

Reading

The authors would like to make it clear that none of the following jokes has been written by them. They are typical of jokes which exist in books of jokes and on joke websites. The jokes printed here are among the least offensive! As you read the jokes below, rate each one for its level of humour and level of offensiveness:

HUMOUR

A: very funny

B: a bit funny

C: not funny

OFFENSIVENESS

A: very offensive

B: a little offensive

C: not offensive at all

Joke 1

Q: How can you tell when a lawyer is lying?

A: His lips are moving.

Joke 2

A woman was paying for some items in a supermarket – a pint of milk, a packet of bacon, a small bag of rice and a few vegetables. The man at the checkout said, "I bet you're single, aren't you?" "Well yes, I am," the woman replied. "How did you know?" "Because you're really very ugly," replied the man.

Joke 3

HOW TO IMPRESS A WOMAN

Compliment her, cuddle her, kiss her, caress her, love her, stroke her, comfort her, protect her, hug her, wine and dine her, buy gifts for her, listen to her, respect her, stand by her, support her, go to the ends of the earth for her.

HOW TO IMPRESS A MAN

Arrive naked ... with beer.

Joke 4

How do you make a dog drink?

Put it in a liquidiser.

Joke 5

Q: How do men sort their laundry?

A: 'Filthy' and 'Filthy but still wearable.'

Joke 6

Q: What has four legs and eight arms?

A: A pit-bull terrier in a children's playground.

Joke 7

How do you make a cat go 'woof'?

Soak it in petrol and throw it on the fire.

Joke 8

There was a young man from Calcutta,

Who had the most terrible stutter,

He said, Pass the h-ham,

And the j-j-j-jam,

And the b-b-b-b-b-butter.

Joke 9

A young man with a wild and multi-coloured hairstyle sits next to an old man on a park bench. The old man stares at the young man. "What's the matter, old man?" says the young man. "Never done anything crazy in your life?" The old man replies: "Yeah. When I was in the Navy, I got really drunk one night and had sex with a parrot. I thought you might be my son."

Joke 10

Q: How do you know when you're too fat?

A: When you step on the scales and it says 'To be continued.'

Joke 11

Q: If your wife comes out of the kitchen to nag you, what have you done wrong?

A: Made her chain too long.

Joke 12

Q: Why do Italian men wear lots of gold chains around their necks?

A: So they know when to stop shaving.

Match the following reactions to the relevant jokes above:

- Anybody who thinks setting fire to an animal is funny needs psychiatric help. They are sick!
- That's in really bad taste. People who have a speech impediment can't help it.
- I don't think you should joke about people's appearance. It's not their fault!
- I don't get it. (*I don't understand the joke.*)

Discussion

Did you find any of the jokes offensive or 'sick'? Which, if any?

Who would be offended by the jokes above? Consider each one with a partner.

Are there any categories of jokes that you would describe as offensive that were not included above?