



THE BEATLES

THE WONDERFUL BEATLES IN AN INTERVIEW WITH DUSTY SPRINGFIELD

On 17th August 1960 a boy group from Liverpool gave a concert at the famous Kaiserkeller in Hamburg – the Beatles. Fifty years later, and thanks to youtube, you can enjoy this really funny interview with some charming young men. I wish I had been there! What a flirt John was!

*Deutsche Aufgabenstellung:
Zunächst schauen Sie das Video auf
meiner Webseite ohne Hilfestellung an,
danach lesen Sie das Skript mit.*

Here is your task

1. Print out the script.
2. Without using the script, watch the video that is linked on my website on <http://www.rhinevalleyinstitute.com/aktuelles.html> and try and understand what they are talking about – here are some clues: Fans have sent in some questions which concern greyhounds, sleeping with your eyes open, Paul's eyebrows, screaming girls and John's teeth.
3. Listen again, this time reading along. Unfortunately some parts were simply incomprehensible.
4. Do you notice the typical fillers that people use in spoken language? I have marked some in bold (*fett*).



D: I got some questions to ask you here. Please could you tell me the name of your racing greyhound?

Paul: Ah, I haven't got one **actually**.

D: You haven't ?

Paul: No it's a, a girl sent in a letter to me and she said would you like a **gray ah gracing reyhound***, and I said err yeah, but she hasn't sent it yet.



D: She hasn't ? oh. (...)

Paul: Pardon? (Dusty at the same time "sure she does") She hasn't sent it yet, I hope she does though **you know**. (That'd be a great one).

D: Here's a great one, listen, listen: is it true you sleep with your eyes open?

Paul: **Well you know**, I haven't seen myself do it but **actually** the fellas say that, say that I do, they have actually seen me sleeping with my eyes open.

D: **Yeah, yeah**, how can you do that?

Paul: I don't know, **you know, just sort of** half open...

D: This is clever, **just** brilliant, Paul. Please ask Paul if he plucks his well-shaped eyebrows. (I think he must) Do you?

Paul: No.

D: You know it doesn't look so. No, they are perfect (...), girls, **they are absolutely beautiful***². Paul, do you mind girls screaming all through your act?

Paul: No, **well**, we like them screaming, generally all of us, but it is a bit much all the way through. But we love them screaming.

John (in the background): Hear hear.

D: John, this is a question which you have probably been asked a thousand times before but you always, all of you give different versions, or different answers, so you're gonna tell me now how did the Beatles get their name?

John: Eer, I just thought of it.

D: You just thought of it? Another brilliant (Beatle)

John: No, not really.

D: Were they called anything else before? Prettier?...

John: They were called the Quarrymen.

D: Uh, you rugged character. Oh, John, **listen, listen**, do you have false teeth, as they always look so even. Even?

John: No, they are all chipped and battered.

D: No. Girls, would you say his teeth were chipped and battered?

John: No, they're real (in the background: no, they're beautiful, lovely teeth)

continued...

D: Is it true that when you were a kid you were shot at for stealing apples?

John: Yes, yes.

D: Is this what these beautiful marks are **again**?

John: No, they're scabs.

D: Let's have a look – show them your scabs. There is nothing there at all. You've **just** got a beautiful (complexion?)

John: Let me see your scabs.

D: I think this is where we better start finishing. What are going to sing next?

John: She loves you

D: Of course.

Soften your spoken language – Die Anwendung von Füllwörtern

Fillers make your language more authentic and more natural. They soften what you say – this might mean you sound more polite (depending on the context of course).

Choose the right filler! Sometimes there is more than one possible answer.

1. I _____ like him. (He is not the kind of guy I would usually fall in love with but he is quite cute somehow) *quite, kind of, particularly*
 2. Let's play cards. _____ (Or we could play monopoly or Skippo...) *sort of, and so on, or something*
 3. I have so many things things to do, _____, I won't be able to make it to your party. *you see, whatever, this and that*
 4. I have _____ (so many things) to do, so I won't be able to make it to your party. *particularly, and so on, zillions of*
 5. After a long telephone conversation (indicating that you should come to an end)... _____, I'll get back to you as soon as I can. *finally, this is the end, anyway*
 6. The weather was _____ perfect. *sort of, kind of, just*
 7. The food at that new restaurant is _____ terrible. *badly, particularly, kind of*
 8. I often watch football with my boyfriend but I don't understand the game. And _____, to be honest, I'm not _____ interested in it. *theoretically, anyway, kind of, really*
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***1 Notice the spoonerism? (Schüttelreim)**

Paul actually mixed up the starting letters of racing greyhound and said gracing reyhound. This is called a spoonerism. Reverend Spooner of New College, Oxford, was famous for mixing up letters and he once exclaimed "Three cheers for our queer old dean!", instead of dear old queen, referring to Queen Victoria.

***2 Notice the exaggeration? (Übertreibung)**

Instead of saying "they are beautiful", Dusty says, "They are absolutely beautiful." This is called an exaggeration. Other examples for exaggerations are: "I have tried calling you a zillion times, but you weren't there." or "The traffic on the A3 was absolutely horrible."

Solutions:

1. I kind of like him. (He is not the kind of guy I would usually fall in love with but he is quite cute somehow) *Ich mag ihn irgendwie.*
2. Let's play cards or something. (Or we could play monopoly or Skippo...) *Lasst uns Karten oder sowas spielen.*
3. I have so many things to do, you see, I won't be able to make it to your party. – *Ich hab so viele Dinge zu tun, weißt du, dass ich es nicht auf deine Party schaffen werde.*
4. I have zillions of things to do, so I won't be able to make it to your party. *another example of exaggeration (Übertreibung)*
5. After a long telephone conversation (indicating that you should come to an end... Anyway, I'll get back to you as soon as I can. *also gut, jedenfalls*
6. The weather was just perfect. *Das Wetter war einfach genau richtig.*
7. The food at that new restaurant is particularly terrible. *Das Essen war besonders schrecklich.*
The food at the new restaurant was kind of terrible. Das Essen war irgendwie schrecklich – eine Untertreibung.
8. I often watch football with my boyfriend but I don't understand the game. And anyway, to be honest, I'm not really interested in it. *Und überhaupt, um mal ganz ehrlich zu sein, bin ich sowieso nicht wirklich interessiert daran.*

Dieser Newsletter ist eine Idee von Nicole Tomberg, um kurz und knapp in unregelmäßigen Abständen Infos und Übungen in der englischen Sprache zu bieten. Ihre Emailadresse habe ich von früheren Kontakten gespeichert. Ich möchte Sie keinesfalls belästigen. Falls Sie also diesen Newsletter nicht zugesandt bekommen möchten, sagen Sie mir doch bitte kurz Bescheid und ich werde Ihre Adresse aus dem Verteiler löschen. If you find any mistakes, you may keep them. It only shows how good your English is.
