



## Tongue Twisters

A tongue twister is a phrase that is difficult to say.  
Try saying these tongue-twisters without twisting your tongue!

One-One was a racehorse.  
Two-Two was one, too.  
When One-One won one race,  
Two-Two won one, too.

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,  
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,  
Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't very fuzzy... was he?

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sick sheep

Mares eat oats and does eat oats,  
and little lambs eat ivy.  
A kid will eat ivy too, wouldn't you?



A skunk sat on a stump  
and thunk the stump  
stunk, but the stump  
thunk the skunk stunk.



She sells seashells  
by the seashore.

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked. If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?

Unique New York

A Proper Copper Coffee Pot

Toy Boat



Eleven benevolent elephants



## Celebrate National Volunteer Week April 10-17

Volunteering is an important American tradition. We are grateful to all our tutors, unit directors and other volunteers for their service and commitment. Thank you!

### Shakespeare

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> this year, we commemorate the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, a man considered to have been one of the greatest writers in the English language. Among his works, Shakespeare wrote 154 sonnets (14-line poems) and 38 plays. Though he died in 1616, his words live on, four centuries later. In fact, the Bard (as he is also known) has been so important to the English language that many lines from his plays and poems have become a part of our everyday language. Here are some examples:



#### into thin air

*used to describe the complete disappearance of something*  
The magician made the rabbit vanish **into thin air**.

#### it was Greek to me

*used to express an inability to understand*  
I tried to understand the complicated physics experiment, but **it was Greek to me**.

#### budge an inch

*change your opinion even a little, usually used in the negative*  
My boss is rarely willing to compromise and refused to **budge an inch** on our recent salary negotiations.

#### a tower of strength

*a source of great support*  
My husband was a **tower of strength**, helping me emotionally and physically after my mother died.

#### good riddance

*expressing satisfaction that something or someone has left*  
Our troublesome neighbors have just moved and I say **good riddance** to them and their noisy dog.

#### tongue-tied

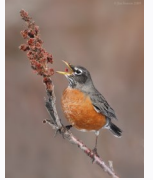
*a state of speechlessness or confusion*  
Sheila was so shocked at the news that she couldn't say a thing; she was **tongue-tied**.

## Culture Corner

### April is National Poetry Month

Robert Frost is one of America's most famous and beloved poets. He was born in 1874 and spent much of his adult life in New England, which was the setting for many of his poems. He died in Boston in 1963.

Frost was a US Poet Laureate, and he is known for his realistic depictions of rural life and his command of American colloquial speech.



#### A Minor Bird

I have wished a bird would fly away,  
And not sing by my house all day;  
Have clapped my hands at him from the door  
When it seemed as if I could bear no more.  
The fault must partly have been in me.  
The bird was not to blame for his key.  
And of course there must be something wrong  
In wanting to silence any song.

*Robert Frost*

### Conversation Topics

Do you have any favorite poems? What do you like about these poems? Do you know any poems in other languages? If you translate them into English, how does that change the meaning? Is there a poem you know by heart? Teach it to your conversation partner.

### Put a Poem in Your Pocket

Thursday, April 21st is **Poem in Your Pocket Day**. If you want to participate, it's very simple: write down your favorite poem on a piece of paper and put it in your pocket. Throughout the day, read your poem out loud to friends, co-workers, or anyone else you happen to meet.



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