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Subject: Fwd: The English LanguishIf you haven't seen this, I think you will enjoy it.

To: Bob Skwirot/ARRBcc: From: Cathy Rodriguez/ARRB Date: 11/10/97 11:19:23 AMSubject: Fwd: The English LanguishTo: Jean.Narcum @ Washcoll.EDU, Jean.Berry @ Washcoll.EDUcc: (bcc: Cathy Rodriguez/ARRB)From: Jennifer.Bates @ Washcoll.EDU @ INTERNET @ INTERLIANT Date: 11/10/97 10:54:09 AMSubject: Fwd: The English Languish> We need to refresh ourselves in the English language.>> Let's face it . . . English is a crazy language. There is no egg> in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in> pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or> French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while> sweetbreads, aren't sweet, are meat.>> We take English for granted. But if we explore its pair o' doxes,> we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are> square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.>> Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not> one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not> a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and> get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If a> vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?>> Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?> Ship by truck and send cargo by a ship? Have noses that> run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on> parkways?>> How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,> while wise man and wise guy are opposites? How can> overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot> and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot> as hell one day and cold as hell another?>> Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only> when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful> carriage (horseless) or a strapful gown (strapless)?> Met a sung hero (unsung) or experienced requited> love (unrequited)? Have you ever run into> someone who was combobulated, gruntled, ruly or> peccable? What happens to 'dis'?>> You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language> in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in> which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an> alarm clock goes off by going on.>> English was invented by people, not computers, and> it reflects the creativity of the human race (which of> course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars> are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, > they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, > I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.>>>> Get Your Private,

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