LOGOLOGICAL ENLIGHTENMENT

ANIL
Perth, Australia

How many logologists does it take to change a light bulb?

Answer: one, a Yankee turned Aussie who changes it to a light globe. (This is just another example of the many differences between our two languages. I think an English person would do it similarly.)

Merriam-Webster (Web-3) would have to use a tall ladder to change bulbs in that way:

BULBS BULLS Bolls BOoLS BOOBS BLOBS GLOBS GLOBE(s)

Alternatively, how many anagrams might it take to change a light bulb? My best answer is nine, involving a still taller ladder. But this time it’s a ladder of anagrams rather than a traditional word ladder of cascading substitutions. And instead of changing the words, it describes (with a lot of help from a translator footnote) the actual physical process of changing a light bulb, this time in a big ballroom or sports hall.

BIG BALL ‘HUT’

(HALL, BUT BIG):

A LIGHT BULB?

GIT “HALL BUB”

T’ HUG BALL BI-

T, LUG HI, BLAB,

‘LIB’ BUG-HALT,

HIT “BULB GAL”,

BAG, BILL HUT!

“A burnt out light bulb? Get the janitor (hall Bub) to grab the new bulb (ball bit), haul it up the ladder while blabbing to you about what he’s doing, open (ib) the bulb protector (bug-halt), put the bulb into the female socket (bulb gal), bag the burnt out bulb, come down and send a bill to the hall (hut) management.”