the answers given. The reader may find Appendix B not only interesting, but also entertaining in spots.....especially if you keep in mind the fact that in many cases, the participants were trying to construct the opposites of idioms whose meanings were anything but transparent, considering their constituent parts.

For those readers who have returned from Appendix B or who are continuing on, let us take a look at the test pairs that seemed to be the easiest as indicated by the percent of correct response (Appendix A). In the Pre-Test with an inventory of thirty, the correct-response rates, in descending order, were 'look down on' (65%), 'heavy heart' (64%), 'on one's bad side' (58%), 'tune in' (55%), and 'make no sense' (53%). On the One-Month Test with an inventory of fifty-four, there were more items included in the 55% to 100% range: 'have a bad time' (93%), 'look down on' (80%), 'complex' (74%), 'on one's bad side' (69%), 'be independent of' (67%), 'make no sense' (67%), 'hold one's temper' (66%), 'light heart' (60%), 'last class' (58%), 'servant' (55%), and 'wrong side of the tracks' (55%). And on the One-Year Test with an inventory of ninety-eight, we have the following: 'simple' (83%), 'beyond one's reach' (76%), 'foul play' (67%), 'heavy heart' (67%), 'look up to' (64%), 'lose sight of' (62%), 'off one's guard' (62%), 'be dependent on' (60%), and 'on one's good side' (58%). Considering the One-Month and One-Year Tests, the increase in items occurring in the 55% to 100% range can hopefully be accounted for by the fact that even though all participants were instructed not to talk about the experiment with anyone, most of them did continue to study English!

Taking a little closer look at some of the above items, we can notice that 'have a bad time' (93%) was familiar to almost everyone. This is because its opposite 'have a good time' appears in many high-school texts; however, when they were presented with 'have a good time' (47% on the One-Year

test), they did not do as well even though the opposites 'good-bad' are well known. 'On one's bad side' (58% in Pre-Test and 69% in One-Month Test) and 'on one's good side' (58% in One-Year Test) are related, but it is interesting that they did somewhat better on these two, which are not so familiar, than they did on 'have a good time.' 'Look down on' (80% in One-Month Test and 65% in Pre-Test) seems to appear more often than 'look up to' (64% in One-Year Test) in high-school English texts, but mistakes were made in both when they tried to remember the particle to end the idiom with. This same problem occurred in their answers to 'be independent of' (67% on One-Month Test) and 'be dependent on' (60% on One-Year test). 'Make no sense' (67% on One-Month Test and 53% on Pre-Test) is also a familiar expression, but the participants had trouble in trying to find a replacement for 'no.' All the above examples, of course, are good examples of S3.

'Simple' (83%) is also well known, but the subjects had some trouble with its partner 'complex' (74%) because the loan word 'kompurekusu' is used to signify an inferiority complex. This gave rise to answers like 'superiority' and 'supremacy.' 'Foul play' (67%) and 'fair play' also exist as loan words in Japanese, although their use extends to the world of ethics, they are more often used in the world of sports. Thus, in answer to 'foul play', we have such answers as 'fine play' and 'nice play' which mirror the exact usage of 'fuea purei' in the Japanese sports world. These examples are illustrative of S2.

Although the pair 'heavy heart' (67% in One-Year Test and 64% in Pre-Test) and 'light heart' (60% in One-Month Test) could be answered employing S3, a number of students also seem to have used S1. In Japanese 'ki' is a rather overlapping concept involving both 'heart and mind' (including a concept of 'life force'), and 'kokoro' refers to 'feeling' or 'emotion' and is the source of passion. Because we have expressions like 'ki ga omoi' ('ki' is both 'mind,' and 'heart'; 'omoi' is 'heavy') and 'karui kokoro' (literally 'light heart'), answers like 'easy mind,' 'light mind,' 'gloomy mind,' and 'heavy mind' are most reasonable. Further, as 'heavy' is associated with gloominess and darkness as in the expression 'kurai kimochi' 'black or

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

gloomy feeling'), others answered with 'bright feeling' and 'happy feeling'.

Let us now turn our attention to some of the more difficult items on the test, as indicated by their lower percentages of correct response (Appendix A). First, a few examples in which the subjects utilized Strategy 1, elements from their culture: 1. There are no direct references to fences, but there are some related expressions, such as 'takami no kembutsu' (to view without involvement from a higher place), and 'bukansuru' (to look on from a safe distance) that may have influenced their answers to 'stay on the fence.' Their answers included: 'be free from danger' and 'be safe' on the one hand, and 'be reckless' and 'be in a crisis' on the other. 2. The expression 'me to hanna no saki' (the distance between the eye and the nose, meaning 'very close') may have motivated some to respond to 'on the nose' with 'distant,' 'far away,' and 'far in the distance.' 3. One of the ways to translate 'stomach' into Japanese is to use the word 'hara' which figures in a great many expressions that deal with 'heart,' 'mind,' and 'intention.' The phrases 'hara no uchi' and 'hara no soko' ('in the stomach,' or 'at the bottom of their heart') refer to what one really feels or thinks. 'Keep secret' and 'keep something secret' were among the opposing answers. 'Hara o kimeru' (to decide one's stomach), meaning to make a relatively important decision, may have motivated answers like 'make up one's mind' and 'stick to one's opinion.' 'Turn,' in this case, is understood to mean 'change.' 'Hara ga niekuri kaeru' (the stomach boils) means 'very angry,' and thus gave rise to answers like 'calm down' and 'calm down one's stomach.' 4. 'Shape' can be translated as 'katachi' in Japanese, but this 'kata' has a wider range of meaning, 'shape,' 'convention' and 'normal.' 'Out of shape' thus elicited 'common,' 'decent,' 'normal' and 'regular' from some of the subjects. 5. No one could figure out the meaning of the pair 'hit the deck' and 'hit the hay', but some used S3 techniques to arrive at such answers as: 'be hit by the deck,' 'miss the deck,' 'sooth the deck' and 'hit the iron,' supposedly thinking of the softness of hay. Others may have used S1, relating 'ishibashi o tataite wataru' ('hit the stone bridge, and go over it') which means 'to make doubly sure') to the 'hit' in the expression, and thus answered with 'be

reckless.' 'Have an unlucky turn' as an answer to 'hit the hay' may have been motivated by 'un o ataru' ('hit upon some good luck').

Because 'sumato' as a loan word refers to one's svelteness, 'fat as an elephant' and 'fat as a pig' appeared in response to 'smart as a fox.' This is the only example remaining of an S2 type.

Even though I have sited only a few representative examples, S3 is by far the largest group.....and this should encourage us in the sense that the subjects utilized their knowledge of English to arrive at their answers. 1. The pair 'extroverted' and 'introverted' were opposed with 'deverted.' 'inextroverted,' 'intverted,' 'inverted,' 'troverted,' and 'verted.' 2. 'Ear to the ground' elicited such responses as 'ear in the air,' 'ear off the ground' and 'feet to the ground.' 3. 'Dry behind the ears' elicited, among others, 'dry before the ears,' 'muddy under the feet' and 'wet in front of the ears.' 4. 'Dollar ante,' 'pennylesse ante,' 'pound ante' and 'penny synte' were given in response to 'penny ante.' Above, in applying S3, the participants choose the opposites of one or more constituents of the test items. For a great many others, they used their understanding of the test item to respond; some examples follow: 1. 'Fearless' and 'brave' were given in response to 'afraid of one's own shadow.' 2. 'Deaf to,' 'inattentive in hearing,' and 'pay no attention' were some of the answers to 'all ears.' 3. 'Crazy as a loon' elicited 'sane,' 'sane as God' and 'serious as a Japanese' (or does this belong in the next section). 4. 'Ear to the ground' elicited 'ignorant of one's circumstances' and 'poor at gathering news.' 5. 'Lead an easy life,' 'live a comfortable life,' and 'live a luxurious life' were opposed to 'live from hand to mouth.' 6. 'Fast as an arrow,' 'quick as the wind,' and 'swift as a deer' were opposed to 'slow as molasses in January.' 7. 'To experience a hardship,' 'to get into trouble,' 'to have difficulties' and 'to have a hard time' were very reasonable answers to 'to have smooth sailing.'

In addition to the two professors' names (available upon request directly from the author) that were mentioned in opposition to 'smart as fox' and

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

'dumb as a ox,' there were some other instances of S4, that is, humor. Not knowing what 'be at loggerheads' could possibly mean, they tried, among other things, 'be at loggerbacks,' 'be at loggerfeet,' and 'be at loggertails.' For 'butter someone up,' they offered 'chess (which I suspect should be read 'cheeze') someone down,' 'ketchup someone down,' and 'margarine someone up.'

To provide substantiated examples for Strategy 5, guessing, I would have to guess, so I refer you again to Appendix B.....lots of luck.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Professor Tsuneo Masaki from the English Department of Osaka University of Foreign Studies for his many helpful insights. In addition, I would like to thank Miss Noriko Aoi, a former student, for her comments and initial collation of all the participants' responses.

APPENDIX A

Test Item Inventory, Ranked According to % of Correct Response

I. *PRE-TEST*

Number of Correct Answer	% of N	Total # of Answers	Question Phrase or Word
106	65	140	look down on
105	64	132	heavy heart
94	58	125	on one's bad side
89	55	119	tune in
86	53	148	make no sense
69	42	72	short haul
67	41	127	open up
67	41	122	automatic
62	38	119	walk out
53	33	115	drunk
46	28	71	play down
31	19	120	courageously
22	13	34	extroverted
18	11	137	admit
10	6	113	be with it
6	4	70	head in the clouds
4	2	75	little angel
1	1	105	good loser
0	0	143	soft touch
0	0	109	on the nose
0	0	96	clumsy
0	0	80	smart as a fox
0	0	73	afraid of nothing
0	0	52	to be up a creek
0	0	44	butter someone up
0	0	39	smart aleck
0	0	25	appease
0	0	23	hit the deck
0	0	21	be at loggerheads
0	0	17	penny ante

N = 163 Test Inventory = 30

NOTE: Where there are equal numbers of correct answers (including zero), test items are ranked according to the total number of responses.

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

II. ONE-MONTH TEST

Number of Correct Answers	% of N	Total # of Answers	Question Phrase or Word
89	93	92	have a bad time
77	80	96	look down on
71	74	82	complex
66	69	83	on one's bad side
64	67	89	be independent of
64	67	86	make no sense
63	66	82	hold one's temper
58	60	83	light heart
56	58	88	last class
53	55	87	servant
53	55	61	wrong side of the tracks
47	49	57	even number
44	46	68	eat like a horse
38	40	86	criticize
38	40	75	out of shape
36	38	41	short haul
35	36	94	within one's reach
26	27	57	live within one's means
25	26	83	slave
24	25	63	keep one's head
23	24	65	sober
18	19	85	deny
13	14	80	slow down
11	11	84	cowardly
10	10	52	little angel
10	10	22	extroverted
9	9	48	sore loser
8	8	23	dry behind the ears
6	6	59	start out
5	5	56	dumb as an ox
4	4	69	be out of it
4	4	39	heart of gold
3	3	59	out in the open
2	2	59	irritate
1	1	81	neat
1	1	49	off by a mile
1	1	40	turn one's stomach
1	1	34	all ears
1	1	31	ear to the ground
1	1	28	whopping failure

William R. Nelson

1	1	22	call it quits
1	1	22	live high off the hog
1	1	11	cream of the crop
0	0	74	know-nothing
0	0	69	to have smooth sailing
0	0	60	clumsy
0	0	53	stand up to
0	0	51	in the know
0	0	45	stay on the fence
0	0	32	butter someone up
0	0	26	indigenous
0	0	21	hit the hay
0	0	20	bear a grudge
0	0	20	rattle on

N=96 Test Inventory=54

NOTE: Where there are equal numbers of correct answers (including zero), test items are ranked according to the total number of responses.

III. ONE-YEAR TEST

Number of Correct Answers	% of N	Total # of Answers	Question Phrase or Word
48	83	53	simple
44	76	53	beyond one's reach
39	67	45	foul play
39	67	45	heavy heary
37	64	58	look up to
36	62	53	lose sight of
36	62	43	off one's guard
35	60	56	be dependent on
34	58	48	on one's good side
30	52	38	in shape
28	48	36	odd number
27	47	56	have a good time
27	47	40	live beyond one's means
26	45	47	easy way
26	45	29	soft sell
23	40	50	in the dark
23	40	40	drunk
23	40	23	long haul
20	34	48	master
20	34	43	open up
20	34	38	right side of the tracks

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

19	33	36	out of character
19	33	32	count me out
18	31	49	courageously
18	31	30	walk out
18	31	26	bad egg
16	28	44	eat like a bird
15	26	44	carry on
15	26	24	tune out
12	21	17	play down
10	17	35	big time
9	16	21	know-it-all
7	12	43	praise
6	10	23	afraid of one's own shadow
5	9	51	admit
5	9	33	heart of stone
5	9	32	in the black
5	9	26	lose track
5	9	12	wet behind the ears
4	7	28	lose one's head
4	7	7	introverted
3	5	45	civilized
3	5	29	inside out
3	5	25	surpass
3	5	11	sloppy
2	3	45	end up
2	3	33	smart as a fox
2	3	30	upside down
2	3	25	withdraw
2	3	12	chicken livered
1	2	45	come to the point
1	2	43	lose one's temper
1	2	42	put together
1	2	28	be with it
1	2	28	live on
1	2	15	crazy as a loon
0	0	46	hard earned money
0	0	41	exotic
0	0	41	lose heart
0	0	41	lose it
0	0	37	good loser
0	0	36	live from hand to mouth
0	0	36	sickly
0	0	33	change one's tune
0	0	32	in a zone

William R. Nelson

0	0	27	on the nose
0	0	22	get the eye
0	0	21	pass out
0	0	21	turn tail
0	0	20	the bottom of the barrel
0	0	20	head in the clouds
0	0	20	little beast
0	0	20	roaring success
0	0	19	make one's mouth water
0	0	18	chew someone out
0	0	16	take sides
0	0	14	head in the sans
0	0	13	back down from
0	0	13	a steal
0	0	11	clam up
0	0	11	smart aleck
0	0	11	tight wad
0	0	10	peter out
0	0	10	slow as molasses in January
0	0	10	to be up a creek
0	0	10	a turkey
0	0	9	bought of an arm and a leg
0	0	9	bury the hatchet
0	0	9	carry a torch
0	0	8	thorn in one's side
0	0	7	long and drawn out
0	0	7	on the Q.T.
0	0	6	agile
0	0	5	appease
0	0	5	behind the eight-ball
0	0	5	hit the deck
0	0	5	make it snappy
0	0	3	be at loggerheads

N=58 Test Inventory=98

NOTE: Where there are equal numbers of correct answers (including zero), test items are ranked according to the total number of responses.

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

APPENDIX B

Combined Test Item and Response Inventory (Alphabetically Arranged)

Question Phrase or Word

Response

A

ADMIT—DENY * attack * decline * disapprove * dismiss * disregard * forbid * ignore * neglect * object * oppose * prohibit * refuse * reject * reproach * resent * rule out * turn down * veto

AFRAID OF NOTHING—AFRAID OF ONE'S OWN SHADOW * afraid of anything * afraid of everything * afraid of something * anxious about something * awkward * coward * discourgeous * neurotic * on the alert * pessimistic * timid * unbrave * uneasy * worrying about everthing

AFRAID OF ONE'S OWN SHADOW—AFRAID OF NOTHING * afraid of none * be bravery * be confident * boorst oneself * brave * courageous * courageously * fearless * innocent * magnificent * off one's guard

AGILE—CLUMSY * calm * center * dull * inagile * stay calm

ALL EARS— IN A ZONE * be quiet * closing one's ears * deaf * deaf to * dump * eye to the ground * half a deaf ear * hang loose * have no ear to * ignore * inattentive in hearing * indifferent * listen carelessly * not attentive * not careful * not hearing at all * pay no attention * think nothing * to listen to carefully * turn a deaf ear to * uncarefully * with no attention * with no ears * without attention

APPEASE—IRRITATE * appeal * blame * cherish * complain * console * demand * depease * disapease * discourage * dispense * inappease * infuriate * praise * rage * respect * stir * unappease

AUTOMATIC—MANUAL * accidental * artificial * disautomatic * hand-driven * handmatic * hand-operated * hand-played * inautomatic * intentional * laborious * manipulative * manpower * manufactured * natural * unautomatic

B

BACK DOWN FROM—STAND UP TO * back up from * forward from * forward up to * front up from * go forward to * go from * go up to * in advance from * join * up to

William R. Nelson

BAD EGG—GOOD EGG * excellent people * fresh egg * good chicken * smart person

BEAR A GRUDGE—CARRY A TORCH * bear a love * bear an angel * bear no grudge * be satisfied * complain * feel satisfied * forgive * give a sympathetic glance * have a liking * lose a grudge * hold * love * not understand * obey * part a grudge * satisfy * smile * think well of * wasteful

BE AT LOGGERHEADS—SEE EYE TO EYE * be at a loss * be at a restaurant * be at loggerbacks * be at loggerfeet * be at loggerfoot * be at loggertails * be away from loggerheads * be flexible * be off loggerheads * be on smooth * be out of loggerheads * be under loggerheads * bright * clear * easygoing * sane

BE DEPENDENT ON—BE INDEPENDENT OF * be independent from * be independent in * be independent on * can be independent to * independent upon

BEHIND THE EIGHT-BALL—AHEAD OF THE GAME * before the eight-ball * definite * in front of the eight-ball

BE INDEPENDENT OF—BE DEPENDENT ON * be dependent from * be dependent of * be dependent to * be depending on * be rely upon * be subordinated to * rely on

BE OUT OF IT—BE WITH IT * be abound in it * be at home with it * be concerned with it * be full of it * be in it * be in on it * be inside of it * be into it * be involved in it * be on it * be on the mark * be to it * be within it * come near it * face to it * have it * have something to do with it

BE WITH IT—BE OUT OF IT * be above it * be against it * be apart from it * be away with it * be out with it * be separate from it * be without it * disagree to it * do without it * have nothing to do with it * keep afraid of it * keep it away * old fashioned *

BEYOND ONE' S REACH—WITHIN ONE' S REACH * at hand * in one' s reach * inside one' s reach * out of reach * within one' s capacity * within one' s hand

BIG TIME—SMALL TIME * bad time * hard time * little time * miserable time * ordinary time * poor time * precise time * rainy days * short time * torture * trifle time * unlucky * void time

THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL—THE CREAM OF THE CROP * the roof of the barrel * the surface of the barrel * the top of the barrel * the top of the

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

tower

BOUGHT FOR AN ARM AND A LEG—BOUGHT FOR A SONG *bought against an arm and a leg *bought for a brain *bought for nothing *dismissed *sold for an arm and a leg *unprepare *valueless

BURY THE HATCHET—CROSS SWORDS *dig out the hatchet *dig the hatchet *dig up the hatchet *reveal

BUTTER SOMEONE UP—CHEW SOMEONE OUT *applaud someone *beat someone off *be harsh to someone *be honest *be overcome *butter someone down *butter someone off *cheer someone up *chess someone down *consume someone out *criticize someone *depress *despise *discourage someone *find fault with *flatter *get someone down *get someone to take it easy *help *help someone *help someone to recover *hospitalize *ketchup someone down *leave someone *lose in the argument *lull someone to sleep *make a compliment *make someone angry *make someone down *margarine someone up *pat someone *praise someone *praise someone up *protest someone *pull someone out *release someone off *speak ill of someone *spoil *support someone *take care of someone *take someone's part *talk to someone clearly *tense someone *treat *worse someone down

C

CALL IT QUITS—CARRY ON *accept *adopt *begin *call it *call it off *call it starts *call one's name *employ *go ahead *let it start *put it off *start

CARRY A TORCH—BEAR A GRUDGE *cherish *conceal *follow *interrupt *lose sight *put a torch *put down a torch *put out a torch *safe

CARRY ON—GIVE UP *break off *carry off *carry under *fail *fail to do *leave undone *put off *quit *stop *stop over

CHANGE ONE'S TUNE—STICK TO ONE'S STORY *be obstinate *change voice *keep one's tune *stick to one's tune *stick to one's way

CHICKEN-LIVERED—LION HEARTED *brave *bull-livered *courageous *halk-livered *lion-livered *pale *strong-minded

CHEW SOMEONE OUT—BUTTER SOMEONE UP *accept *beat someone *be frients with *be on good terms with someone *be scolded *call someone in *chew someone in *chew someone into *choose someone in *get together *keep *take no consideration of someone *talk highly of someone

CIVILIZED—BARBAROUS * barbarized * barbarian * bulgar * developing * dull * primitive * savage * uncivilized * uncultivated * vulgar * wild

CLAM UP—RATTLE ON * clam down * craze down * destory * divide * emptyfy * idle out * speak out

CLUMSY—GRACEFUL * beautiful * be good at * be good at handling * calm * cheerful * clean * clear * clever * delight * dexterity * empty * energetic * exquisite * extravagant * fine * fluent * funny * gay * good * handsome * handy * have a green thumb * inclumsy * ingenious * neat * nice * polished * quick * quiet * refined * rich * sharp * skillful * smart * smooth * solid * sophisticated * steady * swift * tidy and clean * unclumsy * vivid * white

COME TO THE POINT—BEAT AROUND THE BUSH * aim off the point * be away from the point * be far from the point * be out of the point * beside the point * come off the point * come out of the point * come to the end * fall short to the point * get off the point * get out of the point * go away from the point * go far from the point * go off the point * go out of the point * go wrong way * leave the point * lose the point * speak an important thing * wide of mark * wrong

COMPLEX—SIMPLE * action * confidence * easiness * easy * monotonous * peaceful situation * plain * simplicity * superiority * supermacy

COUNT ME OUT—COUNT ME IN * count me * count me down * count me into * count me off * count on me * include me * include me in * join me in * let me join * take account of me * take me into consideration

COURAGEOUSLY—COWARDLY * awkwardly * cheerly * chicken-hearted * couragelessly * cowardiously * desperately * depressingly * depressively * disappointedly * discourageously * despairingly * downheartedly * fearfully * flinchingly * frightenedly * incourageously * liquidly * timidly * uncourageously * with cowardness

COWARDLY—COURAGEOUSLY * active * bold * boldly * brave * bravely * bravery * cleverly * courageous * daringly * fairly * fluently * possively * proudly * relaxedly * rude * skillfully * smoothly * stately * wisely

CRAZY AS A LOON—SOBER AS A JUDGE * clever as a fox * cool as a machine * sane * sane as a God * sane as God * serious as a Japanese * smart as a fox * wise * wise as a solomon

THE CREAM OF THE CROP—THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL * bad part of profit * the cell of the crop * the cluster of the crop * the heart of the crop *

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

honey * an important part of * the poison of the crop * the shell of the egg *
the skim of the crops * an unnecessary part * worthless things

CRITICIZE—PRAISE * accept * acknowledge * admiration * admire * admit *
adore * agree * applause * appraise * appreciate * apprise * approve * flatter
* honor * respect * say a compliment to * say nothing * speak well of *
support * sympathize

D

DENY—ADMIT * accept * acknowledge * admire * affirm * agree * allow *
appreciate * approve * approve of * assert * believe * consent * definite * flat
* give * make an affirmative remark * make sure * permit * receive * say
something true * say “yes” * think right

DRUNK—SOBER * aware * clear * clear-headed * come to oneself * eaten * far
from drunk * intoxicated * normal * plain * saint * sane * sensed * sensitive
* serious * sincere * straight * undrunk * white

DRY BEHIND THE EARS—WET BEHIND THE EARS * dry above the ears *
dry before the ears * feel at home * forget something * muddy under the feet
* very clever * wash one’s ears * wet in front of the ears * wet from the
heart * wet up to the ears * wet to the skin * wet within the ears * with
grease behind the ears

DUMB AS AN OX—SMART AS A FOX * bavard as a bird * busy as a bee * chat as
a sparrow * clever * clever as a fox * cunning as fox * dumb as a lamb *
eloquent * fond of talking * good as a cow * industrious * keen as a fox *
keen as a knife * noisy as a bird * noisy as a chicken * noisy as a girl * noisy
as a parrot * noisy as a robbin * noisy as chickens * powerless * quick and
smart * quick as a fox * quick as a mouse * sly as a fox * speakful as a cat *
talkative * talkative as a fox * talkative as a lark * talkative as a peacock *
very dumb * very noisy * very sharp * wise as fox

E

EAR TO THE GROUND—HEAD IN THE SAND * all ears * be careless * be
careless in hearing * behind the time * careful * carefully * deaf * ear in the
air * ear off the ground * ear to the heaven * ear to the sky * eye to the wall *
feet to the ground * hand to the ear * head in the cloud * ignorant of one’s
circumstances * like a deaf * on one’s back * poor at gathering news * stand
on the ground * to be without care * without caution

EASY WAY—HARD WAY * difficult way * diligent * tough way * troublesome
way

William R. Nelson

EAT LIKE A BIRD—EAT LIKE A HORSE * drink like a fish * eat a lot * eat like an animal * eat like a bull * eat like a cow * eat like a hog * eat like a lion * eat like an elephant * eat like a pig * eat like a wolf * eat much * eat very much

EAT LIKE A HORSE—EAT LIKE A BIRD * drink like a cow * eat like a little bird * eat like an ant * eat like a fish * eat like a mosquito * eat like a mouse * eat like a pig * eat like a rabbit * have little appetite * nibble * sleep like a dog

END UP—START OUT * begin * begin with * end down * kick off * open up * set up * start * start off * start out * start up * start with * take up * work on * wouk out

EVEN NUMBER—ODD NUMBER * against number * different number * evenless number: long shot * one side * singular number * strange number * uneven number

EXOTIC—INDIGENOUS * domestic * dominant * dominate * dumn * eccentric * familiar * in exotic * materialistic * national * native * natural * normal * quiet * particular to one's own country * plain * proper * traditional * usual

EXTROVERTED—INTROVERTED * clear * deserted * divided * economical * inextroverted * interverted * inverted * overt * straight * troverted * verted

F

FOUL PLAY—FAIR PLAY * fine play * just play * justice play * nice play * regular play

G

GET THE EYE—GET THE COLD SHOULDER * be at a loss * be neglected * dodge the eye * lose the eye * lose the sight

GOOD LOSER—SORE LOSER * bad gainer * bad getter * bad keeper * bad loser * bad mannered person * bad taker * bad winner * coward winner * dirty winner * evil winner * good fighter * good gainer * good getter * good keeper * good winner * little loser * poor loser * poor winner * saving money * sore grapes * stingy * unlucky winner

H

HARD—EARNED MONEY—A FAST BUCK * easily earned money * easy earned money * easy given money * easy money * first buck

HAVE A BAD TIME—HAVE A GOOD TIME * enjoy * have a nice time

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

HAVE A GOOD TIME—HAVE A BAD TIME * feel unhappy * have a boring time
* have a difficult time * have a hard time * have a little time * have a poor
time * have a terrible time * waste one's time

HEAD IN THE CLOUDS—FEET ON THE GROUND * behind in the clouds *
bottom in the clouds * bottom in the ground * clear head * clear up * clear
view * down to the ground * feet in the ground * feet in the sea * feet in the
sun * feet in the underground * feet on the earth * foot on the ground * foot
under the clouds * good condition * have a clear head * head in the fields *
head in the fine sky * head in the ground * head in the sand * head in the sky
* head in the sun * head off the clouds * head on the ground * head out of the
clouds * head over the clouds * head under the clouds * head under the
ground * head under the lights * humble * know what you're doing * on the
ground * no problem * short * smart * tail in the clouds * tail in the ground *
tail under the ground * understand * under the clouds

HEAD IN THE SAND—EAR TO THE GROUND * bad condition * clear headed *
foot in the sand * free as the wind * head above water * head in the clouds *
head in the water * head on the sand * head out of the sand * hide oneself
completely

HEART OF GOLD—HEART OF STONE * be worthless * black heart * cold heart
* different in quality * dirty heart * evil * heart of clay * heart of coal * heart
of devil * heart of glass * heart of iron * heart of lead * heart of marble *
heart of mud * heart of silver * heart of soil * heart of tin * heart of trash *
heart of vice * heart of wood * malicious heart * poor heart * selfish mind *
unkind heart * warm heart

HEART OF STONE—HEART OF GOLD * flexible heart * heart of bamboo * heart
of chicken * heart of cotton * heart of fire * heart of marshmallow * heart of
paper * heart of sponge * heart of the sun * heart of warmth * hot-stuff *
kind heart * open mind * outer part of stone * soft heart * surface of stone *
tender heart * tender-hearted * warm heart * warm-hearted

HEAVY HEARTY—LIGHT HEART * bright feeling * bright heart * cheerful heart
* cheer heart * easy heart * easy mind * evil heart * flexible heart * gay heart
* happy feeling * happy heart * light mind * merry heart * pleasant heart *
small heart * soft heart * sweet heart * tender heart * warm heart * weak
heart * well heart

HIT THE DECK—HIT THE HAY * be hit by the deck * be reckless * catch the
deck * fail * far from the point * have a meaning * hit the bottom * hit the
ceiling * hit the center * hit the water * keep the deck * lose the deck * miss

William R. Nelson

the deck * out of the mark * overcome the deck * pull the deck * ring the bell
* rub the deck * satisfy * soothe the deck * stand up * stroke the deck *
succeed * touch the deck

HIT THE HAY—HIT THE DECK * do nothing * face * fail * get a big response *
get it worked * get the point * have an unlucky turn * heap the hay * hit the
iron * keep the hay * lay the hay * leave something * make the hay * miss a
chance * miss the hay * seed * strike the hay * twist one's waist * untouched
* work outside

HOLD ONE'S TEMPER—LOSE ONE'S TEMPER * bear * break one's temper *
excite * get angry * get mad * get one's temper * get out of temper * ill
tempered * lose temper * out of one's temper * raise one's temper * soothe
one's temper

I

IN A ZONE—ALL EARS * beside a zone * in a normal condition * out of a zone *
out of question * out of zone * outside a zone * outside of a zone * over a zone

INDIGENOUS—EXOTIC * alien * calm * clean * digenous * dull * foolish * foreign
* outcoming * outdigenous * transplanted * unsincere

IN SHAPE—OUT OF SHAPE * fat * in bad condition * in bad shape * in content *
lose shape * out of order * truly

INSIDE OUT—RIGHT SIDE OUT * correctly * inside in * normal * outside in *
outside out * right * rightly * right side in * right way * usual

IN THE BLACK—IN THE RED * in the bright light * in the innocent * in the pink *
in the white

IN THE DARK—IN THE KNOW * behind the dark * in the bright * in the day * in
the daylight * in the daytime * in the open * in the sun * in the sunshine * out
of the dark * under the light * under the sun

IN THE KNOW—IN THE DARK * beyond the know * forget * ignorant of * in the
darkness * in the ignorance * in the mist * off the know * out of know * out of
knowledge * out of one's knowledge * out of one's reach * out of the know *
out the know * unfamiliar * unknown * without knowing * without
knowledge

INTROVERTED—EXTROVERTED * diverted * inverted * troverted

IRRITATE—APPEASE * at ease * becalm * calm down * comfort * compose *

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

consolate * console * ease * feel happy * get peaceful mentally * irritate *
keep oneself calm * make calm * make someone comfortable * moderate *
nurture * pacify * patient * please * relieve * settle down * soothe * stable *
tranquilize * unnerve

K

KEEP ONE'S HEAD—LOSE ONE'S HEAD * anger * be careless * become out of
spirit * be excited * bend one's head * be neglected by one * be unconscious
* bow one's head * die * down one's head * drop one's head * falldown *
forget * get beyond oneself * get nervous * get upset * give up * go mad *
keep one's back * keep one's head off * lean one's head * lie one's head *
lose confidence * lose one's memory * lose one's mind * lose one's sanity *
lose one's temper * move one's head * nod * pay no attention * shake one's
head * sleep

KNOW-IT-ALL—KNOW-NOTHING * be ignorant * ignorance * know halfway *
know-it-none * know-it-nothing * know-not-at-all * let me know

KNOW-NOTHING—KNOW-IT-ALL * almighty * clever * genius * in the know
* intelligently * know-all * know anything * know best * know-everything *
knowing * know-something * learned * quietly * the source of knowledge *
wise * with knowledge

L

LAST CLASS—FIRST CLASS * beginning class * first lesson * next class *
opening class * primary class * this class * top class

LIGHT HEART—HEAVY HEARTY * blue heart * broken heart * dark heart *
desperate heart * gloomy heart * gloomy mind * grave heart * heavy mind *
left heart * serious heart * strong heart * stubborn heart * thoughtful heart

LITTLE ANGEL—LITTLE DEVIL * adult * ancestry * awful devil * big angel *
big demon * big devil * big fat mamma * big god * big monster * black devil
* a brutal fellow * damned fellow * dirty fellow * giant adult * giant angel *
great angel * great devil * great Satan * Hell's angel * huge devil * large
angel * Michael * old devil * old guy

LITTLE BEAST—LITTLE ANGEL * angel * beast * big baby * big beast * big
bird * big insect * coward * dangerous beast * enormous monster * great
man * huge beast * sweet angel * wild beast

LIVE BEYOND ONE'S MEANS—LIVE WITHIN ONE'S MEANS * live
according to one's income * live according to one's means * live a modest
life * live by oneself * live on one's means * live suitably * live under one's

William R. Nelson

means * live within one's income * live with what one can afford * make both ends meet * make ends meet

LIVE FROM HAND TO MOUTH—LIVE HIGH OFF THE HOG * be better off * be well off * get well of * lead an easy life * live abundantly * live a comfortable life * live a luxurious life * live a rich life * live a wealthy life * live gracefully * live gorgeously * live luxuriously * live philosophically * live rich * live richly * live wealthy life * live with interest * make one's living * save a lot of money

LIVE HIGH OFF THE HOG—LIVE FROM HAND TO MOUTH * be very poor * lead a dog's life * lead a good life * lead a poor life * lead a prodigal life * live among the hog * live hand to mouth * live in the crowded place * live in the hog * live in the middle of the hog * live low off the hog * live low on the hog * live on the lowest line * live reservedly * live within one's means

LIVE ON—DIE OUT * be independent of * dispense with * die * do without * live by oneself * live off * live under * live without * perish

LIVE WITHIN ONE'S MEANS—LIVE BEYOND ONE'S MEANS * be dependent on others * go bankrupt * lead a prodigal life * live above one's means * live against one's means * live by borrowing money * live dependently * live extravagantly * live from hand to mouth * live over one's means * live over one's wage * live with others' hands * live with others' help * live without one's means * spend more money than one earns * waste money regardlessly

LONG AND DRAWN OUT—SHORT AND SWEET * short and cut out * short and easy * short and pulled in * short and snappy * stop at once * swift and bold * very short

LONG HAUL—SHORT HAUL * (no other examples)

LOOK DOWN ON—LOOK UP TO * admire * look up * look up at * look upon at * look upon to * look up for * look up on * look upon * look up with * make much of * praise * respect

LOOK UP TO—LOOK DOWN ON * despise * ignore * look down to * look down upon * look down with

LOSE HEART—TAKE HEART * attract * be delighted * be in sanity * catch heart * cheer up * chew up * fall in love * gain heart * gather heart * gather one's mind * get cheerful * get heart * keep heart together * keep sensitive * lore affection for someone

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

LOSE IT—GET IT ALL TOGETHER * catch it * find it * gain it * get it * keep it * remember it * succeed * win * win it

LOSE ONE'S HEAD—KEEP ONE'S HEAD * be calm * become sane * be encouraged * be responsible * catch one's head * clever * come into * come to one's head * come to oneself * find one's head * gain one's head * get calm * get one's head * get one's life * keep one's mind

LOSE ONE'S TEMPER—HOLD ONE'S TEMPER * be calm * become cool * be in one's temper * calm down * come to oneself * come to one's mind * come to sane * gain one's temper * get an idea * get calm * get calmed * get happy * get in one's temper * get one's sense * get one's temper * keep calm * keep cool * keep one's mind * keep one's temper

LOSE SIGHT OF—CATCH SIGHT OF * appear * come in sight * find * find sight of * get sight of * run into

LOSE TRACK—KEEP TRACK * catch the sight * catch track * come inside * find one's way * find track * follow track * gain track * get one's track * get the way * get track * leave track * make track * put up with

M

MAKE IT SNAPPY—SLOW DOWN * make it bad * make it serious * make it unsnappy * make it wet * think highly of it

MAKE NO SENSE—MAKE SENSE * be important * be significant * have some meaning * make a sense * make any sense * make every sense * make full sense * make much sense * make one's sense * make out * make some sense * matter * meaningful * sensible * mean something * significant * to mean something

MAKE ONE'S MOUTH WATER—TURN ONE'S STOMACH * bankrupt * be nouseating * be thirsty * disappetite * keep one's word * look not to be delicious * lose one's appetite * make one's mouth dry * make one's mouth stone * make one's mouth thirsty * make one's stomach full * mute * not look delicious

MASTER—SLAVE * boy * discipline * employee * get rid of * lose * maid * mama * men * mistress * obey * unskill * waiter

N

NEAT—SLOPPY * bad * clumsy * confused * cool * crude * dirty * disarranged * disorder * disordered * dull * dumb * dusty * foolish * foul * humble * in a

William R. Nelson

mess * in disorder * loose * lousy * mess * messy * nasty * neatless * odd *
out of order * poor * scattered * stinking * terrible * ugly * unfair * unneat *
untidy

O

ODD NUMBER—EVEN NUMBER * binary number * casual number * cardinal
number * fine number * normal number * ordinary number * regular
number

OFF BY A MILE—ON TARGET * back away by a mile * close * close by a mile *
closely * close to inches * in a mile * in a short distance * in by a mile * just at
close * near * near at hand * nearby * nearby a mile * near to an inch * next
to * on to the dot * to a mark * very close * very near * within a hand's reach
* within a mile distance * within a point * within a stone's throw * a mile

OFF ONE'S GUARD—ON ONE'S GUARD * afraid of one's own shadow * against
one's guard * at one's guard * be independent of * in one's guard * withing
one's guard * with one's guard

ON ONE'S BAD SIDE—ON ONE'S GOOD SIDE * advantageous * in highspirits *
in one's favor * on one's better side * on one's bright side * on one's
favorable side * on one's light side * on one's lucky side * on one's merit *
on one's right side * on one's side * on one's well side

ON ONE'S GOOD SIDE—ON ONE'S BAD SIDE * against one's side * on my
opposite side * on one's dark side * on one's ill side * on one's opposite side
* on one's poor side * on one's weak side * on one's wrong side * on the
opposite side of a person * opposite to * under one's bad side

ON THE NOSE—OFF BY A MILE * below the head * distant * down the nose * far
* far away from * far behind one's back * far in the distance * free from care
* good-natured * inside the nose * in the distance * in the nose * not
interfering * off the nose * on the back * on the breast * on the tail * on the
trail * sincere * small-headed * under the chin * under the foot * under the
mouth * under the nose * below the nose

ON THE Q.T.—OUT IN THE OPEN * beneath the Q.T. * off the Q.T. * out of the
Q.T. * under the Q.T.

OPEN UP—CLOSE DOWN * cease * close * close away * closed in * closed on *
close in * close out * close up * conceal * end * finish * keep private * open
down * pack * pack up * shory up * shut * shut in * shut off * shut out * shut
to * shut up

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

OUT IN THE OPEN—SECRETLY *alone* *at home* *closed* *concealed* *hide in private* *indoors* *inside* *inside the door* *inside the house* *in the door* *in the house* *in the open* *in the room* *in secret* *in the safe* *keep in the shade* *keep oneself inside* *keep secret* *little known* *out in the class* *out in the close* *the state of keeping one from moving* *stay inside* *under cover* *under the roof* *under protection* *within the door* *within the open

OUT OF CHARACTER—IN CHARACTER *characteristic* *characteristically* *fit* *in a character* *in good character* *in one's character* *of character* *on character* *ordinary* *same* *sane* *similar* *within character

OUT OF SHAPE—IN SHAPE *appear* *be decided* *be in good shape* *be shapeful* *clearly seen* *common* *decent* *figure the shape* *good shape* *in a shape* *in clear shape* *in order* *in the shape* *into shape* *neat* *normal* *of good shape* *regular* *shaped* *shapeful* *shapely* *solid* *unfamiliar* *within shape

P

PASS OUT—COME TO *be born* *check* *collect* *come up to* *fail* *fail in* *fall out* *hand in* *have to oneself* *keep* *pass by* *pass in* *receive* *tune out

PENNY ANTE—BIG TIME *bourgeoisie* *dollar ante* *great ante* *money user* *pennyless ante* *penny pro* *penny synte* *pound ante* *precious ante* *rich ante* *worthy

PETER OUT—PERK UP *peter in

PLAY DOWN—PLAY UP *appreciate* *begin the play* *be on the play* *be serious* *get well* *kick off* *lose* *play off* *play on* *play over* *start* *stay at home* *study hard* *study up* *work down* *work out* *work up* *win* *work hard

PRAISE—CRITICIZE *abuse* *accuse* *blame* *conceit* *condemn* *condemnant* *contempt* *denounce* *despise* *despite* *inferior* *insult* *laugh at* *look down upon* *reproach* *scold* *scorn* *speak ill of

PUT TOGETHER—FALL APART *apart* *break* *break down* *break into pieces* *break out* *break up* *discompose* *disintegrate* *divide* *divide into two pieces* *fall into* *put* *put apart* *put away* *put into parts* *scatter* *scatter out* *separate* *set apart* *share with* *take apart* *take into pieces

R

RATTLE ON—CLAM UP *be silent* *cease to talk* *keep quiet* *keep silence*

William R. Nelson

move slowly * quiet * rattle down * rattle off * speak slowly and politely *
stop rattling * stop speaking * take care of

RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRACKS—WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS * bad side of
the tracks * left side of the tracks * out of the point

ROARING SUCCESS—WHOPPING FAILURE * big failure * blander * complete
failure * desperating failure * dumb failure * easy success * fail * failure *
inherited success * miserable failure * quiet failure * quiet success * roaring
failure * terrible failure * unexpected failure

S

SERVANT—MASTER * boss * employer * host * liege * lord * maid * maid
servant * sir * sovereign

SHORT HAUL—LONG HAUL * big haul * big success * large range * long rest *
long riding * long stay * shrill cry

SICKLY—HALE AND HEARTY * cheerfully * comfortable * comfortably * fine *
finely * good * good feeling * healthfully * healthily * healthy * in good
health * luckily * refreshing * soundly * well

SIMPLE—COMPLEX * difficult * intricate * luxurious

SLAVE—MASTER * citizen * conquerer * dominant * employee * enslaver * free *
freedom * free man * free person * give freedom * high class * host * king *
libertine * live idoly * lord * man * noble * owner * planter * ruler *
slave-buyer * slave-keeper * slavior * sovereign * tyrant * unslave * wild cat

SLOPPY—NEAT * clumsy * flat * in good manner * interesting * level * standard *
unsloppy * well-dressed

SLOW AS MOLASSES IN JANUARY—QUICK AS LIGHTNING * fast as a horse
* fast as an arrow * fast as lark in spring * fast as X' mas in December *
quick as a March hare * quick as the wind * swift as a deer

SLOW DOWN—HURRY UP * acceleratedly * fasten up * fast up * go fast * high up
* increase its speed * keep up * make faster * make pace up * quick up *
slow up * speed up * to accelerate

SMART AS FOX—DUMB AS AN OX * awkward * dumb as a cow * dumb as a
sheep * dumb as a wolf * dull as a bull * dull as a carpet * dull as a crow * dull
as a donkey * dull as a hippo * dull as a mule * dull as a pig * dull as a swine *
dull as a turtle * fat as an elephant * fat as a pig * foolish as an ass * foolish as

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

a dog * foolish as a donkey * foolish as a duck * foolish as a pig * honest * honest as an angel * innocent as an angel * poor as a snail * silly as a donkey * white as snow

SOBER—DRUNK * crazy * drunken * drunker * foolish * gentleman * hot-headed * insidious * intoxicated * kidding * kind * lazy * light * mad * mild * naughtily * not serious * strict * superficial * sweet * tender * upset * unsober

SOFT SELL—HARD SELL * a rip-off * expensive sell * hard damping

SOFT TOUCH—TIGHT WAD * coarse touch * extremely * hard boiled * hard hit * hard touch * heavy touch * rough touch * sucker * tough touch * vivid * wild touch

SORE LOSER—GOOD LOSER * bad loser * bad winner * bare winner * glorious winner * good keeper * good winner * great winner * happy loser * happy winner * innocent people * intact winner * landslide winner * nice winner * perfect winner * pleasant winner * sound winner * sore adder * sore winner * triumpher * victor * victorious winner * winner * winner who nearly loses

STAND UP TO—BACK DOWN FROM * against * attack * be impatient with * be in favor of * be on bad terms * criticize * disagree to * do not support * give up * keep away from * not to be resolute * object * resign * run away from * sit down on * sit down to * stand against * stand away from * stand down on * stand down to * stand opposite * stop off * strive against

START OUT—END UP * arrive at * breast the tape * bring back * come back * conclude * end * end in * end up * finish * finish off * finish out * get to * go to bed * reach in * return * start in * stay * stop * stop in * stop off * stop short

STAY ON THE FENCE—TAKE SIDES * be free from the danger * be in a crisis * be on it * be reckless * be safe * charge into * decide * drop off the fence * fall off the cropper * fall off the fence * feet on the ground * get involved * get off the fence * go off the fence * go out of the fence * jump out of the fence * move around * out of the fence * stable * stand one's side * stay at the foot of the fence * stay below the fence * stay in the center * stay in the fence * stay off the fence * stay on the ground * stay outside the fence * stay safely * stay under the fence * take a side of * take part in * without doubt

A STEAL—A RIP-OFF * a bold person * a giving * a paper * a robbery * a policeman * a recovery * a stolen * metal * very expensive goods * wood

William R. Nelson

SURPASS—FALL SHORT * be defeated * be got over * common * depass *
express freely * fail * get behind * give up * give way to * go behind * inferre
* lose * lose short of * release * shortage * stop one's step * surrender

T

TAKE SIDES—STAY ON THE FENCE * attack * be against * be neutral * charge
* lose sides * object * oppose to * stand in neutral * take enemies * take
opposition * take the opposite side * take out of sides

THORN IN ONE'S SIDE—APPLE OF ONE'S EYE * flower in other's side * keep
neutral * palm in one's side * thorn in one's opponent * thorn in the other's
side * thorn out of one's side * thorn out one's side *

TIGHT WAD—SOFT TOUCH * loose wad

TO BE UP THE CREEK—TO HAVE SMOOTH SAILING * to be below the creek
* to be down the creek * to be down the river * to be down the slope * to be
down the stream * to be far from the creek * to get on well * to be in a good
situation * to be in the water * to be out of the creek * to be under the creek

TO HAVE SMOOTH SAILING—TO BE UP A CREEK * struggle in difficulties *
to be interrupted * to experience a hardship * to feel comfortable * to get
into trouble * to go wreck * to have bloody sailing * to have difficulties * to
have a difficult time * to have a difficulty * to have a hard time * to have bad
sailing * to have dangerous sailing * to have hard sailing * to have obstacles
* to have rigid sailing * to have rough sailing * to have rugged sailing * to
have severe sailing * to have some trouble * to have stormy sailing * to have
terrible sailing * to have tough sailing

TUNE IN—TUNE OUT * false in * go off * go out * go out of order * make disorder
* out of tune * put out * sign off * tune down * tune off * turn out

TUNE OUT—TUNE IN * disappear * pass out * tune on * tune up

A TURKEY—AN EGGHEAD * a brave * a dull person * a fox * a genius * a
handsome man * a poker face * a sage * a sensible man * fail

TURN ONE'S STOMACH—MAKE ONE'S MOUTH WATER * be loyal * calm
down * calm down one's stomach * control one's feeling * do as one says *
feel at home * feel comfortable * feel fine * feel good * get angry * get much
pleased * hold one's stomach * keep one's mind * keep one's stomach *
keep secret * keep something secret * lessen one's appetite * make up one's
mind * not hungry * persist * relax * re-turn one's stomach * settle one's
stomach * stand by * stand on one's stomach * stand still * stick to one's

ANSWERING STRATEGIES

opinion * to be acceptable * treat kindly * turn one's back

U

UPSIDE DOWN—RIGHT SIDE UP * correctly * downside in * downside up * even * normally * ordinary * right * rightly * right side down * straight * straight up * upside up

W

WALK OUT—WALK IN * be at home * come back * come home * come in * enter * get to the table * give up * give up walking * launch * pause * run back * run in * run inside * run into * run out * stay * stay home * stay in * stay inside * stay still * stop * stop halfway * stride in * take a walk * take part * walk inside * walk into * walk off * walk on

WET BEHIND THE EARS—DRY BEHIND THE EARS * be tired with * careful * cry out * dry before the ears * free from debts * just * out of tears * wet thoroughly

WHOPPING FAILURE—ROARING SUCCESS * complete success * great success * happy success * howling success * magnificent success * natural success * nice success fatal * revealing failure * slight success * small failure * success * shopping success

WITHDRAWN—EXTROVERTED * advance * appear * attack * be on one's side * conquer * do something in time * evose * flourish * go forward * intrude * invade * maintain * proceed * push into * shut out * throw * throw away * thrust * undertake

WITHIN ONE'S REACH—BEYOND ONE'S REACH * behind one's reach * beyond one's ability * far away * far off * far off one's reach * out of one's hand * out of one's reach * outside one's reach * too far to reach * without one's reach

WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS—RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRACKS * correct side of the tracks * in right way * right side of the track