

# atp 2441

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

professor, questions, people, expression, laughs, 1500s, interesting, trick, hm, year, detroit, thought, war, bc, ohhh, animals, kathy, dan, kids, bacon

## SPEAKERS

Kathy Bush, Jeffe Boats, Production Element, Michael Jayson, Beth Oljar, Dan Maggio

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- M** Michael Jayson 00:01  
The University of Detroit Mercy presents an encore presentation of a classic Ask the Professor program. Today's show takes us back to September 2005.
- K** Kathy Bush 00:16  
The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask the Professor, the radio show where you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host, Kathy Bush. And today we have the big three with us - how appropriate for Motown. So let me start with the first member of our panel who is like so busy and could only stay for a little bit and has to fly. From the Pre College Engineering Programs over in Engineering and Sciences, It's Dan-Dan the DAPCEP Man, Maggio.
- D** Dan Maggio 00:47  
Hi Kath.
- K** Kathy Bush 00:47  
Hey, how's it going?
- D** Dan Maggio 00:49  
Good.
- K** Kathy Bush 00:49

Sitting next to Dan, also from Engineering and Science, but from the Department of Mathematics, it's Professor Jeffe Boats.

**J** Jeffe Boats 00:55

Thank God this building has more available bathrooms than the UN. That's - thank God it does. And but think - Well, but we don't have a Secretary of State to fill in for those bathroom breaks. No. Or to hand out the little towels in the bathroom.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:08

That's right. Absolutely.

**J** Jeffe Boats 01:09

That's Kofi's second job.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:10

That's right. Got to do somethin' that way. Okay. And around the table to my left, from the Department of Philosophy. Its chair, but she will be paroled within a year. Indeed. It's Professor Beth Oljar.

**D** Dan Maggio 01:21

Really?

**B** Beth Oljar 01:23

Well -

**K** Kathy Bush 01:23

Yeah. (Laughs)

**B** Beth Oljar 01:25

Yeah, although it's - the discussion is interesting.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:28

**K** Kathy Bush 01:28

A girl can dream.

**B** Beth Oljar 01:30

Yeah. Nobody wants to do it.

**J** Jeffe Boats 01:32

She's leaving Philosophy. She is going to be a bouncer.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:34

That's right. (Laughs) Down at Mac's on Third. Yeah.

**B** Beth Oljar 01:37

Well, I was supposed to be a parole officer, according to those tests that we all took in high school that told us what we were supposed to be good at.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:43

Yeah.

**B** Beth Oljar 01:43

That's what I was supposed to do.

**K** Kathy Bush 01:44

You were supposed to be a parole officer? Mine said shepherd or florist, which I found hysterical; because I've killed every plant that's ever come into my possession except for those shamrocks upstairs.

**B** Beth Oljar 01:54

I think my brother was supposed to be a mortician or something

**J** Jeffe Boats 01:56

Mine said that I'd be good at anything that doesn't involve math

K Kathy Bush 01:59  
You've gotta be kidding.

J Jeffe Boats 02:00  
No.

B Beth Oljar 02:01  
Well, that's wack.

J Jeffe Boats 02:02  
Yeah.

K Kathy Bush 02:03  
Well, you know, (Jeffe begins laughing) that's like really stupid.

J Jeffe Boats 02:07  
I don't take IQ tests seriously.

K Kathy Bush 02:08  
I was gonna say -

B Beth Oljar 02:08  
Reductio ad absurdum

K Kathy Bush 02:10  
Well, this is the show where you can ask us about flourists, shepherds, morticians, math, whatever you want. And if you stump the panel or you don't stump the panel, not only will you get the fabu t shirt, but you will also get - (we are reinstating the tradition. Somebody play Pomp and Circumstance for me here. We are going to do the autographed photograph or the photographed autograph. So again, we'll be selecting a site on campus so you can not only see

what we look like, but you can see the beautiful world of UDM right there. But you got to send us some questions to get into that beautiful world. So how do you do that? (ATP SEND QUESTIONS spot) And what you hear in the background, we're trying to unwrap some banana bread.

**J** Jeffe Boats 02:10  
Oh!

**K** Kathy Bush 02:10  
(Laughs)

**J** Jeffe Boats 02:43  
I'm trying to be quiet

**K** Kathy Bush 02:43  
And you're doing it very well. Our first question, before we return to some leftover ones, comes from Michael Jayson, the guy who sits behind the controls and keeps us all in order.

**J** Jeffe Boats 02:43  
The new voice of God.

**K** Kathy Bush 02:49  
And he writes "Kathy: I'm looking forward to a new season of Ask The Professor and I have a question for the professors, especially for Dan and Jeffe. It's a math question - "

**B** Beth Oljar 03:14  
Well, it couldn't be aimed at me.

**K** Kathy Bush 03:20  
(Laughs) "This should be solved without using paper or calculators. Just use your heads". So for me that would have to be use your heads and hands, Michael. I'd have to do it that way. So are you ready?

**D** Dan Maggio 03:51  
Mm-hm.

**K** Kathy Bush 03:51  
All right, take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30

**J** Jeffe Boats 04:02  
I'm out of fingers

**K** Kathy Bush 04:05  
(Laughs) Add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10.

**B** Beth Oljar 04:16  
I know what that is.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:16  
What is the total?

**B** Beth Oljar 04:18  
I even know that.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:19  
5000?

**J** Jeffe Boats 04:19  
Nope. 4100

**K** Kathy Bush 04:22  
Yes it is.

**B** Beth Oljar 04:23  
I thought it was 5000 too.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:25  
it is, Jeffe.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:27  
Oh, it is. Oh geez.

**J** Jeffe Boats 04:30  
Mixing up the order is what makes it tricky.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:31  
Is that what it is?

**D** Dan Maggio 04:32  
Very tricky. I was caught.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:34  
Ohhh

**D** Dan Maggio 04:34  
I was caught.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:35  
He said, "Did you get 5000? Way to go, most of us do. The correct answer is 4100. Don't believe it. Check it out with a calculator on paper".

**D** Dan Maggio 04:44  
No. I know what I did.

...I know what I did.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:45  
He said "The brain sure knows how to play little tricks on us, doesn't it?" But so does our engineer. Now let us return to some questions that we had to stop working on last time.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:54  
Very interesting.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:54  
Wasn't that cool?

**D** Dan Maggio 04:55  
Yes, it was.

**K** Kathy Bush 04:56  
It was definitely cool. These are questions from Bert Tilley of Attalla, Alabama. You guys were doing great, because remember before he wanted you to have 14 of 18 or 77.8% (as Jeffe figured out). And so far, you only have three wrong; so not bad.

**J** Jeffe Boats 05:03  
How many to go?

**K** Kathy Bush 05:12  
One, two, three more to go.

**J** Jeffe Boats 05:13  
Oh, good chance,

**K** Kathy Bush 05:14  
Okay. This unit was named after a French engineer who developed a telegraph code more popular than the Morse code. Unfortunately, the unit is not standardized, but it is traditionally



represented by one bit per second of transmission for computer modems. What is this unit named?

**J** Jeffe Boats 05:36  
Hmm.

**K** Kathy Bush 05:37  
So represented by one bit per second of transmission

**B** Beth Oljar 05:40  
Baud?

**K** Kathy Bush 05:41  
Yes.

**J** Jeffe Boats 05:41  
Yeah, cool.

**K** Kathy Bush 05:43  
I wouldn't have -

**B** Beth Oljar 05:44  
I got it first.

**D** Dan Maggio 05:46  
I haven't heard that used in -

**K** Kathy Bush 05:47  
Oh, in a long time. This word of German origin refers to a structure so integrated that it is more than the sum of its parts.

**B** Beth Oljar 05:56  
Gestalt


**K** Kathy Bush 05:56  
Yes, indeed. And then finally, what deity's name means "auspicious one"? He is usually depicted with a blue neck around which is a garland of skulls or a serpent. He rides the bull Nandi and is the father of Ganesha, this Hindu deity has three eyes.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:17  
It's not Kali.

**K** Kathy Bush 06:18  
Not Kali. No.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:19  
I'm out of Hindu deities

**J** Jeffe Boats 06:21  
Yeah, Kali and Ganesha are the only two I know Yeah.

 06:22  
Yeah.

**D** Dan Maggio 06:22  
Mm-mm.

**K** Kathy Bush 06:24  
It's Shiva.

**J** Jeffe Boats 06:26  
Yeah

is she new?

**K** Kathy Bush 06:26

It's Shiva. You got exactly 14 of 18. So you passed. So Bert, Don't worry. We'll get you a t shirt, buddy. And we love you and we are glad you were on dry ground. Very glad that you were on dry ground, Bert. Now this next set of questions comes to us from Laurie Curtis, of Woodhaven, Michigan,

**J** Jeffe Boats 06:26

Ohhh!

**K** Kathy Bush 06:29

Guess so.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:33

I don't think I've heard the name before.

**K** Kathy Bush 06:37

But "these are questions", she said "about the 1500s". Now sadly, she does not give us any kind of of like grading scale.

**J** Jeffe Boats 06:39

Cool.

**D** Dan Maggio 06:40

Excellent.

**J** Jeffe Boats 06:40

(Laughs)

**K** Kathy Bush 06:42

So, I was gonna say, these are our kind of question, but they're about sayings or events from

the 1500s that she thinks are somewhat traditions today.

**D** Dan Maggio 07:07  
A ha.

**B** Beth Oljar 07:07  
Okay.

**K** Kathy Bush 07:08  
Why did June become the month where most people got married?

**B** Beth Oljar 07:14  
Because of the Summer Solstice?

**K** Kathy Bush 07:15  
Well, there's that, and I always assumed it was that; but she's got a totally different reason down here, which actually is probably a good reason

**J** Jeffe Boats 07:21  
because the word June is derived from Juno, the wife of Jupiter?

**K** Kathy Bush 07:27  
Good. Again, good allusion there, but this comes really down to some basic hygiene.

**B** Beth Oljar 07:34  
People are cleaner in June? That's when people took baths?

**K** Kathy Bush 07:37  
Exactly.

**J** Jeffe Boats 07:38  
Oh, because the water was warm enough to actually get in it.

**K** Kathy Bush 07:40  
They took their yearly bath in May.

**D** Dan Maggio 07:42  
Yearly?!

**B** Beth Oljar 07:43  
Yeah

**K** Kathy Bush 07:43  
Yeah, Dan.

**B** Beth Oljar 07:44  
Well, bathing was dangerous.

**J** Jeffe Boats 07:46  
They didn't know about microorganisms that would dump waste in the rivers?

**K** Kathy Bush 07:46  
Yeah. Mm-hm Exactly. So it says "Since most people took their yearly bath in May, they still smelled pretty good in June. And that's another reason," she adds "why brides carried a bouquet of flowers. It helped to hide any body odors, which is another tradition of why brides carry bouquets.

**D** Dan Maggio 08:07  
Interesting.

**K** Kathy Bush 08:08

I thought it was just so florists could make money (laughs) At least when my niece got married. I thought that was what it was.

B

Beth Oljar 08:13

Yeah, because it costs an arm and a leg. Because people did it?

K

Kathy Bush 08:14

"Now to continue", she said "with the bath mode, How does the expression "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater" How did that come into the lexicon? Yeah, it did - it could happen. But it has to do with how baths were done, the order of baths.

D

Dan Maggio 08:34

The baby was the last one to take a bath?

K

Kathy Bush 08:35

Yes, exactly. That's it. Dan. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the first bath, so his water was nice and clean. Then it was followed by all sons and men of the household, then women and finally children. Last of all, they would bathe babies. By then the water was so dirty, you could actually lose someone in it.

B

Beth Oljar 08:59

Blech!

D

Dan Maggio 08:59

Lovely.

K

Kathy Bush 09:00

Ohhh! Well, what's that scene for Monty Python where they say you know, "How do you know he's the king?" "Because he's not covered in (you know what)". Because I'm sure it was definitely funkadelic back then. How did the expression "It's raining cats and dogs" come in to our lexicon. Again, an expression that originated in the 1500s.

B

Beth Oljar 09:20

Did people used to throw the carcasses of dead animals on -

K Kathy Bush 09:27  
(Laughs) No.

B Beth Oljar 09:28  
you know, throw them out windows like they would -

D Dan Maggio 09:30  
picked up and dumped animals on the -

K Kathy Bush 09:31  
No, this does have to do with something about the roofs of most houses.

D Dan Maggio 09:33  
Because the animals would crawl up and then slide off?

K Kathy Bush 09:39  
Yeah, that happened. Okay, that's close enough. Houses had sash Yeah, they were thick straw piled high, but there was no wood underneath. So it was a place for animals to crawl into to get warm. So when it rained, it would become slippery. Animals could slip off the roof or slip through the sash. meaning it's raining cats and dogs.

D Dan Maggio 10:00  
Okay,

B Beth Oljar 10:00  
Got it.

D Dan Maggio 10:00  
Sure.

**K** Kathy Bush 10:01

I don't know about you, but I am like so glad I wasn't alive the 1500s I'm really sorry. How did canopy beds come into existence?

**D** Dan Maggio 10:11

to keep the cats and dogs from falling on you?

**K** Kathy Bush 10:13

Well, I'll accept that too, because it said "there was nothing to stop things from falling into people's houses because of the thatch, since there was no wood underneath. It posed a real problem in bedrooms where other things such as bugs, animals, whatever could fall on your clean bed. So a sheet would be hung over it to provide some protection. How did the expression "dirt poor" come about? Again, originated in the 1500's.

**B** Beth Oljar 10:40

Poor people couldn't afford soap and couldn't afford to bathe even yearly?

**K** Kathy Bush 10:43

It has something even more intrinsic with their homes That's right. The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Now she notes here that "the wealthy had slate floors. It could get very slippery in the winter when they were wet. So they would spread straw on the floor to keep their footing. But as the winter wore on, they kept adding more of it on there - they called "thresh" until you opened the door and it would start slipping outside.

**J** Jeffe Boats 10:47

Dirt floors. The threshold.

**K** Kathy Bush 11:15

That's exactly it. That's the next question. What term did this bring about? And it was the threshold because it kept the thresh down when you'd open the door or anything that way.

**D** Dan Maggio 11:24

These are good questions.



K Kathy Bush 11:25  
Aren't these interesting?

J Jeffe Boats 11:27  
It would have been interesting being a mathematician in that age if you - if you were privileged enough to have the money to go to college and learn math and science or what passed for it back then -

K Kathy Bush 11:29  
Oh, no doubt! Well, yeah

B Beth Oljar 11:36  
You could be Descartes.

J Jeffe Boats 11:37  
A person who understands basic high school - beginning college calculus, if they were to transport back there, would be the greatest mathematicians of the age.

K Kathy Bush 11:46  
Really? Well, wasn't their chemistry more like alchemy, though. It wasn't really chemistry, right?

J Jeffe Boats 11:51  
Yeah. Chemistry was definitely - The 1500s was interesting because science and and magic were sort of still intertwined.

K Kathy Bush 11:59  
Oh, okay.

J Jeffe Boats 11:59  
One of the first uses of mathematics was to chart stars.

K Kathy Bush 12:02  
Yes.

J Jeffe Boats 12:03  
The medical doctors would never see patients. They would read star charts and say "the stars say they should drink this potion". And, you know, they would never go near the sick person because. I mean, God forbid -

K Kathy Bush 12:12  
Yeah, I was gonna say - You could get pretty bloody sick. The expression "Pease Porridge hot, Pease Porridge cold, Pease Porridge in a pot, nine days old", relates back to the 1500s in what way?

D Dan Maggio 12:24  
It's the order in - You'd first have it hot and then you'd have a cold.

J Jeffe Boats 12:29  
That was the last time British cuisine was edible?

K Kathy Bush 12:31  
Actually, I'll go with Dan's - (The professors laugh) Well, I like Jeffe's too. though. It's true - that they did serve - the first week of the meal would generally be hot. Since the poor could not afford meat, they ate mostly vegetables. So they would eat it for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight, and could be cold in the morning and warmed up. Sometimes the food had been in the pot for quite a few days. So that's how they got the piece porridge in a pot nine days old.

D Dan Maggio 12:59  
Luckily, they didn't eat meat.

K Kathy Bush 13:00  
That's right. So while we think about that - mmm - tasty treat -

**P** Production Element 13:08  
(Ask The Professor FLASHBACK)

**M** Michael Jayson 14:33  
You're listening to an encore presentation of a classic Ask the Professor program recorded in September 2005. Featuring the late Professor Kathy Bush as moderator - on UDM'S Ask The Professor.

**K** Kathy Bush 14:47  
Ah, Welcome back to Detroit's theme song for the rush hour, Life In The Fast Lane, in deed. But we're back with some questions from Laurie Curtis of Woodhaven Michigan. And these are questions about the 1500's, and they are really interesting. I've got to admit these are very cool.

**J** Jeffe Boats 15:04  
Old school.

**K** Kathy Bush 15:05  
Old, old - ancient school. And last time you got the question about Pease Porridge hot, Pease Porridge cold, Pease Porridge in a pot nine days old, because obviously they must have ate at nine days old. But sometimes, "usually on feast days" it's noted, that they could obtain meat usually pork, which would make them feel that it was a special holiday. When visitors came over, they could hang up bacon to just show it off. It was a sign of wealth, therefore, that a man could do something that a commercial about perfume said that women could -

**B** Beth Oljar 15:40  
Bring home the bacon.

**K** Kathy Bush 15:41  
Bring home the bacon. Exactly. Yeah.

**B** Beth Oljar 15:43  
(Sings: "fry it up in a pan")

K Kathy Bush 15:44  
Fry it up in a pan. (Laughs)

B Beth Oljar 15:46  
I remember those ads for Enjoli.

K Kathy Bush 15:49  
Yes. That was the name of the perfume. Okay. They would cut off a little to share with guests, which would mean what expression that's commonly used today?

J Jeffe Boats 15:52  
Chewing the fat?

K Kathy Bush 15:52  
Chewing the fat. From the bacon. Yeah. Yeah, I think that's pretty hip. That's really interesting. Tomatoes were considered poisonous in the 1500's, although this was not really the case.

B Beth Oljar 15:54  
"And never let you forget you're a man" Very good.

J Jeffe Boats 16:16  
Probably ecause they closely resembled Belladonna. Same genus.

K Kathy Bush 16:18  
Maybe that was it. But she notes here that 'it was a food with high acid content.

B Beth Oljar 16:24  
Right.

K Kathy Bush 16:25

But something that medieval people used would actually make them - that would kind of leech on to the food and cause lead poisoning - or lead poisoning death. So what were those tomatoes put on that would cause this?

B Beth Oljar 16:42  
Lead plates?

K Kathy Bush 16:43  
Not lead plates, but a type of something that was very common even in colonial America.

B Beth Oljar 16:49  
Mercury.

K Kathy Bush 16:49  
Not mercury.

J Jeffe Boats 16:51  
Antimony? Arsenic?

K Kathy Bush 16:52  
This would be something that the plates were made out of.

B Beth Oljar 16:56  
Well, I thought a lot of them came out of wood.

J Jeffe Boats 16:58  
Clay?

B Beth Oljar 16:58  
Pewter?

**K** Kathy Bush 16:58  
Pewter

**B** Beth Oljar 16:59  
We'll get to the right metal eventually.

**K** Kathy Bush 16:59  
No, I never - But I would have thought the Bella Donna thing. That the way that the plant grew that they thought "Uh-oh, it's like nightshade. Look out!" We shouldn't be eating this", but I guess not. Now, bread was divided amongst people according to status.

**B** Beth Oljar 16:59  
There we go.

**K** Kathy Bush 16:59  
Yeah. So the pewter - Okay so workers usually got the burnt bottom of the loaf, guests got the top and the family would get the middle. But the guests who got the top also created this term, commonly used today to talk about the elite.

**B** Beth Oljar 17:32  
The upper crust

**K** Kathy Bush 17:33  
The upper crust. Yeah, I mean -

**B** Beth Oljar 17:36  
I had no idea that that was the origin of those - that this is the origin of these expressions.

**J** Jeffe Boats 17:40  
I wonder if this woman sending in the questions is a historian.

**K** Kathy Bush 17:42  
Uh, all she writes at the end is "Whoever said history was boring. educate someone". And I like that. I really like that salutation. I really do She's refuting that old Sting lyric "History will teach us nothing". Yeah, but it obviously doesn't. Now this also deals with drinking- this next question. Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey.

**B** Beth Oljar 18:03  
Mm-hm

**K** Kathy Bush 18:03  
And the combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for several days.

**B** Beth Oljar 18:07  
Go figure.

**K** Kathy Bush 18:09  
Yeah, cuz I bet that was some pretty potent ale.

**J** Jeffe Boats 18:11  
Is this the origin of "under the table"?

**K** Kathy Bush 18:13  
No, but it's the origin of the custom of holding a wake. Why is that a custom?

**J** Jeffe Boats 18:20  
A wake as in before a funeral?

**K** Kathy Bush 18:23  
"Wake" as in a funeral. Uh huh.

**J** Jeffe Boats 18:27

Well, to make sure they were really dead.

K Kathy Bush 18:28

That's exactly correct. That they would then put these people - lay them out in the kitchen table for a couple of days, and the family would gather around eating and drinking and using the table to see if that person would eventually wake up or not.

J Jeffe Boats 18:41

Similar things, I think, led to the notion of vampirism in Eastern Europe.

K Kathy Bush 18:45

Really?

J Jeffe Boats 18:45

People would be buried alive in these cheap caskets -

K Kathy Bush 18:48

Oh, yeah,

J Jeffe Boats 18:48

that were put underground. And they'd come alive, and sometimes they'd actually come back and you know, be able to get through the earth and come out.

K Kathy Bush 18:55

Sure, and probably want to go and kick somebody's -

J Jeffe Boats 18:57

And probably a bloody and dirty wreck when they did it.

K Kathy Bush 18:58

Oh, I bet



**J** Jeffe Boats 18:59  
or wolves would sometimes go into the cemeteries and dig up the bodies and eat them -

**K** Kathy Bush 19:03  
Sure

**J** Jeffe Boats 19:03  
and that led to the notion of werewolves,

**K** Kathy Bush 19:05  
Werewolves - of London. (Howls like a wolf) Yes, in deed.

**B** Beth Oljar 19:08  
That was such a great movie.

**K** Kathy Bush 19:09  
I loved that film. I really did. Okay, England is old and small and local folks started running out of places to bury people. So that's a nice little segue into this. Okay. So how did the expression "graveyard shift" come into being?

**J** Jeffe Boats 19:25  
Well, every now and then they would take the bones out of the graves and bring them to the charnel house where they would just put them in a big pile.

**K** Kathy Bush 19:31  
Yeah.

**J** Jeffe Boats 19:32  
You know, and then they'd use the new freshly dug up graves to bury the new people.

**K** Kathy Bush 19:36  
Okay. Yes.

**J** Jeffe Boats 19:39  
That's not just the English. They did it in France too .

**K** Kathy Bush 19:40  
I was gonna say, I know that it - I thought it was continental. I didn't know it was even restricted that way.

**B** Beth Oljar 19:45  
Mm-hm.

**K** Kathy Bush 19:45  
When reopening coffins, one out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside.

**J** Jeffe Boats 19:51  
Mm-hm.

**K** Kathy Bush 19:51  
Could you imagine that? That would be so horrible.

**B** Beth Oljar 19:53  
So one out of every 25 people was being buried alive?

**K** Kathy Bush 19:57  
Uh, I can't believe it's that low.

**B** Beth Oljar 20:00  
That would really suck.

**K** Kathy Bush 20:01  
I really think that is. So people began to use this to tie a string on the wrist of a corpse and tie it to this object so that someone who might be buried alive would be able to signal with - A hammer or a rock or something?

**J** Jeffe Boats 20:17  
A bell?

**K** Kathy Bush 20:18  
A bell.

**J** Jeffe Boats 20:18  
Yeah.

**K** Kathy Bush 20:19  
Right. Therefore it gave the expression "Saved by the bell" (Too bad Matt's not here for a SAVED BY THE BELL reference) -

**B** Beth Oljar 20:19  
Oh!

**J** Jeffe Boats 20:28  
Screech!

**K** Kathy Bush 20:29  
but also another expression that usually has been taken out of context to mean "really looks like". What is that expression? This person is a blank blank -

**J** Jeffe Boats 20:42  
Dead ringer?

K Kathy Bush 20:43  
Dead ringer.

J Jeffe Boats 20:44  
Yeah. To Whom The Bell tolls.

B Beth Oljar 20:46  
These guys are so clever.

K Kathy Bush 20:47  
No, but isn't that amazing? Well, again, there was no kind of, um -

B Beth Oljar 20:51  
Send us more of those, Lauriel

J Jeffe Boats 20:53  
Yeah, those were cool.

K Kathy Bush 20:54  
Excellent. I was gonna say, I just thought those were really interesting.

B Beth Oljar 20:58  
Mm-hm.

J Jeffe Boats 20:58  
Send us more questions about the walking dead.

B Beth Oljar 21:01  
And why it's not a good idea to store your corpses in the public water supply.

K Kathy Bush 21:05  
Uh, probably not.

J Jeffe Boats 21:06  
Just in time for Halloween.

K Kathy Bush 21:07  
That's right. Yes, Halloween is coming up. I love Halloween.

J Jeffe Boats 21:10  
I have to teach that evening.

K Kathy Bush 21:11  
You're kidding.

J Jeffe Boats 21:12  
Yeah. I can't give a little candy to the ghouls and goblins this year.

K Kathy Bush 21:16  
Oh no

J Jeffe Boats 21:18  
Makes me sad.

K Kathy Bush 21:18  
Couldn't you send them out on a math - see like how many caramels or something?

B Beth Oljar 21:22  
A mad scavenger hunt

A mad scavenger hunt.

**J** Jeffe Boats 21:24  
I'll probably give out candy in my class.

**K** Kathy Bush 21:26  
I know. I will always do that.

**B** Beth Oljar 21:27  
I buy candy every year, because the very first time I moved away from home and I had my own apartment, I was 19. I hadn't had time to get to the grocery store, and I didn't have candy. And I had a ton of trick or treaters and I just was so mortified to have to say "You know I'm sorry. I don't have anything for you". So although I have not actually had anybody trick or treat at my apartment complex that I live in -

**K** Kathy Bush 21:47  
Really?

**B** Beth Oljar 21:48  
No. Which is funny because there are a lot of kids there.

**K** Kathy Bush 21:52  
Yeah. Now, you live in an apartment complex, don't you?

**J** Jeffe Boats 21:54  
I have an attached condo,

**K** Kathy Bush 21:55  
Okay, do kids come around to trick or treat there?

**J** Jeffe Boats 21:58  
Oh yeah, quite a few in the neighborhood.

**B** Beth Oljar 21:59  
I just don't don't get any. But I always buy the candy.

**J** Jeffe Boats 22:01  
There are a few who are obviously not from the neighborhood just showing up because you know -

**K** Kathy Bush 22:04  
Oh, yeah, true enough. Oh, gosh, yeah. I know one year when I housesat for Edwin up in Sherwood Forest, (which is a pretty upscale neighborhood here in Detroit) there were kids coming by van loads from other neighborhoods. And I just got so cleaned out that - thank God - Edwin had this huge container of pennies. And I thought "okay, well, here goes".

**B** Beth Oljar 22:21  
What else are you gonna do?

**K** Kathy Bush 22:22  
and I just, like, started hitting their bags with pennies. And these kids thought they were dimes. (Laughs) So, I'm like, "Oh, yeah." Hey, they'll be well home and in their mom's van before they discover what's at the bottom of that bag.

**B** Beth Oljar 22:32  
Do kids still have the little orange cardboard "Trick or treat for UNICEF" boxes? Do you remember those?

**K** Kathy Bush 22:37  
I remember those. But I have not seen those in a long time, and that's why I'm thinking - I'm hoping this year for Katrina that maybe kids might think about collecting pennies or doing things that way.

**B** Beth Oljar 22:46  
Because that was like a yearly -

**K** Kathy Bush 22:47  
Trick or treat for Unicef, Absolutely.

**B** Beth Oljar 22:49  
One of the cool things about dressing up for Halloween was that you were trick or treating for UNICEF?

**K** Kathy Bush 22:52  
Yeah, that was kind of a fun thing. Well, our next set of questions deals about trivia about history and historical events.

**B** Beth Oljar 23:00  
Cool.

**K** Kathy Bush 23:00  
And some interesting facts here. The shortest war on record was between Great Britain and Zanzibar in 1896. How long did that war last?

**J** Jeffe Boats 23:12  
I think it was measured in hours.

**K** Kathy Bush 23:13  
Not even an hour.

**J** Jeffe Boats 23:15  
Really?

**K** Kathy Bush 23:15  
Not even an hour.

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**B** Beth Oljar 23:16  
15 minutes.

**K** Kathy Bush 23:18  
Low. Too low.

**B** Beth Oljar 23:19  
That's too low? 30 minutes

**J** Jeffe Boats 23:21  
38 minutes.

**K** Kathy Bush 23:22  
38 minutes. Exactly. On the nose.


**J** Jeffe Boats 23:24  
Oh, okay.


**K** Kathy Bush 23:24  
38-minute war.


**B** Beth Oljar 23:25  
Goll, I hate you, Jeffe.


**K** Kathy Bush 23:26  
I gotta know -


**J** Jeffe Boats 23:27  
That's the difference between 15 and 60.


 Kathy Bush 23:29  
I mean, I've gotta know what it was about. I want to know what you could fight over for 38 minutes.


 Jeffe Boats 23:34  
You know what, you'd have to put 22 minutes of commercials to fill the -


 Kathy Bush 23:37  
Right. There we go. Okay, war


 Jeffe Boats 23:43  
WAR on NBC.


 Kathy Bush 23:44  
Now, we need a sponsor.

 Jeffe Boats 23:45  
Budweiser would jump at this at half a second. .

 23:48  
Totally. At the height of its power in 400 BC, the Greek city of Sparta had 25,000 citizens. How many slaves did they have?

 Beth Oljar 23:58  
Far more.

 Kathy Bush 23:59  
Oh, yeah, way far more. Like

 Beth Oljar 24:01  
Like 50,000 - double the population?

Like, 50,000 - double the population:

- K** Kathy Bush 24:03  
Try even more than that.
- B** Beth Oljar 24:05  
75,000? 100,000?
- K** Kathy Bush 24:06  
More than 100,000.
- B** Beth Oljar 24:08  
Wow.
- K** Kathy Bush 24:09  
Yeah.
- J** Jeffe Boats 24:10  
200,000?
- K** Kathy Bush 24:10  
More than 200,000
- J** Jeffe Boats 24:11  
Wow! I suspect the primary purpose of the slave was to go fight Athens.
- K** Kathy Bush 24:12  
I know. These people were some lazy folks, I'm tellin' you. 500,000 slaves, Well, I mean, I'm wondering if that's - if they're counting like soldiery, or if they're counting, like, soldiery or they're counting their militia or whatever.

J Jeffe Boats 24:29  
Well, almost everybody would be their militia.

K Kathy Bush 24:30  
But, I mean, think about this. 25,000 citizens and 500,000 slaves.

J Jeffe Boats 24:35  
Sparta was the only civilization in history more war-driven than us. Yeah.

K Kathy Bush 24:39  
Yeah, and they were crazy

B Beth Oljar 24:41  
That would explain why. I mean that number of people would have allowed you to keep things extremely orderly and extremely disciplined.

K Kathy Bush 24:51  
I guess.

B Beth Oljar 24:52  
And hence, Spartan. Right? Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 24:55  
Yeah. There you go.

B Beth Oljar 24:55  
And they beat Athens. That was so wrong.

K Kathy Bush 24:59  
And the number is astonishing to me. Most people know that the name of the B 29 bomber that dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima was the Enola Gay. But what was the name of the B 29

dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima was the Enola Gay. But what was the name of the B 29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki?

**J** Jeffe Boats 25:13  
Hm, I didn't know that one.

**K** Kathy Bush 25:14  
You know, isn't it? They get no props.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:16  
They called the bombs Fat Man and Little Boy.

**K** Kathy Bush 25:18  
That's right. Fat Man and Little Boy. That's right.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:19  
I remember that. Well, it's a decent movie.

**J** Jeffe Boats 25:22  
That shows you - Don't be number two. Be first.

**K** Kathy Bush 25:24  
That's right. "Be number one!" I don't know. The Enola Gay and - Bock's car. Okay, so I wonder who Bock was. I don't know. When do historians estimate that acupuncture was first used as a medical treatment?

**J** Jeffe Boats 25:35  
This has got to be bc.

**K** Kathy Bush 25:51  
It is bc, totally.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:51  
And for sure in China. Right?

**K** Kathy Bush 25:53  
And in China. It was a Chinese emperor

**J** Jeffe Boats 25:58  
Wow. That predates geometry then.

**K** Kathy Bush 26:00  
I know. This is like super old.

**J** Jeffe Boats 26:03  
1000 BC.


**K** Kathy Bush 26:05  
Even more.


**J** Jeffe Boats 26:06  
Wow!


**B** Beth Oljar 26:06  
2500 BC.


**K** Kathy Bush 26:07  
You're close enough, dawg. It's 2700 BC,


**J** Jeffe Boats 26:10  
The world's oldest piece of writing isn't that old.


 Kathy Bush 26:13  
That's what I mean Then how do they know? I have no idea. I have no idea. But that's a good question for next time.


 Jeffe Boats 26:17  
(Laughs)


 Beth Oljar 26:20  
How do you document events in prehistory? That's a good -


 Kathy Bush 26:23  
By the oral tradition.

 Beth Oljar 26:25  
Presumably. But let me thank our panelists. Professor Boats

 Jeffe Boats 26:27  
I succumb to the pressure

 Kathy Bush 26:29  
Professor Maggio. (Professor Maggio had to leave early, so Kathy says goodbye for him) Bye, bye, bye. And Professor Oljar.

 Beth Oljar 26:32  
Had a great time.

 Kathy Bush 26:33  
As I did having you all here. Now this word from the University of Detroit Mercy.

 Michael Maggio 26:33



Michael Jayson 26:39

Email your questions to ATP@udmercy.edu. Or you may fax them to 313-993-1166, Attention: Ask The Professor.



Production Element 26:56

(Ask The Professor FLASHBACK)



Kathy Bush 27:57

Ask the Professor is transcribed in the facilities of the Briggs Building basement on the University of Detroit Mercy McNichols campus. Ask The Professor is produced, witnessed, technically directed and totally pulled together by Michael Jayson. And our executive producer is Dr. Vivian Dicks. So until next week, I'm your host, Kathy Bush. Go St. Louis Cardinals. Our dean needs you.



Michael Jayson 28:19

And we're back next week with another edition of Ask the Professor, so please plan to join us.