THEOLOGY

ANIL
Perth, Australia

It's a charade, isn't it, how Believers consider the study of religion to be the ology. As a blasphemer I instead requisition THEOLOGY to serve as a logological term for studies of the word THE. (If you object, just call it the-ology.) For starters, I investigated how much mischief can be wrought by inserting "the" into the midst of known names, eponyms or pseudo-eponyms. The first below started it all and is the model for the rest. I exclude boring examples involving personal nouns, like Eric the Ambler, unless there is an affinity, like James the Brown. While most have some affinity, others are purely comical and not theologically correct, like Abraham the Lincoln.

Oedipus the Complex Poor bloke had "relations" but no Freud to sort out his complexities.

Albert the Einstein His name is an eponym. But some say that in fact he was no Einstein, that his name just happened to be the same as the slang term "Einstein".

W. C. the Fields Good advice. Pee and poo outdoors.

George the Bush Comparable intelligences. Also related to outdoor relief stations?

Lenny the Bruce Heir of Robert the Bruce, Scottish rebel hero. But was Lenny or Robert gay?

Richard Fosbury the Flop Flop, heck. He won Olympic gold in 1968 with his superior back-first high-jump style. The Fosbury flop is now the standard technique used by all.

Isadora Duncan the Donut A contortionist?

Dawn French the Kissker Then French the Letter?
(A French letter is something the maleman brings. More an envelope really.)

The the Beatles The the greatest! Revolutionary beetle-beagle hybrids.

George the Beadle A Nobel geneticist, also part beagle. Not George the Harrison.

J. Edgar the Hoover In Oz, hoover is the generic term for a vacuum cleaner. Old JEd cleaned up all right, infamously. But he didn't suck up to anyone! (Except his boyfrined.)

Herbert Hoover the Dam And damned. He Presided over the big crash of 1929 and offered no relief. (Antonym. He didn't dam the Great Depression but could have, many say.)

J. Paul the Getty Very getty. And keepy.

Gautama the Siddhartha Private Buddhist joke.

Alexander the Haig Pinch He scotches any rumours that he drinks too much.

Titus a Boiled Owl So filled with the Spirit(s) that he confuses definite and indefinite articles.
Bob the Great White Hope  Bob Hope is rhyming slang for dope.

Tacitus the Understood  (Must I spell it out for you?)

Leon the Trotsky  If Stalin was constipated, Trotsky was just the opposite.

Norbert the Wiener Dog  A cybernetic dachshund? Or just an invention of Gary Larson?

B. F. “The Mule” Skinner  Stubborn in his views, or just a half ass horse? (Mule skinner is slang for a mule driver, best known today from folk song.)

Woody the Allen Wrench & Screw  A wrench is a yank-jerk. (This one wrote itself. I don’t personally share its low opinion of love able old Woody.)

Lucille the Ball  Ball of fire? Or sharp as a ball?

Peter the Boyle  Ouch!

Niels the Bohr  Quantum mechanics is not boring—if you’re a maths whiz like you ought to be!

Dan Quayle the Birdbrain  I apologise for this crass insult. To birds. Especially quails.

Greta the Garbo  Garbo is Oz slang for garbage collector. Did she collect unsavoury followers? Is that why she wanted so much to be alone?

Francis Bacon the Burgher  “Model citizen,” without cheese.

Marquis the Sod  A sod is Brit slang for an unpleasant person and for a pervert.

John the Donne Thing  A science fiction monster? Or am I being undecorous?

Irene the Dunne Thing  Not only from Kentucky, she was also badly done by in many film roles.

Huey Long the Shot  Assassinated in 1935 after becoming a long-shot Presidential candidate.

Ogden Nash the Teeth  Was he was paid by dentists to create tooth-achey humour?

L. Ron Hubbard the Old Mother  Mother to Scientologists. Any other meanings purely coincidental. I think.

Dennis the Grass Hopper  Easy Rider chopper hopper. But no “grass” (Brit slang for informer; from grasshopper, rhyming slang for copper).


Dean Martin the “I”  The cuddly, ever-tipsy egoist. (Hint: it’s all a charade!)

Mick Jagger the Naughty  Fans throw themselves under him as if he were a Hindu god.

Philip the Roth of God  another naughty boy
Andrew Mellon the Collie  A cur, many say, but rich and smug. hardly melancholy.

Ellery Queen the “By Bi” EQ is the joint penname of two collaborators. And a bi is half queen. (No knowledge of their sexual preferences implied.) Their books all said “By-bi” to a killer as well.

Phil the Silvers Lining  One-lining it, that is.

Ernst the Mach Turtle Not slow, nor a phony from Alice in Wonderland, this physicist-philosopher did greatly influence Einstein’s relativity of time theory.

Ronald the Reagan Gnomics Both gnomics, a platitude-user who became an (unwitting?) sinister “gnomes of Zurich” type.

Vanessa the Red, Grave A real heavyweight Leftist—without being obese.

Eddie Murphy’s the Law! The ultimate comedian. All goes right. The other Murphy’s Law is repealed.

Ralph Nader the Zenith Paradoxical figure, yes? (No?)

G. Raft the Corrupt A movie villain, true, but George also affiliated with gangsters in real life.

Daniel Webster the Wordsmith Both Websters, Daniel the famous orator and our Noah.

Fats the Domino Effect If you’ve seen him live you’ll know what I mean.

Hershey the Bar(bara) Yummy!

Doris Day the Bed Not in her movies! They were all Day the Dream.


George Bernard Shaw the Grovy A shaw is a small thicket or grove. Groovy, hey?

Orville & Wilbur the Wright Stuff Planewrights.

Oliver the North West Passage into Iran.

Thomas More the Pity (Unless you’re an anti-Catholic Anglican.)

Russell “The Scare” Crowe eg, Romper Stomper.

Jodie Foster the Child star.

Herbert the Read Well read? Well read!

Henry the Kissing-German Every night he kisses his controversial Nobel Peace Prize.