

# If love is truly blind, why is lingerie so expensive? (20, 10, 12)

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When I was in University, I took several philosophy courses. I guess I thought I'd eventually make a good taxi driver. If you want to get the lay of the land quickly, over the years, I have discovered that taxi drivers are best equipped to parse the local situation in a few key words.



One of the courses that I studied was existential philosophy which revolves around the concept that the individual is solely responsible for giving meaning to life and therefore living life in a passionate and sincere form of authenticity. With this course infirmly in the back of my mind, I recently encountered a series of questions geared to seniors which I will share with you. Each presents its own existential dilemma.

First, is it really good if your vacuum sucks? This is not a trick question, but will establish the fact that word choice in communications is definitely a tricky subject. Next, why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand? This reminds me of the bases in baseball. They are bases, not plates; hence home plate should really be first base, and that way, everyone gets to first base no matter how much he or she sucks with regards to romance.

Speaking of word choice, if a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would you ever know? I suppose that the easy answer is to have more than one dictionary available, but let's move ahead in our existential quiz. Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack? This has always bothered me. Why not simply say it's out of order? I guess that implies that there's a queue and that somebody perhaps cut into the line which is now either out of order or whack.

If you were in a line and that line was moving too fast, why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing? The line is presumably moving in one direction, but is it up or down? I'm really getting confused. I guess in reality a line could move back and forth say if there was a strong gust of wind, but let's not go there.

If someone has little hope of succeeding, why does "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing? A chance should be anatomically neutral if you get my point. Fat and slim should have no bearing except when running a marathon when I would definitely favour someone slim over someone fat. Of course, if it were long distance swimming, I might favour the fat chance over the slim chance.

Ever watch a tug boat in action, those tiny little creatures that move much bigger ships about? Okay, why do "tug" boats push their barges instead of tug them? I guess a "push boat" just sounds too peculiar, but I would fancy a "shove" or a "thrust" boat. In fact, I think that a "thrust boat" has a certain appeal to it, a sense of power and action that tug does not acquire. Tug also sounds like it might take quite a long time for it to get anywhere, don't you think?

Did you watch any of the World Series games? So, why in the seventh inning, did they sing "Take me out to the ball game" when they were already there? And why are these same people sitting in the "stands" when they are made expressly for sitting? Baseball seems to have a lot of existential issues. And Mr. Shakespeare, if all the world is a stage, where does the audience sit?



Next, if love is truly blind, why is lingerie so expensive? And why is bra singular but panties plural? I can't understand clothing and its trends.

Finally, why do I press harder on the buttons of my remote control when I know the batteries are dead? I guess for the same reason that I double press elevator buttons – insurance.

Try explaining insurance to an existential philosopher. Fat or slim chance!