

# REJOINDERS

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Would you like to join the tennis club? I'd LOVE to! How about the Sierra Club? NATURally! And the cereal club? Not on your LIFE! The Action Club? AFFIRMATIVE! You get the idea. In the two puzzles below, try to match each invitation in the left-hand column with the appropriate reJOINder in the right-hand column. If you think some are unforgivably awful puns, join the club! See Answers and Solutions for the answers.

Would you like to join

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the Laverne club?              | a. aye, aye               |
| 2. the anti-scale club?           | b. count me out           |
| 3. the Good Morning America club? | c. forget it!             |
| 4. the egotists club?             | d. gladly                 |
| 5. the cross-eyed bear club?      | e. groovy                 |
| 6. the Nanette club?              | f. guess not              |
| 7. the Newsweek club?             | g. I don't give a damn    |
| 8. the Calvin Klein club?         | h. I don't have time      |
| 9. the Miss Piggy club?           | i. I'll pass              |
| 10. the Ford-Nixon club?          | j. moi?                   |
| 11. the Rhett Butler club?        | k. never, never!          |
| 12. the filthy-dirty club?        | l. no                     |
| 13. the Ebert club?               | m. Roger                  |
| 14. the proofreaders club?        | n. nope                   |
| 15. the Peter Pan club?           | o. no soap                |
| 16. the slang club?               | p. not in a million years |
| 17. the knockout club?            | q. not today              |
| 18. the quarterback club?         | r. no way!                |
| 19. the Alzheimer's club?         | s. o.k.                   |
| 20. the exaggerators club?        | t. okey-dokey             |
| 21. the Annie club?               | u. oh, no!                |
| 22. the phonograph record club?   | v. pardon me?             |
| 23. the compulsive rhymers club?  | w. Roger                  |
| 24. the Yoko club?                | x. surely                 |
| 25. the initials club?            | y. tomorrow               |
| 26. the Dr. club?                 | z. yess                   |

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| 1. the ingrate club?             | a. absolutely  |
| 2. the varicose vein club?       | b. all right   |
| 3. the German philosophy club?   | c. certainly   |
| 4. the Nancy Reagan club?        | d. check       |
| 5. the first person plural club? | e. conceivably |
| 6. the anti-perspirant club?     | f. definitely  |
| 7. the Japanese theater club?    | g. fine        |

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8. the vigilante club?             | h. I. Kant            |
| 9. the 18-hole club?               | i. I suppose          |
| 10. the Spanish optometrists club? | j. negative           |
| 11. the gamblers club?             | k. nix                |
| 12. the Rush Limbaugh club?        | l. no                 |
| 13. the Diet Pepsi club?           | m. no(h)              |
| 14. the bad-hair-day club?         | n. no thanks          |
| 15. the Arafat club?               | o. nothing doing      |
| 16. the Beethoven club?            | p. of course          |
| 17. the halitosis club?            | q. oui                |
| 18. the Groucho Marx club?         | r. possibly           |
| 19. the darkroom club?             | s. perhaps            |
| 20. the shaving club?              | t. si                 |
| 21. the chess club?                | u. sure               |
| 22. the ennui club?                | v. uh-huh             |
| 23. the Jeopardy club?             | w. why not?           |
| 24. the relative club?             | x. yessir             |
| 25. the nine lives club?           | y. you bet!           |
| 26. the pregnancy club?            | z. you bet your life! |

In a New York Times advertisement December 18 1983, Fred the Furrier thanked "1475 Carols, 2870 Barbaras, 2567 Anns, 633 Alices, 22 Elizabeths, 675 Natalies, 1 Zoe" for their making him New York's Furrier. Is this a true tabulation of his customers? If so, their relative frequencies are somewhat at variance with figures cited in Leslie Dunkling's *First Names First* (Universe Books, 1977). Assuming Fred's customers were typically born in 1925, the ranks of these names are, respectively, 30, 2, 10, 22, 7 and above 50 for the last two. Fred seems to have far fewer Elizabeths than one would expect, but far too many Carols and Natalies. Was the copywriter overly influenced by the nearness of Christmas?