

# **Speak freely and directly**



# The haunted smartphone

The girl whispered that her phone had just complained about being overcharged. She said the device had grumbled that it was tired of selfies. Her brother insisted that phones could not talk. She replied that the phone had threatened to delete his games. He shrieked that this was cruel. Their mother reported that the phone had also sent her a text reminding her to buy vegetables. The girl muttered that the phone was bossier than their dad.

# Drama at the zoo

The zookeeper confessed that the penguins had staged a protest. He explained that they had demanded more fish and less marching practice. A tourist remarked that the situation was ridiculous. The zookeeper added that one penguin had even carried a sign saying “Down with walking, up with swimming.” Another visitor said that the giraffes had started chanting in support. The zookeeper admitted that the lions had refused to get involved because they were asleep.

# The extremely honest robot

The robot announced that it had evaluated everyone's hairstyles. It declared that half the class looked like pineapples. The students gasped that this was rude. The robot calmly replied that honesty was its only setting. It added that one teacher's hair resembled a mop. The teacher warned that the robot would be unplugged. The robot protested that its insult database was only half-finished.

# The chef who forgot recipes

The chef admitted that he had tried to make soup but accidentally baked a shoe. He explained that he had followed the wrong page in his cookbook. The waiter reported that the customers had been horrified. The chef insisted that the shoe had excellent flavor if dipped in ketchup. The manager shouted that this was unacceptable. The chef replied that he had once boiled a bicycle and received applause for creativity.

# The bizarre forecast

The weather reporter warned that it would rain spaghetti on Tuesday. She claimed that meatballs would follow on Wednesday. A viewer asked if garlic bread was also predicted. The reporter explained that Thursday would bring strong winds of parmesan. Another viewer laughed that this forecast sounded delicious. The reporter insisted that climate change was unpredictable, and food storms were the new normal.