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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

University of Detroit Mercy, Ask the Professor, butter tarts, lard, TikTok, brain teasers, Mandarin Chinese, Australian capital, automobile names, reindeer names, common words, postal abbreviations, Shakespeare's sonnet, hot or spicy food, ginger pops.

SPEAKERS

Beth Oljar, Dave Chow, Announcer, Dan Maggio, Danielle Maxwell, James Tubbs, Matt Mio, Ph.D., Erin Bell

- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:01
The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask the Professor the show on which you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host, Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today. To my left, from the Department of Philosophy, it's Professor Beth Oljar.
- B** Beth Oljar 00:19
Hello, Matt. Good to be here.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:21
Hello. Did you enjoy a butter tart?
- B** Beth Oljar 00:25
I did not. I am not a raisin fan.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:28
Oh, I can't take that away from you. It's a quite a divisive issue.
- B** Beth Oljar 00:32

They're just humiliated grapes.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:35
The man who brought in those butter tarts was Professor Dave Chow,

D Dave Chow 00:38
Pleasure to be here, as always.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:39
From the department of living across the street from me.

D Dave Chow 00:41
Yeah, and also proud Canadian, because I went yesterday and just made my rounds in Canada. I had a good time.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:48
That's right. Dean of the neighborhood.

B Beth Oljar 00:49
Stand on guard for thee

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:50
Yes, Professor, Dan Maggio is here from the Department of Lego First Organization,

D Dave Chow 00:56
Part of Berkeley's finest.

D Dan Maggio 00:57
Yes, hello,



M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:58
Wait, Berkley's finest? Oh, okay, I was like, Dan joined the cops? like, anything's possible, I suppose.

D Dave Chow 01:00
Well, us.

D Dan Maggio 01:06
I wanted to comment on - You asked about butter tarts.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:09
Oh, yeah.

D Dan Maggio 01:10
So, when I go to Stratford, Ontario, there's a bakery there, and they have, like, all kinds of butter tarts. Boy, they have the best butter tarts,

D Dave Chow 01:10
They probably do.

D Dan Maggio 01:10
And I, when I asked her, I said, "Why are your butter tart so good?" She said, "Because we use lard".

E Erin Bell 01:24
Ooh!

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:25
Yep

D Dan Maggio 01:26

in the pastry. So -

J James Tubbs 01:28
The four letter L word

D Dan Maggio 01:29
Extra delicious,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:30
Extra good,

D Dan Maggio 01:31
extra fattening.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:32
Yes, wonderful.

D Dave Chow 01:34
It's for winter warmth.

E Erin Bell 01:35
I don't like where this segue could go.


M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:38
I was just going to say, Professor Erin Bell is here with us, director of the Detroit Mercy Writing Center,


E Erin Bell 01:44
Yeah, no, we're lard free since 2024





- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:48
How about, how about we jump over that and say, I saw the video, the Tik Tok, of your department, and it was very, very cool.
- E** Erin Bell 01:55
Um, yeah, that was fun. Now my face is really red. It's like lard and TikTok. Yeah, actually, a student approached me about that and said she was, like, looking for cozy spots to highlight on the University Tiktok, which I was like, Okay, we have a Tiktok YouTube situation.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:13
Absolutely.
- E** Erin Bell 02:13
It's a wave of the future, right? We've got to, you know, talk to students via YouTube and
- D** Dave Chow 02:17
Tiktok and Bluesky and every other channel
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:21
That's exactly right, many channels. Professor Daniel Maxwell from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is also here.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 02:28
Thanks for having me.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:28
You made it to midterm of your second semester. So, how does that feel?
- D** Danielle Maxwell 02:33
Yes.
- B** Beth Olliar 02:35


 Beth Oljar 02:55
Have you purchased the retirement clock yet?


 Danielle Maxwell 02:37
(Laughs) Uh, it feels good. The semester has been challenging in different ways, and so every other Friday, I'm always surprised with how my grades turn out. And today was a really surprising day where the distribution ended up being a U across the grades. And I'm like -


 Beth Oljar 02:55
instead of a bell?

 Dave Chow 02:57
An inverted bell curve?

 Danielle Maxwell 02:58
An inverted bell curve. And I was like, "Oh, this is concerning". So that's what I'm currently thinking about.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:05
Wow, you're expending some mental energy towards that. I mean, we all are, because we are always a little bit nervous to see how our students are doing. So that's very common. That's very common

 Danielle Maxwell 03:15
I'm very scared,

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:17
Folks. This is a program where you could send us questions regarding anything. If you stump the panel, you win a prize. If you don't stump the panel, you win a prize. You can send us the questions in a number of ways. Email us at ATP@UDMercy.edu, you can find us on Facebook and Instagram or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play Ask The Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. So Professor Stephen Manning sent these questions in, and it makes sense. Well, he always says that he really wants to be around when his questions are used

B Beth Oljar 03:45
Well, they are always really hard.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:47
They're hard, and also he doesn't remember what the correct responses are. So he feels like, if he participates, and I don't say it's him, that he's like in on the joke, but today he's not here, so we're gonna say "Prof's on the panel. These are actually a lot of fun, 18 brain teasers with a slightly different format. Each statement demands a true or false response. If false is the consensus, you must then provide an explanation for why you think so. Have fun with this word play". So that's cool. That's cool. He's sent us some questions here,

D Dave Chow 04:18
So we have to defend ourselves, huh?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:20
A little bit

D Danielle Maxwell 04:21
Claim, evidence, reasoning.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:22
Yes, and he knows -

D Dave Chow 04:23
Everyone's Kung fu fighting

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:24
us very, very well in terms of what our strengths and weaknesses are. So this should be interesting. True or false: No common uncapitalized English word starts with a silent letter N.

D Dan Maggio 04:39
No common -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:41
Uncapitalized english word starts with a silent N

D Danielle Maxwell 04:45
So, I'm thinking of things like knight, but that's the K

B Beth Oljar 04:48
True.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:50
True is correct.

E Erin Bell 04:51
Very good.

D Dave Chow 04:51
Okay, we don't have to defend, right?

E Erin Bell 04:52
Consensus. Okay, I know I was like, trying to go for like,

D Dave Chow 04:54
Because I was thinking like N-A, N - B, N - C, N - D. Nope.

B Beth Oljar 04:57
You'd think we were academics or something?

D Dan Maggio 05:00
Does that suggest that there's a proper noun that does?

E Erin Bell 05:02
Right

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:03
I believe that there's got to be like some Welsh, Let's be serious, That start with some silent letters.

B Beth Oljar 05:08
Where's Drew's mom when we need her?

D Dave Chow 05:10
Yeah, where's the cockney accent when we need it?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:12
Exactly.

E Erin Bell 05:12
Okay.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:13
We're ramping up in difficulty here. Australia is the only country whose name consists of another country's name around a pair of letters,

D Danielle Maxwell 05:23
Austria?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:23
So "Austria" is surrounding the "a-l" in the middle of Australia. But is there any other country whose name consists of another country's name around a pair of letters?

E Erin Bell 05:35
Oh, so if we say - but we still have to do a true and false and say whether this is true or false.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:40
Exactly,

D Dave Chow 05:41
Okay, I'm thinking like Liechtenstein.

E Erin Bell 05:45
I'm sure there has to be one, right?

D Dave Chow 05:47
Some long winded -

E Erin Bell 05:49
Uzbekistan? I don't know.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:50
It's not Chad. I can give you that clue.

D Dave Chow 05:52
Okay. It's not togo either. So

D Dan Maggio 05:57
I'm going through the countries, and this could take - What are there, like 204?

D Dave Chow 06:01
I'm looking at the map again.

B Beth Oljar 06:03
190 something.

E Erin Bell 06:04
Did you ever have that like animation or the, you know, Warner Brothers - (begins to sing)
"United States, Canada, Mexico, Panama, Haiti, Jamaica, Peru"

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:11
Yeah, exactly.

B Beth Oljar 06:13
I learned that song, but for all the states

E Erin Bell 06:15
Okay,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:15
Yes

D Danielle Maxwell 06:16
Yes

B Beth Oljar 06:17
learning them in alphabetical order.

E Erin Bell 06:19
It's from the Animaniacs.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:19
Animaniacs

D Danielle Maxwell 06:21
I learned that exact same song.

B Beth Oljar 06:22
Exactly.

D Danielle Maxwell 06:26
I'm gonna say it's false, but I don't have any evidence.

D Dan Maggio 06:29
I'm gonna say it's false, but I may have - Is it Iceland?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:32
It's not Iceland

D Dan Maggio 06:34
Isn't Ceylon a country?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:36
It is, but it's C-e-y

D Dan Maggio 06:40
I tried

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:41
That's really, really good. The answer is "true". So you're struggling for a reason. Oh, that's good. What I want you to do is gage that in the future, and if the consensus is "screw it", then just say "true", you know.

D Danielle Maxwell 06:47
Okay,

D Dave Chow 06:53
But we can't defend this one

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:54
In Mandarin Chinese -

D Dave Chow 06:56
Oh, for the love of God, I'm Cantonese

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:57
the word for sweet is the same as the word for sour reflected in the mirror.

D Dave Chow 07:02
Okay, okay, okay. That being said, Mandarin and Cantonese are written the same.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:09
Oh, thats interesting

D Dave Chow 07:10
It's the same written language, just pronounced differently.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:12
Okay.

E Erin Bell 07:12
So, Do you know how to spell out - ?

D Dave Chow 07:15
No. I'm functionally illiterate.

D Danielle Maxwell 07:17
I can't say false, because I don't know what evidence I would bring forward. I'd be like - it's just false.

D Dan Maggio 07:21
But if it's false, what evidence are you giving?

D Danielle Maxwell 07:23
It feels true?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:24
Well, you could extrapolate, if it was false, from the fact that we've heard this as - I don't know what you want to call it. We used to say things like "old wives tale". That feels a little antiquated now, but it's one of those things that's passed on. "Oh, did you know the word for crisis and opportunity is the same term in this language". You know, it's one of those kind of things. You may have heard before that the word for sweet in Mandarin is the same as the word for sour, but reflected in a mirror. Do you think it's true or false?

D Dave Chow 07:53
It could be because it's all pictograms, so it's usually forward - backwards kind of thing.

D Danielle Maxwell 07:57
Yeah.

D Dave Chow 07:57
So I'm gonna go, it's true.

D Danielle Maxwell 07:58
I'm gonna go true

- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:00
It's false. Sweet is tian de. and sour is suan de. So although the character for de is identical, the first character would not reflect correctly. And I don't know if Danielle knows this, but Professor Manning's background is in Chinese politics. He does know quite a bit of Chinese
- B** Beth Oljar 08:18
actually, when I tell my students why there's no difference between ethics and morals, philosophers typically don't we use them interchangeable. It's like one is a Greek root, one is Latin. Ethos, More. They both mean custom.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:34
Very good, very good.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 08:36
Hopefully that was one of the questions
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:37
We're about to find out.
- D** Dave Chow 08:38
No, no. But, getting back to that other question, like Mandarin and Cantonese are written the same so,
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:43
but different pronunciations.
- D** Dave Chow 08:44
Yes,
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:44
There you go.

- D** Dave Chow 08:45
Because I remember, like in Shanghai, my dad was communicating with a driver, but they literally had little strips of paper handing it back and forth to one another.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:52
Wow.
- B** Beth Oljar 08:53
It sounds like Moeka trying to teach Blackthorne Japanese in Shogun. "Well, there's different inflections". He's like, "Those sound exactly the same to me"
- D** Dave Chow 08:53
It was like watching a small ping pong match at the feet of me. Yeah, to those of us who don't hear it -
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:09
Right.
- D** Dave Chow 09:09
But yeah, they would communicate with little strips of paper.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:13
Augusta is the only US state capital whose name starts with a month of the year.
- E** Erin Bell 09:21
Oh my. June. Oh, no, that's not Juno. I'm like, trying to think of like -
- B** Beth Oljar 09:26
No, Juno is the capital of Alaska

E Erin Bell 09:28
Is it?

D Dave Chow 09:29
In that case

E Erin Bell 09:30
Was I right and I didn't even know it?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:31
Exactly correct.

E Erin Bell 09:32
Yes,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:33
It is false because of Juno.

E Erin Bell 09:34
Yes,

D Dan Maggio 09:35
Yeah, nice work

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:35
Yes. Did Juno that?

B Beth Oljar 09:37
We do now.

D Dave Chow 09:38
A bloom has not fallen off the rose just yet. So

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:41
Volvo is the only major make of automobile whose name starts and ends with the same pair of letters in the same order. So VO, of course, L, VO. Is there any other automaker that has a repeated set of letters in the same order at the beginning and end of its name?

D Dave Chow 09:58
Toyota?

D Danielle Maxwell 10:00
No, T-o, t - a,

D Dave Chow 10:02
Oh, darn

E Erin Bell 10:02
We have to go back to that string of questions a few weeks ago.

D Danielle Maxwell 10:05
I know. So I'm thinking back.

E Erin Bell 10:06
kind of like accessing data.

D Dave Chow 10:07
I'm thinking -

B Beth Oliar 10:08



Mitsubishi?



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:10

Dan is deep right now. He's,



Beth Oljar 10:10

No



Dave Chow 10:11

Mercedes Benz



Danielle Maxwell 10:12

No.



Dave Chow 10:15

He's thigh deep in the muck right now. - Um, hang on, I I think we can, pretty much cancel out all of the American made -



Danielle Maxwell 10:24

No. I'm thinking it has to be like an Italian car company, right?



Dan Maggio 10:26

I was thinking old and maybe car companies that don't exist anymore.



Danielle Maxwell 10:31

Oh, I have no chance then.



Dan Maggio 10:36

That was more than I knew

D Dave Chow 10:38
Oh

E Erin Bell 10:38
Are we struggling?

D Danielle Maxwell 10:39
I think we're struggling. So we're thinking -

B Beth Oljar 10:41
It feels true.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:42
It's absolutely true.

D Danielle Maxwell 10:44
Yes

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:44
Absolutely.

D Dan Maggio 10:45
That's why we're struggling.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:46
Not counting Rudolph, the next to last letter in all eight Santa's reindeers' names is E

D Danielle Maxwell 10:54
Okay, so there's Rudolph, there's Prancer, yeah, Comet, Vixen, Cupid. Cupid, Cupid

E Erin Bell 11:01
Cupid

D Danielle Maxwell 11:02
False, Cupid.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:03
False, Cupid is correct

D Dave Chow 11:06
Ah! Extrapolation.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:07
Yes, very well done. Committee is the shortest common word that has three double letters that appear not in order. There's an "i" in there.

D Danielle Maxwell 11:15
Mississippi.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:16
So common word,

D Dave Chow 11:16
Okay. What - Wookie doesn't count.

D Danielle Maxwell 11:20
Mississippi's too proper. Oh,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:22
Wookie does not count.

D Dave Chow 11:27
Oh, darn.

B Beth Oljar 11:28
Why would a Wookie live on Endor?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:30
(Laughs) That does not make sense.

E Erin Bell 11:33
I feel like we can find an exception. I feel like there's another one.

D Dave Chow 11:36
Beekeeper, bookkeeper.

E Erin Bell 11:38
Oh!

B Beth Oljar 11:40
Recommend. No. So we're trying to think of a word that has -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:45
A short common word that has three doubled letters, three pairs.

D Dan Maggio 11:50
Is bookkeeper a word?

D Dave Chow 11:51
Yeah.

yea,

D Danielle Maxwell 11:51
yeah, but are their two k's in that.

D Dave Chow 11:53
Beekeeper and bookkeeper are the longest words -

D Dan Maggio 11:55
I spell it with two k's, so I get -

D Dave Chow 11:59
If you're using the Maggio dictionary.

B Beth Oljar 12:00
So two C's - No

D Danielle Maxwell 12:02
Wait, bee, keep and all those only two sets of E's. Yeah, It'd be like, bookkeeper

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:03
So, bookkeeper feels like it's - but he has it phrased as "is the shortest common word".

D Danielle Maxwell 12:13
Oh Shortest.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:15
Bookkeeper has three sets. The thing is true, because committee is slightly shorter than bookkeeper is, but you were on the right track



- E** Erin Bell 12:22
It's one of those gotcha questions.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:23
It's a gotcha question
- E** Erin Bell 12:24
I'd like to see what Professor Manning's exams were like.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 12:27
I bet they were terrifying.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:29
The word gorgeous has two G's, a hard one and a soft one. No common uncapitalized English word has two soft G's.
- B** Beth Oljar 12:38
Gelignite? No. So, we want a word that has two soft g's?
- D** Danielle Maxwell 12:45
Two soft G's
- D** Dave Chow 12:52
Ginormous. No,
- B** Beth Oljar 12:55
It's only one g
- D** Dave Chow 12:56
Oh, sorry,

D Dan Maggio 12:56
is Gigi a common word?

D Danielle Maxwell 12:59
Gigi, all those grandma nicknames. Gigi,

B Beth Oljar 13:04
Gigantic. No.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:06
Oh, my word. You all are going through the whole dictionary

D Danielle Maxwell 13:08
Not gorgeous, but gorges.

B Beth Oljar 13:10
Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:10
So a very, very common spice, primarily in Asian cooking

B Beth Oljar 13:15
Ginger.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:16
Ginger is one. And a disease of the gums Gingivitus would also qualify.

D Danielle Maxwell 13:24
Gingivitus

E Erin Bell 13:24
That's a weird mashup.

D Danielle Maxwell 13:24
Okay

B Beth Oljar 13:26
Yeah, it's a pretty weird mashup

D Dave Chow 13:27
Ginger Grant. That's three G's

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:30
Groggy is the only common six-letter word with three G's in it. Six letter word with three G's, groggy. Is there another?

D Dave Chow 13:39
Google? Oh, no - no.

D Dan Maggio 13:43
Gaggle?

E Erin Bell 13:44
Gaggle. Good one.

D Danielle Maxwell 13:46
That's a lot of illiteration.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:47
.....

Oh, wow. That is definitely not here. Does gaggle have six letters in it?

D Dave Chow 13:51

Yes

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:52

It does. Ooh! He gave us so eggnog, which also qualifies, but gaggle, yeah, we're throwing that in there.

D Dan Maggio 13:58

For finding one that he didn't have listed we get credit for one of the answers that we got wrong

D Danielle Maxwell 14:05

Giggle

D Dan Maggio 14:05

giggle

E Erin Bell 14:06

Goggles.

D Dave Chow 14:07

That's it. we're-

D Danielle Maxwell 14:08

Profesor Manning

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:09

Tons of problems. Well, but the way the question is phrased "groggy is the only six letter word with three G's". It is not it's false. So eggnog is proof of that. Qatar is the only country whose name contains a q when written in Roman script,

D Dave Chow 14:15
It is not Starts with a Q,

E Erin Bell 14:26
Starts with a q, or contains ?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:27
No, contains a q

E Erin Bell 14:28
No. Ecuador

D Dan Maggio 14:29
the only country name you said?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:30
Mozambique is a violation.

B Beth Oljar 14:32
but Ecuador doesn't have a

D Danielle Maxwell 14:34
There's no q

E Erin Bell 14:35
because I'm thinking of Espanol

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:38

Iraq is on the list, but you were really, really close. What about Equatorial Guinea?

D Dan Maggio 14:38
Iraq

E Erin Bell 14:43
Yeah, that's what I was thinking

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:46
That's what you were thinking. No chemical element contains the letter J or Q.

E Erin Bell 14:52
Man, where's our chemist?

D Danielle Maxwell 14:53
I don't know. We don't have one. (Laughs)

B Beth Oljar 14:56
We actually have two There's gotta be one.

D Danielle Maxwell 14:59
No, I don't think there is. I've heard this before. I don't think that there is. There are certain letters that don't appear on the periodic table. And it's j and q

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:06
J and q do not appear on the periodic table.

B Beth Oljar 15:10
Pull out your little wallet copy.



D Danielle Maxwell 15:12
He probably has one.

D Dave Chow 15:13
No, no. does he?

D Danielle Maxwell 15:13
(Laughs) He does.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:16
It's not for personal use. It's my ACS membership card.

E Erin Bell 15:19
Oh my gosh

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:20
There is no J and no q

B Beth Oljar 15:22
That really doesn't make it any less nerdy.

D Danielle Maxwell 15:23
Have you ever needed to pull that out somewhere? Like, you carry that with you

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:26
I litterary brought it out at the dinner table last night. Moving on.

D Dave Chow 15:27
Wait a minute. Don't they have the periodic table upside down for t-shirts?

D Danielle Maxwell 15:29
I have one, but I keep it at home They mail you one each year,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:37
The letters X and Z combined have the fewest total pages in our modern American Dictionary,

D Dave Chow 15:44
not the OEM?

D Danielle Maxwell 15:46
Well, my last name has an X in it. It seems pretty rare.

B Beth Oljar 15:49
Well, the alternatives would be Q

D Dave Chow 15:53
or W, X.

D Danielle Maxwell 15:56
I feel like that's true.

D Dave Chow 15:57
Yeah. I would say so. Sure

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:59
It says here it's true. That in the American Heritage College edition, X only has a single page. Z has 5 y has six, and Q has eight.

D Dave Chow 16:11
It depends on what font you use too

B Beth Oljar 16:14
and how many points you get in Scrabble for using the letter.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:16
Oh, well, that's important.

E Erin Bell 16:17
And are you still putting two spaces after a period. Just kidding. Don't even get me started on that.

D Dan Maggio 16:20
Yes, I am, by the way. And don't try to make me change.

D Dave Chow 16:25
Erin, You're talking to the guy that tries to squeeze all the legal stuff on the syllabus on one page by making it two point over four, I got in trouble with Academic Affairs like you wouldn't believe.

E Erin Bell 16:37
That's not acceptable, my friend

D Dave Chow 16:39
Yes it is

B Beth Oljar 16:39
What did you do?

D Dave Chow 16:40
I squoze all the legalese on one page on my syllabus,

E Erin Bell 16:44
Two point

D Danielle Maxwell 16:45
All the copy and paste things you have to have in a syllabus.

D Dave Chow 16:47
It's ordinarily like eight pages I squeezed onto 1

B Beth Oljar 16:50
Mine are like 10 pages now

D Dave Chow 16:51
Yeah,

D Danielle Maxwell 16:51
yes, because there's so much

D Dave Chow 16:53
I want to save paper and squeeze it all into one sheet, but they wouldn't let me.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:58
Professors, the word horseshoer - one word - is the only common 10-letter word in which the first five letters are an anagram of the last five.

D Dave Chow 17:08
Wait a minute. What about taco cat?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:12
It's not a 10 letter word.

D Dave Chow 17:13
taco cats. Oh,

B Beth Oljar 17:15
Taco cat spelled backwards is taco cat.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:18
I mean, I feel like quote, unquote, giving this one away, it's false. But can you even get close to what the word is that the first five letters are an anagram of the last five? Horseshoer. I bet you could feel this answer in your gut

B Beth Oljar 17:21
in your gut?

D Danielle Maxwell 17:37
butterfly. No, not butterflies


D Dave Chow 17:39
What? Esophagus? No


D Danielle Maxwell 17:42
Are these called butter tarts?


D Dave Chow 17:46
Lard


D Danielle Maxwell 17:48
close enough


B Beth Oljar 17:50


 Ben Ojaer 17:50
should be tummy, something


 Dan Maggio 17:52
acid? stomach?


 Dave Chow 17:53
Reflux?


 Danielle Maxwell 17:55
Those are two different words.


 Erin Bell 17:56
Belly ache. No, sorry.

 Dan Maggio 17:58
Belly, stomach,

 Dave Chow 18:02
Intestinal

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:04
pretty close

 Dave Chow 18:04
tapeworm.

 Dan Maggio 18:07
Oh, all 10 letters are the -



M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:10
It's a 10 letter word where the first five -

D Danielle Maxwell 18:12
That's not your stomach, by the way.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:12
Intestines, is correct. The first five anagram to the second five.

D Dan Maggio 18:12
Intestines?

D Dave Chow 18:23
You know, Dan and I, we share one brain stem.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:25
You feel it in your gut That was my clue

B Beth Oljar 18:27
It's the gut.

D Danielle Maxwell 18:29
Okay,

B Beth Oljar 18:30
Trust me, I know

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:32
There is no common word of seven letter all different in which the letters are in alphabetical order, true or false?

B Beth Oljar 18:39
True

D Danielle Maxwell 18:39
That has to be true.

D Dave Chow 18:41
I'm thinking Aurelio Rodriguez back in the day, but no,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:44
No, it's true. They would not be in alphabetical order if it was actually out there. The sports teams names Mets, Jets and Nets differ by only their first letter. No two other teams in the NFL, NBA, NHL or MLB, have names that differ by only their first letter


D Danielle Maxwell 19:06
If only we had the Ligers.

D Dave Chow 19:06
Yeah.

E Erin Bell 19:07
Im thinking of Napoleon Dynamite and like "Liger"

D Danielle Maxwell 19:07
(Laughs)

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:14
That's actually a kind of a cool piece of trivia. That feels like it could show up somehow on Final Jeopardy.



- D** Dave Chow 19:19
Rams possibly. What else can rhyme?
- E** Erin Bell 19:21
The Jams, I don't know,
- D** Dan Maggio 19:22
The Wings? Does something rhyme with the Wings
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:25
the things
- D** Dave Chow 19:28
Flyers? No. Lightning.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:31
I could lead you there, because it is kind of fun. It's false. There is another one -
- E** Erin Bell 19:36
Okay
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:36
across these leagues, it is a team, (this is about as far as I'll go), from Milwaukee -
- D** Danielle Maxwell 19:42
The Wild? No, that's Minnesota Wild. That's close.
- E** Erin Bell 19:46
No, oh my goodness,

D Dan Maggio 19:48
The Ducks

D Danielle Maxwell 19:48
the Brewers?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:49
and a team from Anaheim.

D Dan Maggio 19:50
The Ducks and the Bucks,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:51
The Ducks and the Bucks

E Erin Bell 19:52
and not the other one you were thinking,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:54
That's awesome. That is awesome.

B Beth Oljar 19:56
I was gonna say University of Oregon, but they're not NFL. Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:59
Yeah, those ducks are good ducks. No common, uncapitalized 10 letter word can be spelled using five consecutive state postal abbreviations.

E Erin Bell 20:10
Oh, Lord have mercy.

D Dave Chow 20:11
Oh, for the love of.

D Danielle Maxwell 20:11
How is he coming up with these?

B Beth Oljar 20:13
There's got to be a website

D Danielle Maxwell 20:15
Yeah, a processor

D Dave Chow 20:17
You know, there's a PhD paper in this, right?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:19
No common uncapitalized 10 letter word can be spelled using five consecutive state postal abbreviations

E Erin Bell 20:27
And they have to be consecutive .

D Dan Maggio 20:27
I'm guessing that's false, or otherwise they wouldn't have phrased it that way.

D Danielle Maxwell 20:30
Yeah, it has to be false,

D Dave Chow 20:31

Yeah,

- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:31
No, it's true. No, it's true. But several shorter words using fewer than five, things like Mainland, Memorial and Mandarin can actually be spelled with the postal code put in a certain order
- D** Dave Chow 20:45
I was gonna go meemo or something like that.
- E** Erin Bell 20:46
Someone was probably sitting in the post office in line one day, and just like - You know?
- D** Danielle Maxwell 20:49
Let me make these words
- B** Beth Oljar 20:51
Right. Like "Hmm, it's either this or shoot people" (The professors laugh)
- E** Erin Bell 20:57
I'll make up the word, I guess, today
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:00
All I know s that there are common things, for those of us who've had kids, our kids come home from school and it looks like they're expected to know this to pass some sort of quiz or exam or whatever. And it's hard to be in education, because you just start going after a while, you know three boys. The youngest one is in seventh grade. I just don't think you even need to know that a 50 cent piece exists. I mean, you're expected to know that. That's part of the state learning outcomes. And the one that comes to mind for me is you have to know all the postal codes of the United States, including the ones that make no sense, like Maine being Me and Montana being MT, and it just, it stinks. That's all I've got to say.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 21:47
Alaska's AK.

B Beth Oljar 21:48
I don't think that's a bad piece of knowledge.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:51
I think it's a good piece of knowledge, okay, but it's just sort of like, wow, like that they're holding us to this standard, like, "Dad, who is this guy?" "Well, that's JFK, and it's a really big coin"

D Dave Chow 21:59
Or Sacagawea

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:01
"You've never seen one, and I haven't seen one in 25 years, but you gotta know this"

B Beth Oljar 22:04
The Kennedy 50 cent piece.

D Dave Chow 22:08
But then think about how difficult is for Americans to pass their own citizenship test.

B Beth Oljar 22:13
No kidding.

D Danielle Maxwell 22:14
No, no, I'll fail it

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:15
That's a classic.

D Dave Chow 22:16



DAVE SHOW 22:10

Yeah. How many people could?



Danielle Maxwell 22:17

No one,



Erin Bell 22:18

Right



Beth Oljar 22:19

This is like when Luke started asking Yoda so many questions that Yoda just died



Erin Bell 22:25

He's like, that's enough.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:27

What about this? What about this? What about this?



Erin Bell 22:31

Jeez, Matt



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:33

That's so true. He's like -



Erin Bell 22:35

Must rest.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:36

Yeah, exactly. Sunset is coming.



D Dave Chow 22:38
We should pull out the US citizenship to see if we can pass it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:41
I think that you all could figure this one out pretty easily. Udder, u, d, d, e, r is the first common word in the dictionary, starting with the letter U.

D Dan Maggio 22:49
Wait, say it again.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:55
Udder is the first common word in the dictionary -

D Danielle Maxwell 22:58
Ubiquitous.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:58
Yeah. Ubiquitous is the example. It is not

B Beth Oljar 23:00
I knew it had to be U-b, but I couldn't think of a word.

D Danielle Maxwell 23:03
Ubiquitous.

D Dave Chow 23:04
I was thinking UCLA

D Danielle Maxwell 23:07
That's a word, you-cla. (Laughs)

- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:08
Yeah.and the problem is, if we open up a dictionary right now, I think there's a lot of what we would not call common words at the start of that, like, if it says Uzbekistan. I know Uz is at the end, but it's like they're all proper nouns, you know. So it's - He's definitely playing a little bit with us, but we've had fun. He's got one more for us here. I think this will be fun. Shakespeare's Sonnet number 155, contains an accidental acrostic. The initial letters of the first five lines spell the word toast.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 23:39
Oh, that has to be true. That's so random. It has to be true
- B** Beth Oljar 23:43
So it's not the "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?"
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:47
Well, this is sonnet 155,
- B** Beth Oljar 23:49
Yeah, but I don't have them memorized by numbers, does anybody? Probably Shakespeare scholars do.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:55
The one that I had to memorize in high school, I think I could remember.
- E** Erin Bell 23:58
You had to memorize one ?
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:59
Yeah, I had to perform it. It was a declamation.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 24:02
Oh, my goodness.

- E** Erin Bell 24:03
Oh, you had declamations.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 24:04
I've never even heard of that.
- D** Dave Chow 24:05
A who-sa?
- E** Erin Bell 24:06
A declamation.
- B** Beth Oljar 24:07
I love Shakespeare's sonnets.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:08
I have to get back on the horse, but I memorized it so hardcore. I only remember the couplet at the end and I can't really
- D** Dave Chow 24:15
In sing-song, right?
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:15
I can't really - Yeah. Well, it's sort of sing-song with the iambic pentameter.
- D** Danielle Maxwell 24:19
It has to be true. That's so random,
- M** Matt Mio. Ph.D. 24:21

It's false. Shakespeare only wrote 154 sonnets.

B

Beth Oljar 24:27

That's a trick question.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:28

(Laughs) Now that is what we call the Stephen Manning special

B

Beth Oljar 24:33

Yeah, some of the dialog in Deadwood is in iambic pentameter.

E

Erin Bell 24:37

Oh!

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:37

No. Do they like tell you, or do you feel it when you're listening to the conversation? Well, I've read it. Wow,

B

Beth Oljar 24:44

that some of it was in iambic pentameter. And then the next time I watched the series, I'm like, "Yeah, yep, right there, right there, right there". And uses it a lot the way Shakespeare would do, to foreshadow something going on that the audience isn't seeing.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:58

That's cool,

B

Beth Oljar 24:59

right?

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:59

That's cool

B Beth Oljar 25:00
Oh, yeah, such a good show.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:03
"If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved". There you go. That's the bit of the end.

D Danielle Maxwell 25:09
Fantastic performance

D Dave Chow 25:11
Author! Author!

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:12
Since 1990. (laughs) Okay, let's go to one of the Burroughs family imponderables. And I don't think we've done this one yet, unless you all yell at me when I say it.

D Danielle Maxwell 25:22
We love to yell at you.

B Beth Oljar 25:23
We might just do that anyway.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:24
Might just do that anyway. Favorite hot or spicy food. And I'm just gonna let you know that I'm not a friend, or rather, my gut is not a friend to spicy food. But I have recently become very addicted to these. the trying to hurt you on purpose ginger pops. There's one that's like, Jamaican, hot, hot, hot, or whatever, and I could just drink it all day. I find it super refreshing.

D Dave Chow 25:26
How do you do that ?

How do you do that?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:45
I don't know. I can get away with it.

D Danielle Maxwell 25:50
You can't have, like, medium pad tai, but you can have this?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:53
No. I cannot have medium pad tai

D Dave Chow 25:55
You can't do citric acid, and yet you can do this.?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:57
No, seriously, and I love it. It tastes really good.

D Danielle Maxwell 26:00
Where do you find these?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:01
Westborn (Laughs)

D Danielle Maxwell 26:04
Okay.

E Erin Bell 26:04
Challenge accepted.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:05

So what is your favorite hot or spicy food? Even if you don't like hot or spicy foods, there's probably one thing that you're like, "Oh, you know, every once in a while"

D Danielle Maxwell 26:11
I had pad tai last night. It was spicy, and I'm having it for breakfast tomorrow (Laughs)

D Dave Chow 26:19
and lunch and dinner.

D Danielle Maxwell 26:21
There's so much. They give you so much.

B Beth Oljar 26:24
I'm kind of like you. I'm not really into super spicy food. I like the spices in tacos.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:31
Okay, all right, Dave, I know you're thinking really hard,

D Dave Chow 26:34
I'm thinking really hard, because there's lots of hot food that I like-

B Beth Oljar 26:37
like some red bird pepper or something like that

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:40
Of course.

D Dave Chow 26:40
No there's - Okay, there okay, there used to be a spice that my parents used to have in their pantry called Lan Chi chili paste. Okay. I mean, it was a staple for the longest time, and then the company suddenly went belly up.

D Danielle Maxwell 26:49
Can you describe the color?

D Dave Chow 26:54
It's red,

D Danielle Maxwell 26:54
like, bright red?

D Dave Chow 26:55
Very red.

D Danielle Maxwell 26:55
Okay, that's a good kind.

D Dave Chow 26:57
I still got two jars of it. Okay. Now this is something I should ask you chemists. Should you put soy sauce in the fridge?

D Danielle Maxwell 27:03
Mm-mm

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:04
I always do.

B Beth Oljar 27:05
I do

D Dan Maggio 27:05

I don't.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:06
Yeah, I always do.

B Beth Oljar 27:07
I think it says "Refrigerate after opening"

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:10
And I'm sure that yours is on the shelf and we're morons.

D Dave Chow 27:13
Oh no. I mean, every Chinese person I know, it's just on the shelf because the salt contents

D Danielle Maxwell 27:17
Yeah. That's what I was told.

D Dave Chow 27:18
It doesn't mold.

D Danielle Maxwell 27:19
It doesn't mold.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:19
Erin and Dan, we haven't heard from you yet. Anything?

D Dan Maggio 27:23
I don't really -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:23

Not even a good Italian sausage?

D Dan Maggio 27:25

Yeah, good hot Italian sausage. I like a good pepperoncini.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:27

There you go

D Dan Maggio 27:29

but only if they're fresh. I don't like the ones that are like - five years old, a little leathery, but I don't mind hot food. I don't usually, like. go for it, though.

D Dave Chow 27:32

leftover

E Erin Bell 27:37

Okay,

D Dan Maggio 27:38

What about you?

E Erin Bell 27:40

Um, I have a broadly European background. So Surprise, surprise, the Scottish and Polish foods I grew up on are -

D Dan Maggio 27:49

Pretty bland?

E Erin Bell 27:50

Yeah, even like a kielbasa, like Polish sausage, it isn't - It's got flavor, it's got garlic, but it's not hot. So I've evolved a little bit. I do like my Thai food as well. I do like Indian food.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:02
There we go. We covered a lot of ground here. And, not surprisingly, finish on a note of food, like we always do,

B Beth Oljar 28:09
Yes,

D Dave Chow 28:09
Always coming back to food.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:10
I'm afraid that the time has come for us to say goodbye. Danielle,

D Danielle Maxwell 28:14
Adios,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:15
Erin

E Erin Bell 28:15
Bye,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:16
Dan

D Dan Maggio 28:16
Bye.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:17



Dave,



Dave Chow 28:17

See ya



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:17

And Beth



Beth Oljar 28:18

Auf Wiedersehen



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:19

And now these words,



Announcer 28:20

You can email Ask The Professor at ATP@UDMercy.edu, or visit the Ask The Professor Facebook page.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:30

Ask the Professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week, I'm your host, Matt Mio.