

ANACROGRAMS 2: ACRONYMS; SINGLES; PHRASES

ANIL

Perth, Australia

Anacrograms, introduced in May, are anagrams of acrostics of text. Here are numerous examples from common idioms and sayings. (Part 3 will be from quotations.) I occasionally cheated by modifying the wording slightly, obviously or unobtrusively. The most interesting anacrograms logologically are spelled without rearrangement. I call these acronyms. They are anacrograms in the sense that charades and half-palindromes are anagrams. Reverse acronyms spell backwards. After examining thousands of targets, I found surprisingly few good ones, and they mostly very short (section I). The few longer ones are rather forced. I fared better where I could play with the letters (II and III) and use polyanagrams—two or more anagrams of the acrostic joined in tandem to make a single statement. Polys are relegated to the end of each sub-section. (Each section has a sub-section of antonyms or contrary views.) Solo verbs are punctuated as if sentences, same subject.

I.a. ACRONYMS & REVERSE ACRONYMS

After rain comes sunshine. arcs [rainbows]

another day, another dollar a dad

Better a dinner of herbs than a stalled ox where hate is. Bad, oh? Ta, sow Hi. [I opt geniality, thanks.]

Facts are stubborn things. fast [fixed]

God of Our Fathers Goof?
[Was creating Man a big mistake? Or creating God?]

Our country, right or wrong. O, crow.

out of one's depth Do "O-o!"

Keep creditors at bay. Back. [...your debts.]

Sorrow keeps coming unsent for. Fucks.

The love of money is the root of all evil.
Ea ort I molt. [Pious, I slough off every scrap of wealth.]

the naked truth TNT

The natives are restless. rant [point—
The peasants are revolting. rapt counterpoint]

There is no medicine against death. Damn it!

tug of war tow

War is the science of destruction. Wits OD.

Witch of Endor "Woe!"
[She, via the ghost of Samuel, prophesied Saul's defeat]

Achilles' heel Ah-ha!

a spot of bother a sob (a SOB?)

Every man is the son of his own works.
Emit "So, how?" ...emits "Oh! Ow!"

Get a life! Gal? Lag? [Life partner or life sentence?]

odd numbers no., (no), no., (no), no., ...

I.b. ACRONYM & REVERSAL ANTONYMS and Other Counters

bundle of joy job [synonym as well]

call of nature con [or synonym: 'false trots']

love and marriage Lam!

pie in the sky pits [literal or figurative]

Second thoughts are best. stab

Self-sufficiency is the greatest of all wealth.

Sit, go "Aw." [Give up and moan instead.]

sink or swim SOS [alternative 3]

The wages of sin is death, eternal death.

(two-sided) [matter of opinion]

Thought is free. "Fit!" [You, conform!]

What's mine's only mine. (w. Mom)

I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul. I at momfiat.com's.

[at Mother's beck and call via internet]

II.a. SINGLE WORD ANACROGRAMS

(Others of these occur in polyanagrams later.)

affair of the heart oath

A fool laughs when he is threatened.

half-wit [or Enlightened!]

A gourmand is everything from soupy to

nuts. feasting [soupy: vomiting drunk (slang)]

Every picture tells a story. Tapes.

faster than a speeding electromagnetic ray

Faster? [impossible (Einstein)]

Get a kick out of a native romper. kangaroo

God's in his heaven. High

"Great God Amighty!" "Gag!"

I never promised you a rose garden. praying?

In vino est veritas. *Vive!*

My lips are sealed. Slam!

on the level lot [for a flat building?]

play fast and loose Flap. [flapper girl; untied sail]

Poverty is not a crime. Panic [...nonetheless.]

sitting on the fence "soft" [toward both sides]

Suits you to a T. tasty

"There is no medicine against death.": mantid

"There's small choice in rotten apples.": racist?

Variety's the spice of life. volts [electric!]

War is the science of destruction. sod-wit

The wages of sin is death. sod-wit

O death, where is thy sting? sod-wit

[A sod-wit (nonce) is death-minded.]

Yesterday's rock is tomorrow's dust. dirty

Anger makes dull. 'dam' mad [Ire blocks thought.]

Ill-gotten gains seldom prosper. pigs' gips

Little strokes fell great oaks. golf's flogs [chip shots]

neck of the woods wont town [your usual place]

Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.

soil-rapt polarist [(nonce) provincialist polariser]

sow wild oats (Sow ows?) [female pig?]

II.b. SINGLE WORD ANTONYMS etc

bun in the oven obit

chip on your shoulder cosy [cozy (Brit.)]

Divine right of kings (dork!) [synonym too]

Experience keeps a dear school. Asked.

[Found out the easy way.]

impatient as the wind Wait.

looks good on paper glop

paddle your own canoe Copy.

The lack of "necessities" is the root of all

evil. toleration [...of one's imagined "needs"]

The shortest answer is doing. staid

—and dancing in the streets. staid

IIIa. PHRASE ANACROGRAMS

from Proverbs, Idioms, etc.

A beggar is never out of his way. a hobo win:
a hobo w. "in" ["at home" anywhere]

**A blister will rise upon each one's tongue
that tells a lie.** 'tale wart' bout

**A bridle for the tongue is a necessary piece
of furniture.** an apt Off bit

A good face is a letter of recommendation.
'Fair' gal, o? [pretty or honest-looking]

A guilty conscience needs no accuser. Can nag.

**A handful of patience is worth more than a
bushel of brains.** Wait, Hop-a-bomb!

Anything'll fit a naked man. Fan, Ma!

As a tree falls so shall it lie. As is, flat.

**Every sin brings its natural punishment
with it.** I spin web.

Get a move on! Ma: "Go!"

I definitely would not kick her out of bed.
How I'd bonk!

I haven't got a thing to wear. That wig?

I look hi and fall low. hi fall

incongruous: where U.S. laws are made.
I'm U.S. law.

It ain't over till the fat lady sings. last of it

**It is a silly fish that is taken twice with the
same bait.** Sift baits, twit!

It's a no good, dog eat dog world. A wedding?

knock the daylights out of one Do KO to.

**Less of your courtesy and more of your
purse.** Pay, my cool.

**March comes in like a lion and goes out like
a lamb.** I call, am all go; I go, am all call.

Am all logical. [Baa humbug]

Necessity is the mother of invention. I'm it, no?
Nit, *moi*? [I'm not a nitwit, I'm a product of the necessity
of inventing an anacrogram (while slipping in an acronym).]

**Never assume that habitual silence means
ability in reserve.** Smart in? *Ha!*

Nothing costs so much as what is given one.
"owing" scam

Old praise dies unless one feeds it. Up "I" food.

**One's got to eat a shovel-full of dirt before
one dies.** Bod, eat sod, go.

out of the frying pan into the fire off to pit

Point Percy at the porcelain. pp tap

**Serendipity means searching for a needle in
a haystack and finding a farmer's daughter
instead.** Aha, find a Miss FFA! [Fut. Farm. Am.]

Some thistle is a fat salad for an ass's mouth.
"Fat!" if am ass (If am fat ass?)

TEACHER: I wish you to pay a little attention.

STUDENT: I'm paying as little as I can.

Sap act: "I pay a li'l wit."

The light is on but nobody is there. No bit lit.

There is no accounting for human tastes.
thin, fat [the Spratts]

**The sparrow is sorry for the peacock at the
burden of its tail.** "Spot bit, it's *fat*."

We shall lie all alike in our graves. Ail, go, was.

**What is so funny about legs? The bottom is
at the top.** "flaw" at sit-bit

**Age does not give sense, it only makes one go
slowly.** Aging's dooms: doom's saging? doom's
saggin'? [Is the ager's fate 'wisening' or just wizening?]

A gentle heart is tied with an easy thread. (Ah, a wet git with a gate we tag a hit.) [a mark; wet = liberal]

Believe nothing of what you hear and only half of what you see. Sow No by a "Oh? Why?", sway No by "Oh? How?"

Believe nothing and be on your guard against everything. Ban boyage! Beg a nay, bo.
[Bid farewell to childhood prejudices. Just say no, fella.]

Do as I say, not as I do. "I said" and (I did): "as an aid!" said ('n' a sin I add, a disdain)

Give a dog a bad name and hang him on it. Ahh, I ban a dog, a "Bad"—oh, I hang!

Head them off at the pass. hot tap to path

He that has a great nose thinks everybody is speaking of it. 'Hag nose' hit it. I hate thing so.

He who studies to fight is always eager to fight. Was the "tiff at whiff" set. [slightest whiff of a threat]

Lie back and think of England. Oblate, lobate 'table', o? [Oblate means vertically flattened.]

Life's an incurable disease. A lid laid. 'Laid' I, lad. (Life, you're an incurable disease *daily*.)

Little thieves are hanged but great ones escape. Beg-loath, hot bagel be th' goal. ...be th' gaol!
The OB 'lag' (th' ole bag) let go—bah! [Old Boy crim]

No one is completely worthless—they can always serve as a bad example.

We act a basic no-no ABC case, wait.
[They also serve who only stand and wait.]

S/he that once hits will ever be shooting. shot's web: "Who's best?"

the end of the world as we know it (O, wake, twit, wake to wit!)

The horses of hope gallop speedily, but the asses of experience go slowly. Goth bogs haste, Thoth bogs sage. [Youthful haste is bogged by the hopelessness cult of goth rock. More experienced folk are 'bogged' by Thoth, the Egyptian god of wisdom.]

There is a remedy for everything except death. Die after fear-tied diet fare. 'Defer it, a dire fate!'

The law is an ass. Ail at a tail. [The 'tail' tails one.]

The shoe is on the other foot. *Its* foot fits too??

the tree of knowledge of good and evil Got, ate, KO! (Took, ...gate!)

"What is a nice girl like you doing in an establishment like this?"
(I, wit, angle lady, ...wangled it—I lay!)

When one door shuts another opens right away. So a "raw do" was a door!

When one door shuts another eventually opens. As do woe, so do awe. [same proverb, two time frames]

IIIb. PHRASE ANTONYMS etc

bright eyed and bushy tailed at ebb

He is a fool that is not melancholy once a day. faith domain

It is easier to descend than to ascend. Diet at it.

I wouldn't trust him as far as I could throw him. I watch? Faith!

Many doctors, death accomplished. MD ad
pull out all the stops a stop

There is a devil in every berry of the grape. I ate, bit God. [Communion]

There is nothing new under the sun. sun tint
[It's a tiny bit different every day.]

One mad action is not enough to prove a man crazy. Maim once, tap me "top maniac".

The age of miracles is past. I'm atop atom, pi.
the one that got away Got at to tag.