



# SPOKEN ENGLISH

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## AS YOU DO!

used as an ironic/humorous comment on a somewhat unexpected statement.

On the way home I fell asleep in John's car, as you do.

I was memorising the dictionary, as you do, when I ...

## COME OFF IT!

used to tell someone that you do not believe what they are saying is true, or that you strongly disagree with them:

Ask Simon to cook the meal? Come off it, he can hardly boil an egg!

Come off it, you're being silly!

## FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

said when you are annoyed, and to emphasize what you are saying:

Oh, for crying out loud, just listen to me!

## (GOOD) LORD! | OH LORD!

used to express surprise, shock, or worry:

Good Lord, what have you done to your hair

Oh Lord! I've forgotten the tickets!

Good Lord! Is that the time?

## HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?

used for emphasis to show surprise or disapproval

He's moving to Hawaii? Well, how do you like that!

She canceled at the last minute. How do you like that?

## ISN'T THAT SOMETHING?

used to indicate surprise or affirmation

We just put a man on the moon. ~ Isn't that something!

He just told me he's getting married. ~ Isn't that something!

## OH DEAR! / DEAR ME!/DEARIE ME!

used in expressions of anger, disappointment, sadness, or surprise:

Oh dear! I've lost my keys again.

Dear me, it's already 4.30 and I said I'd be home by 5.00!

## RATHER YOU THAN ME

said by someone who does not want to do the thing that someone else is doing:

"I'm having two teeth out next week." "Rather you than me."

"I have a date with Joe tonight." "Rather you than me."

## THERE, THERE!

something you say to comfort someone, especially a child:

There, there, don't cry.

There, there, don't get so upset!

## WELL, I NEVER!

used in speech to express surprise or shock about something

They're getting married. Well, I never!

Well I never! I wouldn't have thought she was that old!

## WHO'S TO SAY (...)?

used to say that something might happen or might have happened in a particular way, because nobody really knows

Who's to say we would not have succeeded if we'd had more time?

## YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN

I agree with you completely

'He's in a bad mood today.' 'You can say that again!'

"It's hot!" "You can say that again."

## YOU SAID IT! (informal)

used to agree with somebody when they say sth about themselves that you would not have been rude enough to say yourself

"How stupid of me to lend him that money!" "You said it!"

## CAN YOU BEAT IT/THAT?

used for showing that you are surprised about something

There was a cat with ten kittens – can you beat that?

They've got eight children! Can you beat that?

## FANCY THAT!

used to comment on something that is hard to imagine

The baby she brought home was the wrong one." "Fancy that!

'The Petersons are getting divorced.' 'Fancy that!'

## GOD FORBID! / HEAVEN FORBID!

a way of saying that you hope something does not happen:

God forbid (that) his parents should ever find out.

Heaven forbid that something bad should happen.

## GOODNESS ME! / MY GOODNESS!

used for showing that you are surprised

Goodness me! You've grown!

My goodness, it's warm in here!

## I'LL SAY! informal

used to show that you agree very strongly with what has been said:

"Does he eat a lot?" "I'll say!"

Was there a big argument?' 'I'll say!'

## LO AND BEHOLD (humorous)

used for calling attention to a surprising or annoying thing

As soon as we went out, lo and behold, it began to rain.

We had just been talking about John when, lo and behold, he walked into the room.

## OH, BOTHER! / BOTHER!

used to express anger:

Oh bother! It's raining and I left my umbrella at home.

Bother! I've left my wallet at home.

## SHAME ON YOU

you should feel ashamed of what you have done:

I can't believe you lied to her - shame on you!

Shame on you, Fred. I thought you were my friend!

## (WELL) I'LL BE DAMNED!

an expression of complete surprise

She's marrying a man who she met two months ago?

– Well, I'll be damned!

## WHO CAN SAY (...)?

used to say that nobody knows the answer to a question

Who can say what will happen next year?

## WOULDN'T YOU KNOW (IT)!

used to say that something is not at all surprising

I was told in no uncertain terms that Helen, wouldn't you know it, didn't approve.

## YOU DON'T SAY!

used either to express surprise or lack of surprise in a humorous and slightly unkind way:

"He's lost his job." "You don't say!"

'They left without us.' 'You don't say!' (= I'm not surprised)

## YOU'RE TELLING ME!

used to say that you strongly agree with what sb has just said:

"Stephen's in such a bad mood today." "You're telling me!"

'He's such a pain to live with.' 'You're telling me!'