

APPLES TO APPLES

I wonder how
I'm going to go about
writing this. Sitting some-
where for 3 hours and observing
a thing seems like a daunting task.
However, if I really think about it, I've
definitely sat somewhere for more than 3
hours watching tv, playing video games, or
watching tiktoks. What object will I observe for
3 hours and how I should describe it is what I'm
thinking about right now. Should I start describing
the object objectively and then move into describ-
ing it conceptually? Anyway, I'm just going to grab
something simple like an apple and see where I go
from here.

This apple I am observing is about the size of my fist. I
remember grabbing this one out of a basket of others and
it fitting comfortably in my hands. Its color is a bit faded
as if it had been sitting in the basket for a while. I wonder
why apples are such a staple fruit in our culture.

Does anyone else find it interesting that when we first
learned the English alphabet, we were all taught "A is for
apple?" At least for me, I remember apples being a big
part of my curriculum from preschool to like first grade.
I remember having a whole unit on apples, learning
about Johnny Appleseed and all of the products that
apples are used to make (applesauce, apple cider,
apple juice, etc.). Even when learning addition and
subtraction, we used apples in word problems and
as a visual representation of adding or
subtracting.

Growing up in New York, I've always
wondered why its nickname was the
"Big Apple." After asking Google, it
seems that there are many theo-
ries of where its nickname
originated from. One of
the theories

states that
it comes from horse
racing articles in the 1920s
by sports journalist, John J.
FitzGerald, who heard two African
American stable hands use it to refer-
ence New York. I also learned that the term
"Big Apple" meant something regarded as the
most significant of its kind and/or an object of
desire and ambition. Which makes sense because
New York was the best of its kind.

Now I'm thinking about the song "Low" by Flo Rida
and T-Pain when they sing about "apple bottom jeans
(boots with the fur)." Turns out apple bottom jeans were
a real thing in the early 2000s. Apple Bottoms was a
brand of jeans founded by Nelly (yes, the hip hop artist)
for women with fuller hips a.k.a apple bottoms. Believe it
or not, someone can still purchase Apple Bottom jeans off
of Poshmark.

I can't believe that I forgot about Apple, the mega-corpora-
tion. Probably one of the most well-known and praised
brands in the world. Do you think when Apple the compa-
ny pops into people's heads first when someone mentions
an apple now? When I type in the word 'apple' into Goo-
gle, the very first thing that pops up is everything about
Apple the company. There is next to nothing about
apples (the fruit), except on the image tab. It's funny
that apples have been so ingrained in our culture,
that now I have to specify what I'm talking about
when referring to an apple (the fruit).

It's interesting that by looking at this apple
for so long, I was able to generate this
much information about apples. I'm
sure that I could write a million
pages on the various meanings
and uses of apples.