

pro · manchester

It's

GRIN UP NORTH

101

professional jokes

In aid of Wood Street Mission

101 professional jokes

Professional humour is a kind of humour that focuses on the peculiarities of a particular profession often exploiting popular stereotypes about the profession in question. Of course some professions don't generate many jokes, presumably because

- a) their profession isn't very funny
- b) most practitioners don't have a very well-developed sense of humour (some will no doubt take exception to this statement which of course proves the point) and
- c) they don't have the kind of reputation that say lawyers have (thank goodness!) which has given birth to so many marvellous lawyer jokes.

No professionals have been hurt in the making of this publication.

This 'professional' joke book has been compiled with the assistance of our Younger Members Committee in aid of pro-manchester's adopted charity - Wood Street Mission. We trust that our contribution to your enjoyment is met with an equally large financial contribution to Wood Street Mission!

Wood Street Mission

Reg Charity No. 1078337

Wood Street Mission is one of the oldest charities in Greater Manchester. It was founded in 1869, by local businessman Alfred Alsop and a number of his associates, in order to tackle the poverty and deprivation faced by people living in the slums around the Deansgate area of Victorian Manchester. Since its conception 136 years ago the organisation has continually evolved to meet the changing needs of the people it supports.

Wood Street Mission is a non-denominational charity whose aim is to alleviate the effects of poverty on children,

“Helping local children and families since 1869”

young people and their families living in Manchester and Salford. If you want to find out more about donating, fundraising or volunteering with Wood Street Mission please contact the charity directly.

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1

At a convention of biological scientists one researcher remarks to another, "Did you

know that in our lab we have switched from mice to lawyers for our experiments?" "Really?" the other replied, "Why did you switch?" "Well, for three reasons. First we found that lawyers are far more plentiful, second, the lab assistants don't get so attached to them, and thirdly there are some things even a rat won't do.

2 Financial advisors always give 100% to their work. 12% Monday; 23% Tuesday; 40% Wednesday; 20% Thursday; 5% Friday.

3 An advertising firm, representing a fried chicken magnate, visits the Pope and tells him that he'll make a donation of two hundred and fifty million pounds if the Pope changes the Lord's Prayer from 'Give us our daily bread' to 'Give us our daily chicken'. The Pope refuses so the magnate raises the offer to three hundred million, at which the Pope caves in and accepts. The Pope calls his cardinals together to tell them what's happened. 'I've got some good news and some bad news' he says. 'The good news is that we've just made three hundred million pounds. The bad news is we've just lost the Warburtons account.'

4 A recruitment consultant asks a judge to let him off jury service. Judge, 'But surely your firm can manage without you for a few weeks.' The man replies, 'Certainly. They can manage without me altogether - and I don't want them to find out.'

5 A Stockbrokers day: Helium was up, feathers were down. Paper was stationary. Fluorescent tubing was dimmed in light trading. Knives were up sharply. Cows steered into a bull market. Pencils lost a few points. Hiking equipment was trailing. Elevators rose, while escalators continued their slow decline. Weights were up in heavy trading. Light switches were off. Mining equipment hit rock bottom. Shipping lines stayed at an even keel. The market for raisins dried up. Coca Cola fizzled. Caterpillar stock inched up a bit. Sun peaked at midday. Balloon prices were inflated, and batteries exploded in an attempt to recharge the market.

6 Two tigers are prowling through the jungle in single file and the one behind keeps licking the arse of the tiger in front. 'Will you stop that,' says the first tiger. 'It's getting really annoying.' 'I'm sorry,' says the second tiger. 'But I just ate a lawyer and I'm trying to get the taste out of my mouth.'

7 'You've all heard my arguments' says the managing director to his board. 'Now let's vote on it. Anyone who disagrees with me, raise their hand and say 'I resign.'

8 A consultant died and went to Heaven. There were thousands of people ahead of him in line to see St. Peter. To his surprise, St. Peter left his desk at the gate and came down the long line to where the consultant was, and greeted him warmly. St. Peter took the consultant up to the front of the line, and into a comfortable chair by his desk. The consultant said, "I like all this attention, but what makes me so special?" St. Peter replied, "Well, I've added up all the hours for which you billed your clients, and by my calculation you're 193 years old!"

9 Corporate financiers really like deadlines. Especially the 'Whooshing' sound as they go flying by.

10 Where was the first mention of insurance in the bible?

When Adam and Eve needed more coverage.

11 Did you hear about the new sushi bar that caters exclusively to lawyers?

It's called Sosumi.

12 A banker never lends any money to anybody unless they don't need it.

13 The three best jobs in the world are:

- Designated striker for Manchester United.
- Meteorologist for the BBC.
- Venture Capitalists.

What other jobs can you fail 90% of the time and still be considered good at your job?

14 LABOUR OR HARD TIME?? YOU DECIDE!!

- **In prison** you spend the majority of your time in an 8' x 10' cell.
- **At work** you spend most of your time in a 6' x 8' cubicle.
- **In prison** you get three meals a day.
- **At work** you only get a break for one meal and you have to pay for it.
- **In prison** you get time off for good behaviour.
- **At work** you get rewarded for good behaviour with more work.
- **In prison** a guard locks and unlocks all the doors for you.
- **At work** you must carry around a security card and unlock and open all the doors yourself.
- **In prison** you can watch TV and play games.
- **At work** you get fired for watching TV and playing games.
- **In prison** they allow your family and friends to visit.
- **At work** you cannot even speak to your family and friends.
- **In prison** all expenses are paid by taxpayers with no work required.
- **At work** you get to pay all the expenses to go to work and then they deduct taxes from your salary to pay for prisoners.
- **In prison** you spend most of your life looking through the bars from the inside wanting to get out.
- **At work** you spend your time wanting to get out and inside bars.
- **In prison** you can join many programmes which you can leave at any time.
- **At work** there are some programmes you can never get out of.
- **In prison** there are wardens who are often sadistic.
- **At work** we have managers.

15 What's an insolvency practitioner?

Someone who arrives after the battle and bayonets all the wounded.

16 What do accountants suffer from that ordinary people don't?

Depreciation.

17 If it wasn't for lawyers, we wouldn't need them.

18 A man is flying in a hot air balloon and realises he is lost. He reduces altitude and spots a man down below. He lowers the balloon further and shouts, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised my friend I would meet him half an hour ago, but I don't know where I am." The man below says, "Yes, you are in a hot air balloon, hovering approximately 30 feet above this field. You are between 40 and 42 degrees N. latitude, and between 58 and 60 degrees W. longitude." "You must be an IT consultant!" says the balloonist. "I am," replied the man. "How did you know?" "Well," says the balloonist, "Everything you told me is technically correct, but I have no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is, I am still lost." The man below says, "You must be a corporate manager!" "I am replies the balloonist, but how did you know?" "Well," says the IT consultant, "You don't know where you are, or where you are going. You have made a promise, which you have no idea how to keep, and you expect me to solve your problem. The fact is you are in the exact same position you were in before we met, but now it is somehow, my fault."

19 A lawyer with insomnia consults her doctor. 'Which side is best to lie on?' she asks. 'The side that pays your fee,' replies the doctor.

20 A guy in a bar leans over to the man next to him and says, 'Want to hear an architect joke?' The man replies, 'Well, before you tell that joke, you should know that I'm 6 foot tall, 200 pounds, and I'm an architect. And the guy sitting next to me is 6 foot 2 inches tall, 225 pounds, and he's an architect too. Now, do you still want to tell that joke?' The first guy says, 'God no. Not if I'll have to explain it twice.'

21 A lawyer opens the door of his BMW. Another car speeds by and hits the door, ripping it off completely. When the police arrive, the lawyer is complaining bitterly. 'Officer, look what they've done to my car!' he whines. 'You lawyers are so materialistic, you make me sick' replies the officer. 'You're so worried about your stupid car you haven't even noticed your left arm was ripped off.' 'Oh my God!' replies the lawyer, 'My Rolex!'

22 When does a person decide to become an accountant?

When he realises he doesn't have the charisma to succeed as an undertaker.

23 A PR company advertises for a 'Problem Solver' with a salary of £100,000. Pam goes for an interview and is offered the job on the spot. 'That's great' says Pam. 'But tell me, how can you afford to pay me such a high salary?' 'That,' says her employer, 'is your first problem.'

24 In the wake of the Exxon/Mobil deal and the AOL/Netscape deal, here are the latest mergers we can expect to see:

- i. Hale Business Systems, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Fuller Brush, and W.R. Grace Company merge to become Hale Mary Fuller Grace.
- ii. PolyGram Records, Warner Brothers, and Keebler Crackers merge to become Polly-Warner-Cracker.
- iii. 3M and Goodyear merge to become MMMGood.
- iv. Zippo Manufacturing, Audi Motors, Dofasco, and Dakota Mining merge to become Zip Audi Do Da.
- v. Honeywell, Imasco, and Home Oil merge to become Honey I'm Home.
- vi. Denison Mines, and Alliance and Metal Mining merge to become Mine, All Mine.

25 Lawyer's creed - a man is innocent until proved broke.

26 An accountant goes into a pet shop to buy a parrot. The shop owner shows him three identical parrots on a perch. 'The parrot on the left costs £500,' says the owner. 'Why does that parrot cost so much?' asks the accountant. 'It knows how to do complex audits,' says the shop owner. 'How much does the middle parrot cost?' asks the accountant. 'That one costs £1000,' replies the shopkeeper. 'It can do everything the first one can, plus it knows how to prepare financial forecasts.' The accountant asks about the third parrot. 'It costs £4000, but to be honest I've never seen him do anything. But the other two call him Senior Partner.'

27 Banks are like trees full of monkeys, all on different limbs at different levels. Some monkeys are climbing up, some down. The monkeys on top look down and see a tree full of smiling faces. The monkeys on the bottom look up and see nothing but the obvious.

28 Lawyer: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

Doctor: No

Lawyer: Did you check for blood pressure?

Doctor: No

Lawyer: Did you check for breathing?

Doctor: No

Lawyer: So is it possible the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

Doctor: No

Lawyer: How can you be so sure?

Doctor: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar

Lawyer: But could the patient have been alive nevertheless?

Doctor: It is possible he could have been alive and practising law somewhere

29 What's the similarity between a PR person and a rhino?

Both are thick skinned and charge a lot.

30 The banker fell overboard from a friend's sailboat. The friend grabbed a life preserver, held it up, not knowing if the banker could swim, and shouted, "Can you float alone?" "Obviously," the banker replied, "but this is a heck of a time to talk business."

31 There are these two surveyors stumbling through the desert. They haven't had food or water for days and the sun is baking down. Suddenly, and against all hope, they come across an oasis. There are palm trees but sadly no water. There are however, three brightly coloured market stalls. They approach the first stall.

"Welcome to my stall gentlemen," says the first stall-holder, "may I offer you a free bowl of jelly?" The men are surprised but happily accept. They eat the jelly and then move on to the second stall... "Welcome to my stall gentlemen," says the second stall-holder, "may I offer you a free bowl of cold custard?" The men are surprised but happily accept. They eat the cold custard and then move on to the third stall... "Welcome to my stall gentlemen," says the third stall-holder, "may I offer you a free bowl of whipped cream?" The men are surprised but happily accept. They eat the whipped cream and decide to leave the oasis. One man turns to the other and says, "that was a little odd wasn't it?" "Yes," says his friend, "it was a trifle bizarre...."

32 The successful financier snorted contemptuously. "Money! Pooh! There are a million ways of making money." "But only one honest way," a listener declared. "What way is that?" the financier demanded. "Naturally, you wouldn't know," was the answer:

33 What is the difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion?
Jail.

34 A young banker decided to get his first tailor made suit. So he went to the finest tailor in town and got measured for a suit. A week later he went in for his first fitting. He put on the suit and he looked stunning, he felt that in this suit he could do business. As he was preening himself in front of the mirror he reached down to put his hands in the pockets and to his surprise he noticed that there were no pockets. He mentioned this to the tailor who asked him, "Didn't you tell me you were a banker?" The young man answered, "Yes, I did." To this the tailor said, "Who ever heard of a banker with his hands in his own pockets?"

35 There are three kinds of accountants in the world.
Those who can count and those who can't.

36 Question: Why did the chicken cross the road?

Management Consultant: Deregulation of the chicken's side of the road was threatening its dominant market position. The chicken was faced with significant challenges to create and develop the competencies required for the newly competitive market. In a partnering relationship with the client, we helped the chicken by rethinking its physical distribution strategy and implementation processes. Using the Poultry Integration Model (PIM), we helped the chicken use its skills, methodologies, knowledge, capital and experiences to align the chicken's people, processes and technology in support of its overall strategy within a Program Management framework. Our practice convened a diverse cross-spectrum of road analysts and best chickens along with fellow consultants with deep skills in the transportation industry to engage in a two-day itinerary of meetings in order to leverage their personal knowledge capital, both tacit and explicit, and to enable them to synergize with each other in order to achieve the implicit goals of delivering and successfully architecting and implementing an enterprise-wide value framework across the continuum of poultry cross-median processes. The meeting was held in a park-like setting, enabling and creating an impactful environment which was strategically based, industry-focused, and built upon a consistent, clear, and unified market message and aligned with the chicken's mission, vision, and core values. This was conducive towards the creation of a total business integration solution. Our consultancy helped the chicken change to become more successful.

37 A crow was sitting on a tree, doing nothing all day. A small rabbit saw the crow, and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing all day long?" The crow answered; "Sure, why not." So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the crow, and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it. Corporate management lesson: To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

38 How many consultants does it take to change a lightbulb?

- 1 That's difficult to say. First, we need to do a study to see if you really need light in that area,
- 2 determine historically why the light burned out, and
- 3 analysis to determine whether it's the right kind of light anyway.
- 4 Then, maybe, we can recommend appropriate action - although we may need to do additional studies to determine the light sensitivity of employees visiting the area.
- 5 After that, we can: develop RFPs and RFQs,
- 6 evaluate the abilities of various maintenance workers to perform the task,
- 7 recommend personnel selection, and
- 8 supervise the activity.

39 A woman diagnosed as having a brain tumour was told by her doctor that she would need the transplant of a one-pound brain. The doctor then asked, "What type of brain do you want? There is a substantial difference in price. For example, a one-pound brain of a consultant costs £60,000, while you can get a one-pound brain of a stockbroker for £50,000, and so on." "Can you give me a one-pound barrister's brain? Ever since I was a little girl I've dreamed of being a barrister." "That's £250,000," the doctor replied. "Why so much?" the woman asked. "That's over four times what a consultant's brain costs." "Do you have any idea how many barristers it takes to produce a pound of brain?" the doctor replied.

40 A man was sent to Hell for his sins. As he was being taken to his place of eternal torment, he passed a room where a lawyer was having an intimate conversation with a beautiful woman. "What a rip-off," the man muttered. "I have to roast for all eternity, and that lawyer spends it with that gorgeous woman." Jabbing the man with his pitchfork, the escorting demon snarled, "Who are you to question that woman's punishment?"

41 **Colin applied for a PR position at an English firm based in Manchester. An American applied for the same job, and both applicants, having the same qualifications, were asked to take a test by the department manager. Upon completion of the test, both men had only missed one of the questions on the test. All the other questions were answered correctly. The manager went to Colin and said, "Thanks to both of you for your interest, but we've decided to give the American the job." Colin said, "And why would you be doing that? We both got 9 questions correct. This being England and me being English, I should get the job!" The manager replied, "We have made our decision not on the correct answers, but on the question you missed." "And just how would one incorrect answer be better than the other?" asked Colin. The manager replied, "Simple. The American put down for question five, 'I don't know.' You put down, 'Neither do I.'"**

42 The two partners in a law firm were having lunch when suddenly one of them jumped up from the table and said, "I have to go back to the office. I forgot to lock the safe!" "What are you worried about?" the other said. "We're both here."

43

A banker died and arrived at the pearly gates. Saint Peter asks him "What have you done to merit entrance into Heaven?" The Banker thought a moment, then said, "A week ago, I gave a 50 pence to a homeless person on the street." Saint Peter asked Gabriel to check this out in the record, and after a moment Gabriel affirmed that this was true. Saint Peter said, "Well, that's fine, but it's not really quite enough to get you into Heaven." The Banker said, "Wait Wait! There's more! Three years ago I also gave a homeless person 50 pence." Saint Peter nodded to Gabriel, who after a moment nodded back, affirming this, too, had been verified. Saint Peter then whispered to Gabriel, "Well, what do you suggest we do with this fellow?" Gabriel gave the Banker a sidelong glance, then said to Saint Peter, "Let's give him back his £1 and tell him to go to Hell."

44 A lawyer is a person who writes a 10,000 word document and calls it a "brief".

45 Why did the auditor cross the road?
Because he looked in the file and that's what they did last year.

46 Why do accountants make good lovers?
They're great with figures. (this must be a joke!)

47 At a Manchester-club party a young stockbroker was introduced to an attractive girl. Immediately he began paying her court and flattering her outrageously. The girl liked the young man, but she was taken a bit aback by his fast and ardent pitch. She was amazed when after 30 minutes he seriously proposed marriage. "Look," she said. "We only met a half hour ago. How can you be so sure? We know nothing about each other." "You're wrong," the young stockbroker declared. "For the past 5 years I've been working in the brokerage firm where your father has his account."

48 A guy walks into a bank and says to the teller at the window, "I want to open a damn checking account." To which the lady replied, "I beg your pardon, what did you say?" "Listen up dammit, I said I want to open a damn checking account right now." "Sir, I'm sorry but we do not tolerate that kind of language in this bank!" The teller left the window and went over to the bank manager and told him about her situation. They both returned and the manager asked, "What seems to be the problem here?" "There's no damn problem," the man said, "I just won 50 million in the lottery and I want to open a damn checking account in this damn bank!" "I see sir," the bank manager said, "and this bitch is giving you a hard time?"

49 In filling out an application for a job, fiona was puzzled for a long time over this question: "Person to notify in case of an accident." Finally she wrote, "Anybody in sight."

50 If you owe the bank £100, that's your problem. If you owe the bank £100 million, that's the bank's problem.

51

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT JARGON - EXPLAINED...

Competitive Salary: We remain competitive by paying less than our competitors

Flexible Hours: Work 55 hours; get paid for 37.5

Good Communication Skills: Management communicates, you listen and figure out what they want you to do

Self-Motivated: Management won't answer questions

Some Overtime Required: Some time each night and some time each weekend

Duties Will Vary: Anyone in the office can boss you around

Competitive Environment: We have a lot of turnover

Casual Work Environment: We don't pay enough to expect that you'll dress up; well, a couple of the real daring guys wear earrings

Seeking Candidates With A Wide Variety Of Experience: You'll need it to replace three people who just left

Problem-Solving Skills A Must: You're walking into a company in perpetual chaos

52 A Manchester bar was so sure that its bartender was the strongest man in the world that it offered £1,000 to anyone who could beat him in one task. The bartender squeezed a lemon until all the juice ran out. Anyone who could get a drop of juice out of it after the bartender was done would win the £1,000. Many strong people had tried and failed. One day a scrawny man came into the bar wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit. He squeaked, "I'd like to try the bet". After the laughter died down, the bartender grabbed a lemon and squeezed away. Then he handed the rind to the man, who to everyone's amazement, squeezed six drops into the glass. Stunned, the bartender paid up, and then asked the man, "What do you do for a living? Are you a weight lifter?" "Nope," the man replied. "I'm an Inland Revenue tax collector".

54 Two women were walking through the woods when a frog called out to them and said: "Help me, ladies! I am a stockbroker who, through an evil witch's curse, has been transformed into a frog. If one of you will kiss me, I'll be returned to my former state!" One woman took out her purse, grabbed the frog, and stuffed it inside her handbag. The other woman, aghast, screamed, "Didn't you hear him? If you kiss him, he'll turn into a stockbroker!" The second woman replied, "Sure, but these days a talking frog is worth more than a stockbroker!"

55 A Finance Committee is a group that keeps minutes and loses hours.

A committee is twelve men doing the work of one.

A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

A consensus means that everyone agrees to say collectively what no one believes individually.

A short cut is the longest distance between two points.

53

Man to lawyer: 'If I give you £500, will you answer two questions?'
Lawyer: 'Absolutely. What's the second question?'

56 A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN IT CONSULTANT...AT THE ETCH-A-SKETCH HELP DESK.

Q: My Etch-A-Sketch has all of these funny little lines all over the screen.

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I turn my Etch-A-Sketch off?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What's the shortcut for Undo?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I create a New Document window?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I set the background and foreground to the same colour?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What is the proper procedure for rebooting my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I delete a document on my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I save my Etch-A-Sketch document?

A: Don't shake it.

57 The CEO returned from lunch in a good mood and called the whole staff in to listen to a couple of jokes he had picked up. Everybody, but one girl laughed uproariously. "What's the matter?" grumbled the boss. "Haven't you got a sense of humour?" "I don't have to laugh," she replied. "I'm leaving on Friday."

58 Terrorists have hijacked a planeload of lawyers bound for a legal convention. They've threatened to start releasing them one by one until their demands are met.

59 What is yellow and looks good on an architect?

A J.C.B.

60 INSURANCE CLAIMS...

- Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.
- **The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intention.**
- I thought my window was down, but I found it was up when I put my head through it.
- **I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.**
- The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- **I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.**
- In an attempt to kill a fly I drove into a telephone pole.
- **I had been driving for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.**
- I was on the way to the doctor with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.
- **As I approached an intersection a sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before. I was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident.**
- To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front I struck a pedestrian.
- **I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat found that I had a fractured skull.**
- I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.
- **The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.**
- The telephone pole was approaching. I was attempting to swerve out of the way when I struck the front end.

61 When I take a long time, I am slow. When my boss takes a long time, she is thorough.

When I don't do it, I am lazy. When my boss doesn't do it, she's too busy.

When I do it without being told, I'm trying to be smart. When my boss does the same, that is initiative.

When I please my boss, that's brown-nosing. When my boss pleases her boss, that's co-operating.

When I do good, my boss never remembers. When I do wrong, she never forgets.

62 A party of surveyors was climbing in the Alps. After several hours they became hopelessly lost. One of them studied the map for some time, turning it up and down, sighting on distant landmarks, consulting his compass, and finally the sun. Finally he said, 'OK see that big mountain over there?' 'Yes', answered the others eagerly. 'Well, according to the map, we're standing on top of it.'

63 The stockbroker received notice from the Inland Revenue that he was being audited. He showed up at the appointed time and place with all his financial records, then sat for what seemed like hours as the accountant pored over them. Finally the IR agent looked up and commented, "You must have been a tremendous fan of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle." "Why would you say that?" wondered the broker. "Because you've made more brilliant deductions on your last three returns than Sherlock Holmes made in his entire career."

64 A young financial advisor was leaving the office at 6:00pm when he found the CEO standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand. "Listen," said the CEO, "This is important, and my secretary has left. Can you make this thing work?" "Certainly," said the young financial advisor. He turned the machine on, inserted the paper, and pressed the start button. "Excellent, excellent!" said the CEO as his paper disappeared inside the machine. "I just need one copy."

65 A manager tells his friend that his company is looking for a new accountant. His friend asks, "Didn't your company hire a new accountant a few weeks ago?" The businessman replies, "That's the accountant we're looking for."

66 We've just been informed that the Inland Revenue has simplified its 1040 forms for next year in the spirit of becoming a "kinder, gentler" service. It goes like this:

(A) How much did you make last year? _____

(B) How much do you have left? _____

(C) Send in amount on line B.

67

Economists are people who are too smart for their own

good and not smart enough for anyone else's.

68 A very rich man who was very close to his money got together with his closest friends who happened to be an architect, a stockbroker, and a lawyer. The rich man was very old, and getting older, and was thinking about his approaching death. He told his three friends this, and asked them to do a favour for him when he died. "Here are three envelopes, each contain £100,000, one for each of you. Please, when I am buried, would each of you throw your envelopes into the grave on top of my coffin?" The three friends agreed, and took the envelopes. Sure enough the rich man died. At his funeral, the architect, the stockbroker and the lawyer threw their envelopes on his coffin. As they were leaving the funeral, the architect said to the others, "I have a confession to make. I needed some new software for my computer, so I...I took £5000 to buy it," and looked at his feet. The stockbroker said, "Well, since you've admitted it, I too must confess that I took money. I saw an investment opportunity in the market, so I took £30,000 to invest." The architect and the stockbroker both turned to the lawyer, expecting a similar confession. Instead, he said "Oh, no, I deposited the money in my account and dropped a check for all £100,000 in the envelope!"

69 What is the difference between an insurance broker and a herd of buffalo?

The insurance broker charges more.

70 The investment manager started his speech at 10am sharp and ended at 11am dull.

71 Three financial advisors and three accountants are travelling by train to a conference in Birmingham. At Piccadilly Station, the three accountants each buy tickets and watch as the three financial advisors buy only a single ticket. "How are three people going to travel on only one ticket?" asks an accountant. "Watch and you'll see," answers an advisor. They all board the train. The accountants take their respective seats but all three financial advisors cram into a restroom and close the door behind them. Shortly after the train has departed, the conductor comes around collecting tickets. He knocks on the restroom door and says, "Ticket, please." The door opens just a crack and a single arm emerges with a ticket in hand. The conductor takes it and moves on. The accountants saw this and agreed it was quite a clever idea. After the conference the accountants, being clever with money, decide to copy the financial advisors on the return trip. When they get to the station in Birmingham, they buy a single ticket for the return trip. To their astonishment, the financial advisors don't buy a ticket at all. "How are you going to travel without a ticket?" says one perplexed accountant. "Watch and you'll see," answers a financial advisor. When they board the train, the three accountants cram into a restroom and the three financial advisors cram into another one nearby. The train departs. Shortly afterward, one of the financial advisors leaves his restroom and walks over to the restroom where the accountants are hiding. He knocks on the door and says, "Ticket, please."

72

A surgeon, an architect, and a politician were

considering the question of whose profession was the oldest. "I think my line of work would win this one hands down," the surgeon said. "After all, Eve was created from Adam's rib, and that sounds like surgery to me." "Maybe," the architect said, "but before Adam, order was created out of chaos. That was an architectural accomplishment." "Sure," the politician said. "But before that, someone had to create the chaos."

73 Engineers and scientists will never make as much money as financial executives. Now a rigorous mathematical proof has been developed that explains why this is true:

Postulate 1: Knowledge is Power
Postulate 2: Time is Money

As every engineer knows,

Work = Power x Time

Since **Knowledge = Power**,
and **Time = Money**,
we have:

Work = Knowledge x Money

Solving for Money, we get:

$$\text{Money} = \frac{\text{Work}}{\text{Knowledge}}$$

Thus, as Knowledge decreases, Money increases, regardless of how much Work is done.

Conclusion:
The Less you Know, the More you Make.

74 A truck driver was driving down the highway when he saw a priest at the side of the road. He stopped to pick up the priest and give him a ride. A while down the road the truck driver saw a lawyer on the side of the road. He turned the truck on a direct course with the lawyer. However, remembering that a priest was in the truck with him, he swerved at the last moment to miss the lawyer. However, the truck driver heard a loud thump outside of the truck, and he looked in his rear-view mirror. He turned to the priest and said "Sorry Father, I just missed that lawyer at the side of the road." The priest said, "Don't worry son, I got him with my door."

75 "So I was in my car, and I was driving along, and my boss rang up, and he said 'You've been promoted.' And I swerved. And then he rang up a second time and said 'You've been promoted again.' And I swerved again. He rang up a third time and said 'You're a managing director.' And I went into a tree. And a policeman came up and said 'What happened to you?' And I said 'I careered off the road.'

76 A bear walks into a bar in Bolton and sits down. He bangs on the bar with his paw and demands a beer. The bartender approaches and says, "We don't serve beer to bears in bars in Bolton."

The bear, becoming angry, demands again that he be served a beer. The bartender tells him again, more forcefully, "We don't serve beer to belligerent bears in bars in Bolton."

The bear, very angry now, says, "If you don't serve me a beer, I'm going to eat that lady sitting at the end of the bar." The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve beer to belligerent, bully bears in bars in Bolton."

The bear goes to the end of the bar, and as promised, eats the woman. He comes back to his seat and again demands a beer. The bartender states, "Sorry, we don't serve beer to belligerent, bully bears in bars in Bolton who are on drugs". The bear says "I'm not on drugs" - "Oh yes you are" retorts the bartender, "that was a bar-bitch you ate".

77 Two brokers are walking along the streets of Moscow when the heavens open. The first looks up and says; "It is starting to rain!" "No, no, no," says the second, "it is starting to snow." "No," says the first, "it is rain." "I disagree, it is snowing," says the second. They argue like this for some time until they decide they can argue no longer and they seek the advice of a Russian general who happened to be stood near to them. They explain the argument to him. The general looks at them both and says; "I am General Rudolph of the Russian Army. I am red to the core and I say that it is raining!" The brokers thank him for his advice and walk away...as they do the second says; "Well I still say that it is snowing!" "No!" says the first, "you heard what the man said, and Rudolph the red knows rain dear..."

78 Two teams from British and Japanese corporations have a boat race. On the big day the Japanese win by a mile and the discouraged British hire a consulting firm to investigate the problem. The findings are that the Japanese team had eight people rowing and one person steering, while the British team had one person rowing and eight people steering. Based on these results the British team is completely reorganised to include four steering managers, three area steering managers, and a new performance review system for the person rowing the boat to provide work incentive. The following year the Japanese win again, so the British lay off the rower for poor performance and give the managers a bonus for discovering the problem.

79 Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Person asked the young venture capitalist fresh out of Manchester University, "And what starting salary were you looking for?" The venture capitalist said, "In the neighbourhood of £125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package." The HR Person said, "Well, what would you say to a package of 5-weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every 2 years - say, a sleek Audi?" The venture capitalist sat up straight and said, "Wow!!! Are you kidding?" And the HR Person replied, "Yeah, but you started it."

80 A young insolvency practitioner had just started his own firm. He rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques. Sitting there, he saw a man come into the outer office. Wishing to appear the hot shot, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he had a big deal working. He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments. Finally he hung up and asked the visitor, "Can I help you?" The man said, "Yeah, I've come to activate your phone lines."

81 CORPORATE FINANCE LINGO:

- **Essentially complete:** It's half done.
- **We predict:** We hope to God!
- **Serious but not insurmountable problems:** It'll take a miracle.
- **Basic agreement has been reached:** The @*#\$<% 's won't even talk to us.
- **Results are being quantified:** We're massaging the numbers so they will agree with our conclusions.
- **Task force to review:** Seven people, incompetent at their regular jobs, have been loaned to the project.
- **Still analysing the requirements:** Nobody's even thought about it.
- **Not well understood:** Now that we've thought about it, we don't want to think about it anymore.
- **Requires further analysis and management attention:** Totally out of control!
- **Results are promising:** Turned power on and no smoke detected - this time...

82 A businessman on his deathbed called his friend and said, "Bill, I want you to promise me that when I die you will have my remains cremated." "And what," his friend asked, "do you want me to do with your ashes?" The businessman said, "Just put them in an envelope and mail them to the Internal Revenue. Write on the envelope, "Now, you have everything."

83

This is the story of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. Consequently, it wound up that Nobody told Anybody, so Everybody blamed Somebody.

84 What is the difference between a Yeti and an intelligent consultant?

It is believed that a Yeti has been sighted.

85 A wealthy investor walked into a bank and said to the bank manager, "I would like to speak with Mr. Guy Richards, who I understand is a tried and trusted employee of yours." The banker said, "Yes he certainly was trusted. And he will be tried as soon as we catch him."

86 Two neighbours were talking about work, when one asked, "Say, why did the CEO fire you?" Replied the second, "Well, you know how a CEO is always standing around and watching others do the work. My CEO got jealous. People started thinking I was the CEO."

87 A patient is at her doctor's office after undergoing a physical examination. The doctor says, 'I have some very grave news. You only have six months to live.' 'What can I do?' cries the patient. The doctor replies 'Marry an accountant'. 'Will that make my life longer?' asks the patient. 'No', says the doctor 'but it will seem longer.'

88

Two men try to hold up a lawyers' club but the lawyers put up such a fight they have to flee before they manage to take much money. In the getaway car they count their loot. 'I've got good news and bad news,' says one of the crooks. 'What do you mean?' asks the second crook. 'We've got away with £50,' replies the first crook. 'But we went in there with £75.'

89 What's the definition of a good tax accountant?

Someone who has a loophole named after him.

90 An interior consultant is accosted by her boss for coming through the door at ten in the morning. 'You should have been here at nine', he says. 'Why?' asks the employee. 'What happened?'

91

TOP TEN WAYS TO KNOW YOU'RE A CONSULTANT:

1. Can't stop using words that don't exist.
2. Worried that he who dies with the most frequent-flyer miles wins.
3. Use so much jargon in conversation friends think you're speaking a foreign language.
4. Constant urge to give advice on subjects you know nothing about.
5. Always-hyphenating-words-that-don't-need-to-be-hyphenated.
6. Keep seeing bullet points everywhere.
7. Can fit the thematic undercurrents of "War and Peace" into a two-by-two matrix.
8. Tired of having a social life beyond work.
9. A two-page story in Business Week is all it takes to make you an expert.
10. Firmly believe that an objective viewpoint means more than any real work experience.

92 A young financier and his general manager board a train headed through the mountains on its way to London. They can find no place to sit except for two seats right across the aisle from a young woman and her grandmother. After a while, it is obvious that the young woman and the young financier are interested in each other, because they are giving each other looks. Soon the train passes into a tunnel and it is pitch black. There is a sound of a kiss followed by the sound of a slap. When the train emerges from the tunnel, the four sit there without saying a word. The grandmother is thinking to herself, "It was very brash for that young man to kiss my granddaughter, but I'm glad she slapped him." The general manager is setting there thinking, "I didn't know the young financier was brave enough to kiss the girl, but I sure wish she hadn't missed him when she slapped and hit me!" The young woman was sitting and thinking, "I'm glad the guy kissed me, but I wish my grandmother had not slapped him!" The young financier sat there with a satisfied smile on his face. He thought to himself, "Life is good. How often does a guy have the chance to kiss a beautiful girl and slap his general manager all at the same time!"

93 Why won't sharks attack lawyers?

Professional courtesy.

94 What's the definition of an accountant?

Someone who solves a problem you didn't know you had in a way you don't understand.

95 **Stockbroker:** What is a million years like to you?

God: Like one second.

Stockbroker: What is a million dollars like to you?

God: Like one penny.

Stockbroker: Can I have a penny?

God: Just a second...

96 A stockbroker was giving an example on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, he said: "If I stood on my head the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I should turn red in the face. Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?" A man shouted, "It's because yer feet ain't empty."

97 How can a pregnant woman tell that she's carrying a future lawyer?

She has an uncontrollable craving for baloney.

98 Five explanations that employees might use when they're caught sleeping at their desks:

1. "This is a 15-minute power nap like they taught in that time management course you sent me to."
2. "This is in exchange for the six hours last night when I dreamed about work."
3. "It's okay...I'm still billing the client."
4. "I wasn't sleeping! I was meditating on the mission statement."
5. "Amen."

99 It was so cold last winter that I saw a lawyer with his hands in his own pockets.

100 A stockbroker is a person who says to his client: "I've reviewed your portfolio, and if we manage your stocks properly, there should be plenty of money for both of us."

101

The post office had to recall its series of stamps depicting famous barristers. It seems that people were confused as to which side to spit on.

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