

## 702. Emergency Questions (with James)

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[00:00:40] So hello everybody. I hope you're doing well today, wherever you are in the world and whatever you happen to be doing at this particular moment in time. Now you're listening to this podcast. That's for sure. So this is an episode with my brother who you know, of course, although there may be some listeners who've never heard him before [00:01:00] because he hasn't been on the podcast since July. I think James might be one of the most frequent guests on this podcast. I haven't counted, but I expect it is the case. I think James has been on the podcast more than anyone else, but who knows? Amber and Paul have had a lot of episodes.

[00:01:19] My dad has had a lot. Who's the most frequent guest? I reckon it's James as he's been on since the early days. We like to talk usually about films, music, comedy, and pop culture in general. But this time I thought that we would have a bit of fun and just answer some funny and interesting questions one by one as part of a stupid conversation game and we'll see what kind of language comes out of it.

[00:01:45] I won't say much more here except that things might get a bit silly depending on the questions we get, but I hope that you enjoy this. There should be a transcript available in the app, just tap the gift icon or on the website, which is [00:02:00] available as a PDF to download.

[00:02:02] And there's a text video version of this on YouTube as well, with a nice transcript shown on the screen in a lovely large font. Splendid. Don't say I never do anything for you. So all of those things should be available for you too. I'll talk to you a bit at the other end of this conversation, but now here is a conversation with James about a great many things.

[00:02:31] Hello James. Good afternoon. Hello. How are you today? I'm

[00:02:35] **James Thompson:** [00:02:35] all right. I'm COVID negative.

[00:02:39] **Luke Thompson:** [00:02:39] Negative. Is that like negative meaning bad or negative meaning good somehow?

[00:02:44] **James Thompson:** [00:02:44] Well, it's good. That I'm negative. I went for a test, probably a quite unreliable one because it's the quick one, but I went for a test this this morning.

[00:02:53] **Luke Thompson:** [00:02:53] Okay. Why, why did you go for a test?

[00:02:55] **James Thompson:** [00:02:55] Just to be on the safe side. Because I was feeling a bit ill, and I want to [00:03:00] see, I would just like to know and they're doing asymptomatic testing, so you don't have to have symptoms and you can still

get a quick test just to see if you should be mixing and going shopping or should be isolating as an asymptomatic person.

[00:03:14] I don't have it. So. Should be all right

[00:03:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:03:18] for now. That's good. So how did they actually do the test? Because I had a test. I've had two tests now. Yeah. Every time I get ill and it's been sort of several times, you know, I guess autumn, winter, and I had to go and get a test and it's not very nice, is it?

[00:03:35] **James Thompson:** [00:03:35] Well, I don't know if they're standardised, which is not brilliant because we over here the one that I did, you do it yourself. How? They just give you a stick. They're standing behind a screen. They give you the swab and they just give you instructions as to what to do. And you scrub your own tonsils and then stick it up your nose a couple of times.

[00:03:55] And it's not, it's not very standardised. So I don't know if it's a brilliant [00:04:00] system, but I did it myself.

[00:04:01] **Luke Thompson:** [00:04:01] I'm surprised that people are doing it themselves. That's very surprising.

[00:04:06] **James Thompson:** [00:04:06] It's not very reassuring, is it?

[00:04:10] **Luke Thompson:** [00:04:10] No, it's not at all. Why is that happening?

[00:04:13] **James Thompson:** [00:04:13] That's just the way they've chosen to do it. Maybe it's safer so that the person remains on the other side of a screen and you're not actually in direct contact with anyone.

[00:04:23] **Luke Thompson:** [00:04:23] I've had two now and in France, they, they have a long swab, like a long sort of cotton bud. And they push it all the way into your nasal cavity in a, in a very specific way. It goes all the way in all the way to the back of the nasal cavity. And that's where they get the swab. Yeah.

[00:04:40] No

[00:04:42] **James Thompson:** [00:04:42] it's your throat and your nose. Is it? But it's still kind of left to you to decide whether you've done it properly or not.

[00:04:50] **Luke Thompson:** [00:04:50] Okay. So I suppose you gave it a good go.

[00:04:52] **James Thompson:** [00:04:52] I Did, but I mean, there was no one there to kind of check that I had, if you, I mean, the guy is there, but it's, it's, it's through a small little window in a screen.

[00:04:59] They [00:05:00] can't really tell how well you're doing it, I wouldn't have said.

[00:05:05] **Luke Thompson:** [00:05:05] You know what, it reminds me of, or reminded me of something very, very specific from our childhood, the feeling of doing it. Do you know what I'm talking about?

[00:05:16] **James Thompson:** [00:05:16] When I used to put an Allen key up my nose?

[00:05:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:05:18] Yeah, you used to be able to put sort of objects like a nail, an Allen key, a plastic straw.

[00:05:25] Basically it's a trick I saw

[00:05:26] **James Thompson:** [00:05:26] on TV where a guy appears to hammer a nail into his nose with a hammer, and I just thought, how the hell do you do that? And then I just thought it's not a trick. It's clearly, he's just doing it. And he's, he's making an effort with the hammer to make it look like he's, you know, really ramming at home, but he's just gently tapping it in.

[00:05:48] And I did it with an Allen key and it went all the way down. But luckily, cause it's an L shape. The L was kind of like stopping it fall all the way in if you know what I mean. Yeah.

[00:05:58] But I could do that as a [00:06:00] trick, couldn't

[00:06:01] **Luke Thompson:** [00:06:01] I?

[00:06:02] Yeah, you used to be able to put a nail all the way into your nose as a trick, and yeah, it's just going into your nasal cavity. I remember trying it as well, and it's like a really horrible tickly feeling when it goes into your nasal cavities. I don't know. Anyway, that's what it reminded me of, but yeah, COVID negative.

[00:06:17] That's yes. That's I guess the only time when a negative is positive, which kind of makes me think of Alan Partridge, you know, "that was a negative or right now I need two positives. One, one to cancel out the negative and the other one, just so I can have a positive", but but in this case, negatives are, are good.

[00:06:33] What's the scene there in what's the, what is the scene there in, in London at the moment?

[00:06:38] **James Thompson:** [00:06:38] The scene was one of desolation. No, it was just a quite depressing scene outside a lido which is like an open-air swimming pool, but which is closed. And it was just like the worst festival ever. It was like, you know, like tape leading you along sort of a gangway thing occurred over some mud and a kind of big tent.

[00:06:59] I mean, it was [00:07:00] fairly well organized to be fair. And, you know, the people were quite helpful, but it was a bit depressing, but it was fine basically. It worked, you know, the system seemed to be working.

[00:07:11] **Luke Thompson:** [00:07:11] In general though, in London, because apparently COVID is kind of rampant

[00:07:17] **James Thompson:** [00:07:17] Very high, very high here.

[00:07:19] Well, a lot of people are just going about their normal business, unfortunately, from, from what I can tell, I don't know, but that doesn't really seem to be any enforcement of any rules that I've seen. So people are generally doing a lot of people going about their work. You know, and the, the roads are quite busy compared to how it was in March where everyone kind of took it quite seriously.

[00:07:40] Unfortunately, people are, well, they're either getting a bit sick of it or they're just having to earn a living. Right. I don't know, but it seemed a lot busier than I'd expect.

[00:07:51] **Luke Thompson:** [00:07:51] Yeah. It's often very busy around here too. It's weird, isn't it? It's like it hasn't gone away. Hasn't gone away and know people are just like, "can we just go back to [00:08:00] normal now?" It's

[00:08:00] **James Thompson:** [00:08:00] much worse at the moment than it was ever was

[00:08:03] **Luke Thompson:** [00:08:03] in March.

[00:08:04] Yes. Oh dear. What a weird time.

[00:08:07] And all The

[00:08:08] **James Thompson:** [00:08:08] hospitals are very overstretched now and you know, in a lot of non COVID stuff has been canceled. It's a pretty, pretty bad situation. Yeah.

[00:08:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:08:18] Yeah. Let's talk

[00:08:19] **James Thompson:** [00:08:19] about something a bit more cheerful. I mean, we, couldn't not talk about this, I suppose it's kind of quite present in everyone's

[00:08:27] **Luke Thompson:** [00:08:27] lives.

[00:08:28] Obligatory COVID chat - done.

[00:08:30] Yeah. Did you listen to episode seven hundred of my podcast? I really

[00:08:35] **James Thompson:** [00:08:35] enjoyed it. I thought it was revealing and quite emotional in places and gave me quite an insight into what was going on in your '

[00:08:43] **Luke Thompson:** [00:08:43] ed [head].

[00:08:45] Oh yeah. Okay.

[00:08:47] Well the stuff about you failing

[00:08:48] **James Thompson:** [00:08:48] your A levels was quite traumatic. I mean, I knew you'd got bad results, but everyone forgets that you got two Us.

[00:08:55] Yes. I mean, how you manage that? I don't know what you did with that paper. I mean, [00:09:00] it wouldn't be down to the standard of the essay. You would have had to do something terminally wrong, like put your name, the wrong name down, or put the number in the wrong place or something that made the paper void, unmarkable because no one gets a U for like, you know, you get more than that just for writing in a straight line,

[00:09:20] you

[00:09:20] **Luke Thompson:** [00:09:20] know?

[00:09:21] Yeah. I'm, I'm weirdly proud of my terrible results. If you're going to fail, you might as well fail properly.

[00:09:30] **James Thompson:** [00:09:30] You did retakes.

[00:09:31] **Luke Thompson:** [00:09:31] I did, I failed to mention that in the episode that after having got those terrible results, I then went to another sixth form college in another place and I did two brand new A levels in a year, which is like working sort of I'd guess 50% harder than normal. I did two new A levels, psychology and sociology, and I did okay. I got the results I needed. I got, I didn't do wonderfully, but I did

enough. I got a B and a [00:10:00] D so that it gave me a B and two Ds. That's pretty good. That's all right.

[00:10:04] In terms of the options I had ahead of me, then it was only a few universities that were offering the sort of course that I wanted. And I was interested in something like sociology, something like media, something like cultural studies and it was, I think, between Sheffield, Hallam University in Sheffield and Liverpool John Moore's University in Liverpool.

[00:10:25] And I went for Liverpool. Partly because of the Beatles maybe also partly because of the course. It was a pretty cool course.

[00:10:33] Pretty rough town

[00:10:33] **James Thompson:** [00:10:33] though to be a little soft little student from Solihull

[00:10:37] **Luke Thompson:** [00:10:37] yeah. It's hilariously rough. But I mean, I said it was like Withnail and I, I didn't include the fact that it was also a great deal of fun.

[00:10:44] And we lived in a big, crazy house full of, you know, stupid students. And some of the people I lived with were extremely funny. Yeah. And a good time was had by all, but it was also a horrible time. So there you go. [00:11:00] Okay, well, I'm glad you enjoyed episode seven. Yeah it made me

[00:11:03] **James Thompson:** [00:11:03] think mine.. Because I listened back to mine because I hadn't listened to it in yonks and it's a bit more flippant than yours, a bit less serious and less kind of revealing.

[00:11:15] **Luke Thompson:** [00:11:15] Yeah. You didn't take yours so seriously.

[00:11:18] **James Thompson:** [00:11:18] But yours was good. I thought Oli was

[00:11:19] **Luke Thompson:** [00:11:19] brilliant.

[00:11:20] That's right. He just kind of, let me answer the questions. He,

[00:11:23] **James Thompson:** [00:11:23] wasn't trying to be funny, like me, I would have been sort of like chipping in and being annoying, but he's just quite, you know, respectful of your space.

[00:11:33] **Luke Thompson:** [00:11:33] I have to say, I don't know if you remember, we did try to record. Marooned with my Music with you hosting it. Do you remember this? You probably don't, do you?

[00:11:42] **James Thompson:** [00:11:42] Did it end in

[00:11:43] **Luke Thompson:** [00:11:43] disaster? I canceled it halfway through because it just wasn't working because basically you, it just became a big discussion show about music and you kept saying loads of stuff about the music choices, and then talking about other music.

[00:11:59] **James Thompson:** [00:11:59] I wouldn't be the [00:12:00] right host for that.

[00:12:03] **Luke Thompson:** [00:12:03] You could do another one if you want, if you wanted to kind of get serious and do it, do another one.

[00:12:09] **James Thompson:** [00:12:09] It's a bit soon after the last one, I think, I think, wait, wait for another 20 years. So who's had two in the real version?

[00:12:17] Sorry.

[00:12:18] Who's had two in the real version?

[00:12:20] **Luke Thompson:** [00:12:20] Oh, lots of people have had two. In Desert Island Discs? Yeah

[00:12:24] **James Thompson:** [00:12:24] but are they not like normally 20 years apart or something?

[00:12:28] **Luke Thompson:** [00:12:28] I bet someone's been on it like four times. Okay. I'm trying to find out, bear with me.

[00:12:34] **James Thompson:** [00:12:34] Have you heard the Michael Caine Desert Island Discs?

[00:12:37] **Luke Thompson:** [00:12:37] Michael Caine. So if I was to be sent to a desert Island.

[00:12:41] **James Thompson:** [00:12:41] All his music is basically what he describes as a chill music.

[00:12:47] Kirsty Young's like "chill music? Isn't that for people like, you know, coming down from drugs after they'd been clubbing?" and he's like, "no, no, none of that, but it's just chill music, isn't it?" Honestly, it's hilarious. It's like his girlfriend or his [00:13:00] wife has said now you like chill out music. Remember that, you know, list these, these groups.

[00:13:05] Because otherwise you're going to seem really old fashioned and fuddy-duddy

[00:13:08] **Luke Thompson:** [00:13:08] I've been getting very into...

[00:13:09] **James Thompson:** [00:13:09] I've been very into chill music, so just chill out.

[00:13:14] **Luke Thompson:** [00:13:14] I've been getting very into chill music.

[00:13:18] **James Thompson:** [00:13:18] It's very funny. It's very funny. And all his choices are like off HedCandi Chill Out Volume Two or something.

[00:13:26] **Luke Thompson:** [00:13:26] Chill music. It is like the genre of the music shop miscellaneous section, isn't it? And there's a million little chill out CDs.

[00:13:37] Yeah. HedCandi Best of Chill Out Volume Three.

[00:13:40] That is my favourite CD.

[00:13:44] What tracks would, would be on that, like featuring that Nightmares On Wax track that was in those ads.

[00:13:51] Lemon

[00:13:51] Jelly, probably AIR come on.



[00:13:55] I expect so. I can't find, sorry, I can't find the statistics [00:14:00] for guests on Desert Island Discs. I'm not coming up with anything, but I'm sure people have been on it a few times.

[00:14:07] So you could come back on it if you wanted to.

[00:14:11] But should we move on to this episode and what this is all about? Yeah. Okay. So I've got a book here, which I don't remember when I got this. I think I bought it on Richard Herring's website, but the book I've got is Emergency Questions by Richard Herring.

[00:14:27] Do you act, do you own this book as well?

[00:14:30] **James Thompson:** [00:14:30] I don't actually know, but I'm well aware of it and I've been meaning to get it, but no.

[00:14:37] **Luke Thompson:** [00:14:37] What is this sort of pop cultural phenomenon, then what is emergency questions by Richard Herring?

[00:14:44] **James Thompson:** [00:14:44] Richard Herring is a standup comedian and podcaster more known for his podcasting probably these days. He used to be part of a double act, one half of it. What were they called? Fist of Fun with Stuart Lee. And he's carved out a [00:15:00] niche as a, sort of a very early adopter of podcasting and he's very popular online. And he also podcasts live from Leicester square theater. Well, when such things were possible and I've been to see his podcast a few times and he has good guests on, I saw him with Limmy.

[00:15:19] Who you've probably mentioned on this podcast before, haven't you?

[00:15:22] **Luke Thompson:** [00:15:22] I did two episodes about Limmy. Yeah.

[00:15:24] **James Thompson:** [00:15:24] And I think I saw one with Alexei Sayle. Who's sort of supposedly the inventor of alternative comedy or some people say he was one of the, for, at the forefront in the eighties and he was good and some others who I

[00:15:41] **Luke Thompson:** [00:15:41] can't remember.

[00:15:42] What actually happens in an episode of Richard Herring's Leicester Square Theater Podcast, or RHLSTP.

[00:15:48] RHLSTP!

[00:15:50] **James Thompson:** [00:15:50] You have to, you have to do that. Sorry. Sorry to cut you

[00:15:53] **Luke Thompson:** [00:15:53] off.

[00:15:53] If I say RHLSTP you have to go RHLSTP!

[00:15:55] Like Cracker Jack. Yeah.

[00:15:58] Yeah. There's call and response kind of thing with the [00:16:00] audience. So what happens in the average episode of RHLSTP?

[00:16:03] RHLSTP!

[00:16:04] **James Thompson:** [00:16:04] Basically it's an on-stage interview in a sort of medium-sized theater with an audience and it's just recorded and it's just him

chatting with other comedians, and that's about it, really quite simple formula, but it works. And I think you get to two per, per night. So on a night, you know, if you go down there and see it live, you normally get two

[00:16:27] **Luke Thompson:** [00:16:27] guests.

[00:16:29] I see. So what about the emergency questions?

[00:16:33] **James Thompson:** [00:16:33] I believe these are for when he kind of ran out of sort of other questions, or there was a sort of lull in the interview and he started to wonder what he was going to ask next. He had a list of emergency questions, which she would pull out to save a kind of floundering interview.

[00:16:54] And he put them into a book or two books. There's a Christmas one as well. Isn't there.

[00:16:58] **Luke Thompson:** [00:16:58] Yeah, exactly. So when he's [00:17:00] stuck, when he's stuck and he, hasn't got another question here. He'll go, go into his list of emergency questions and there are some emergency questions which he always asks and they've become infamous because they are not only completely ridiculous, but also quite rude as well, quite explicit in their own way.

[00:17:16] Like what's the most famous one.

[00:17:18] You're not

[00:17:18] **James Thompson:** [00:17:18] going to ask me that

[00:17:19] **Luke Thompson:** [00:17:19] one, are you?

[00:17:20] No. Okay. I won't, but have you?

[00:17:23] **James Thompson:** [00:17:23] Yeah, of course, but no, we're not going to... Yeah. Don't ask

[00:17:29] **Luke Thompson:** [00:17:29] me that.

[00:17:29] I won't actually ask you that question, but it's interesting to know that you have, but I won't be asking the question, but I have, what I have done is made a selection.

[00:17:37] So actually let me just read out this introduction that I've got here. So yeah. So the point of emergency questions on the show then is just to give Richard a chance to, you know, ask something random when he's run out of other ideas. What are the good and bad ways to answer emergency questions in an episode of RHLSTP?

[00:17:56] RHLSTP!

[00:17:58] **James Thompson:** [00:17:58] Well, I think the idea is just [00:18:00] to be funny basically rather than strictly accurate. I think just it's a good opportunity for these you know, experienced comedians to think on their toes and come up with something funny on the

[00:18:12] **Luke Thompson:** [00:18:12] spot.

[00:18:13] Yeah. So I'm going to ask you an inexperienced, relatively inexperienced comedian



[00:18:18] non-comedian

[00:18:19] Well I have had a few letters published in Viz.

[00:18:23] You have had some letters published in Vis and you did a few bits of stand-up. So I don't know, maybe you are a comedian. So anyway, I've made a selection from the 500 questions in the book, a selection of questions, which I think could form the basis of a reasonable conversation that should provide my listeners with some entertaining and fun listening practice on my podcast.

[00:18:43] That's the idea. So there are about 30 questions. I've narrowed it down quite a lot from 500. These are often quite. Silly questions designed to get the conversation going and to reveal funny or interesting details or [00:19:00] anecdotes. So listeners, this conversation could be quite serious, potentially discussing ideas which affect all of us, or it could be completely ridiculous, especially looking at everyday situations in minute detail or exploring hypothetical situations. It all depends on the questions which come up. If you like listeners, you can check the question list on the page for this episode and have your own ridiculous conversations. Why not listen to my brother's answers, see if you can pick up some specific phrases he uses and then answer the questions yourself and try to use the phrases too? That could be a really useful way to use this episode. Don't forget too that you'll find a text video for this on YouTube, with the whole transcript presented to you beautifully in a nice big font.

[00:19:47] So you can read and listen at the same time, if you like.

[00:19:50] But now James, are you ready for some emergency questions?

[00:19:53] I think so.

[00:19:54] Okay then. So I've got 33 and the tried and tested method for doing this is [00:20:00] that you just give me a number between one and 33 and I'll ask you that question and then we'll just, you know, see what happens.

[00:20:06] Okay. Seven.

[00:20:08] Seven. Okay. Seven is, have you ever seen a ghost?

[00:20:14] **James Thompson:** [00:20:14] No, because there's no such thing as ghosts.

[00:20:17] **Luke Thompson:** [00:20:17] Really that's it?

[00:20:19] **James Thompson:** [00:20:19] Have I ever, it's always just your coat over the back of a chair, isn't it?

[00:20:23] Is it?

[00:20:24] Or, you know, a sheet hanging up in the window or something like that so...

[00:20:28] What you've,

[00:20:28] **Luke Thompson:** [00:20:28] you've had that where you've...

[00:20:30] I've

[00:20:30] **James Thompson:** [00:20:30] seen a barn owl fly through the night sky.

[00:20:33] And that was quite spooky. That was very ghost-like but it wasn't a ghost. It was a barn owl.

[00:20:39] **Luke Thompson:** [00:20:39] Okay. All right. So the answer to that question is no, there you go, listeners. That was interesting, wasn't it? Let's move on to another one, then. Another number please.

[00:20:47] 13

[00:20:49] 13. If you could get a law named after you, what would it be?

[00:20:55] **James Thompson:** [00:20:55] So Thompson's

[00:20:56] **Luke Thompson:** [00:20:56] law, Thompson's law or James Thompson's law, or the James [00:21:00] Thompson law or James' law, something like that.

[00:21:04] **James Thompson:** [00:21:04] That would sort of indicate that I'd died in some sort of horrible neglectful incident.

[00:21:10] **Luke Thompson:** [00:21:10] Not

[00:21:10] **James Thompson:** [00:21:10] necessarily.

[00:21:11] Normally like James' law that's after, you know, James passed away due to preventable incident.

[00:21:18] What kind of law would I like? This is tough. It's a good question. It's a good question.

[00:21:25] **Luke Thompson:** [00:21:25] I can skip it if you want. We can just do it another time and just remember number 13 is the law one. Give me another number.

[00:21:33] 12

[00:21:34] 12. If you could communicate with one animal, which animal would you communicate with and what would you ask it?

[00:21:43] So this is specifically one animal, not just one type of animal.

[00:21:46] Just one, one animal.

[00:21:48] Specific animal, which, which animal would you communicate with? What would you ask it?

[00:21:52] I don't know

[00:21:52] **James Thompson:** [00:21:52] that many animals

[00:21:54] Can I just like say fly to Africa and find an animal and say this one.

[00:22:00] [00:22:00] Yeah.

[00:22:00] Yeah. So I don't need to know it personally, already.

[00:22:03] No.

[00:22:04] I'd like to find a really old, like maybe a blue whale or an elephant or something that lives for a very long time and just ask it, what's it all about, you know, what's, what's, you know, come on, what insights have you got? I've now it's a bit vague, isn't it? It's not specific

[00:22:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:22:18] question.

[00:22:18] I'd love it if you asked a blue whale, ah so what was it like here, you know, 70 years ago when you were a young whale? Just the same wet, blue.

[00:22:27] Yeah there'd be a lot

[00:22:27] **James Thompson:** [00:22:27] more pollution now, but we know that already. I don't know. I'd just like to speak to a very old creature and say, you know what wisdom have you accumulated in your years, o wise, wise elephant? And it would probably just go "I dunno".

[00:22:42] **Luke Thompson:** [00:22:42] The elephant would probably be like, "just keep away from people".

[00:22:45] Yeah.

[00:22:45] **James Thompson:** [00:22:45] People are bastards.

[00:22:47] **Luke Thompson:** [00:22:47] Next question.

[00:22:48] Three.

[00:22:49] Have you ever demolished a wall or building.

[00:22:53] **James Thompson:** [00:22:53] Did we like ever break down a shed or something as children. I seem to remember kicking [00:23:00] something.

[00:23:04] **Luke Thompson:** [00:23:04] No, I don't think I

[00:23:05] **James Thompson:** [00:23:05] have. No, I haven't. I haven't demolished a building or even a wall, I don't think. I've probably demolished a few, I mean, damaged a few walls skateboarding, but just very superficial damage. Just a few chips of paint

[00:23:19] **Luke Thompson:** [00:23:19] or something.

[00:23:20] I demolished a wooden fence once with my friend, Robert, when I was I must have been about four, I felt like it was pre school.

[00:23:28] But I was very what's the word for it? Impressionable and Robert would always just sort of name things that we were going to do. And I didn't really know even know what it was we were doing. I was just following instructions, officer. But he suddenly said to me, Hey, come round here and look at this.

[00:23:45] This is really cool. So the word was all the wood was all dry. Yeah. And if you kicked it, it would just splinter and break in a really satisfying way. So the two of us just completely demolished this wooden fence and didn't really know that we were doing something [00:24:00] wrong. I think didn't occur to me until, and do you know this feeling when you're a kid and you're doing something wrong, but you don't really realize it's wrong until you see the reaction of one of your parents and then it all sort of dawns on you that you're doing something really bad and then you get all upset. So it was exactly that feeling. And then I kind of realized, Oh my God. Yeah. What am I doing? And just, just gleefully smashing this fence to pieces. I must have been about three or four years old.

[00:24:28] But yes, always remember that now.

[00:24:31] Vandal.

[00:24:31] Yep. It was fun though. It was a great deal of fun. Yeah. Right. Do you want another question?

[00:24:37] **James Thompson:** [00:24:37] Yeah.

[00:24:38] 22

[00:24:39] **Luke Thompson:** [00:24:39] please.

[00:24:40] 22. What is your favorite keyboard shortcut?

[00:24:45] Undo. Undo, which is what command Z.

[00:24:49] **James Thompson:** [00:24:49] Yeah, I think it's command Z. Thing is though, I can never remember what they actually are.

[00:24:52] My hand just does them automatically. Right. You know what I mean? Like if someone says what's, I have to think about, and I'm not quite [00:25:00] sure, but if I'm at the keyboard, it just does it, you know? But yeah, if, if only there was an undo button for life, eh?

[00:25:06] I bet no one's ever made that joke before.

[00:25:09] **Luke Thompson:** [00:25:09] It'd be useful wouldn't it, if we had an undo button in real life?

[00:25:13] **James Thompson:** [00:25:13] Wow, incredibly original

[00:25:15] **Luke Thompson:** [00:25:15] content.

[00:25:16] I actually genuinely find that if I've spent the day on my computer working, and then I just get up from my computer and go around the flat to look for something like I'm trying to find my keys. I actually, my mind does go to that spotlight search function on the computer, where you can type the thing and it searches your entire computer for it.

[00:25:37] So literally, my brain is kind of, wants to do a spotlight search for my keys. How long do you think it will be before we actually are able to do that? Just like, Hey, Siri, help me find my keys.

[00:25:50] **James Thompson:** [00:25:50] Well you could do it now if you had a chip on your keyring.

[00:25:54] **Luke Thompson:** [00:25:54] If you had it. Yeah. But I mean, what about if you just, you know, you're just looking for any of your objects?

[00:25:59] If there's a [00:26:00] thing, like a little camera that scans your room and accounts for every single object that you have in that room and then works out where they all are and logs them in an inventory, and then you just literally tap the, the item you want to find and it a little bit yellow arrow appears on your phone and guides you to it.

[00:26:18] **James Thompson:** [00:26:18] Great idea. Go for it. I quite often Command F or what is it?

[00:26:23] Command F. Command F.

[00:26:26] I could do that with my record collection because they're not in alphabetical order or any kind of order, really. So that'd be handy.

[00:26:34] **Luke Thompson:** [00:26:34] Oh, command F is wonderful, isn't it? Especially in my job because I'm there looking through documents, looking for key words and things.

[00:26:41] Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

[00:26:42] Command F is perfect. If there's a certain phrase, I want to try and find it somewhere. It's good. Plus you can, you can sort of impress people with command F in, in my zoom English lessons, I'll be on a PDF and I'll do the, I think you mean this expression command F type and [00:27:00] ping. You go straight to that word in the document.

[00:27:03] And there's always someone that goes wow.

[00:27:05] Highlighted in yellow.

[00:27:07] Yeah. Oh, the joys of yellow highlights. Another question. What's your favorite highlighter color? Yellow, green, or orange?

[00:27:20] **James Thompson:** [00:27:20] Neon

[00:27:21] **Luke Thompson:** [00:27:21] yellow.

[00:27:23] Me too.

[00:27:24] **James Thompson:** [00:27:24] Yeah. It's the best color in the world, actually in the whole spectrum. It's not even on the spectrum and it's the best color

[00:27:29] **Luke Thompson:** [00:27:29] on the spectrum.

[00:27:31] You know, the best thing is that a certain time of day when the sun is low in the sky and yellow highlighter pen really glows in a really sort of space age way.

[00:27:41] Yeah. That's great.

[00:27:42] That's good. Isn't

[00:27:43] **James Thompson:** [00:27:43] it?

[00:27:43] You can get wooly hats in that color. I don't think I'd go that far, but it'd be good for cycling.

[00:27:49] **Luke Thompson:** [00:27:49] Yes. We used to have socks that were fluorescent yellow, fluorescent green, fluorescent orange. They were very cool in the eighties.

[00:27:55] Very hip in the eighties.

[00:27:56] **James Thompson:** [00:27:56] Yeah.

[00:27:58] You wear different ones, [00:28:00] you know, one green and one pink, you know, and you'd just be completely far out, you know, just like minds were being blown everywhere you walked.

[00:28:07] **Luke Thompson:** [00:28:07] A pair of stonewashed jeans trainers, and then maybe like a global hypercolour t-shirt or was that a bit later?

[00:28:15] We

[00:28:15] **James Thompson:** [00:28:15] didn't have any global hypercolour t-shirts if they weren't available from C&A, we didn't

[00:28:19] **Luke Thompson:** [00:28:19] have them.

[00:28:20] Those t-shirts were sort of a really bad idea in a way, because they would change color depending on the heat. Right? So the hotter it got, you know, they went more yellowy and as they got colder, they went more blue or something.

[00:28:31] But of course, if you sweat and you're wearing your global hyper colour t-shirt the sweaty bits are going to change colour. So basically it's just, just people walking around with big sweat patches.

[00:28:41] **James Thompson:** [00:28:41] Psychedelic sweat.

[00:28:43] **Luke Thompson:** [00:28:43] Yeah, that's right. Okay. Another question.

[00:28:47] 33.

[00:28:49] 33. Would you rather have the attributes of a radiator or a fridge freezer?

[00:28:55] So would you be a, I guess a radiator, is it radiates heat. A fridge  
[00:29:00] freezer keeps things cold inside. Would you rather have the attributes of the radiator or the fridge freezer? Would you like, would you rather be like a radiator or like a fridge freezer?

[00:29:09] You just said that three times.

[00:29:10] I know because I just thought the question, "would you rather have the attributes of a radiator or fridge freezer?" I thought that's going to be difficult for people to understand. So I will say it three times.

[00:29:21] **James Thompson:** [00:29:21] Okay. Well the fridge freezer, the fridge freezer bit. I'd have to keep things inside me then, right? So like you just keep your, your bacon in me and your butter and stuff.

[00:29:32] So no, don't fancy. That sounds horrible. And I'd be cold all the time internally. Yeah. So I'd rather be a radiator. And I think you'd probably be more of a hit with the ladies...

[00:29:45] 🎵 Ladies! 🎵

[00:29:47] ...if you're a radiator than if you were a fridge freezer.

[00:29:51] Yeah,

[00:29:51] **Luke Thompson:** [00:29:51] because you're all warm and...

[00:29:53] **James Thompson:** [00:29:53] Yeah, like you're basically you're, I dunno how this works, but you're just going to be radiating heat.

[00:29:59] But [00:30:00] with a fridge freezer something has to go into you and come out again. I don't

[00:30:06] **Luke Thompson:** [00:30:06] like that idea.

[00:30:07] I like the way you're edging towards radiator because then women will like you, but not a freezer because then something's going to go into you. Like what?



[00:30:15] Well you'd be cold and people keep

[00:30:18] **James Thompson:** [00:30:18] their fish fingers in you. Where's, where's the positive from that, you know, where's the benefit?

[00:30:22] **Luke Thompson:** [00:30:22] I just thought he was getting weirdly sexual there. No, that's

[00:30:25] **James Thompson:** [00:30:25] in your head.

[00:30:26] Oh, sorry.

[00:30:27] No, the fridge freezer just doesn't sound practical or

[00:30:31] **Luke Thompson:** [00:30:31] nice. Yeah, it doesn't does it? Or, or pleasant. Maybe, even if you weren't full of food, you'd just be empty and cold

[00:30:38] and rattling.

[00:30:40] **James Thompson:** [00:30:40] Yeah,

[00:30:41] **Luke Thompson:** [00:30:41] cold hearted

[00:30:41] **James Thompson:** [00:30:41] and sick

[00:30:42] People would stick magnets on you and shopping lists and it'd just be degrading.

[00:30:47] **Luke Thompson:** [00:30:47] Okay. I'm glad we sorted that out. Another question.

[00:30:50] Five?

[00:30:52] Have you ever flown a kite? And how did it go? Have you ever flown a kite?

[00:30:57] **James Thompson:** [00:30:57] Yes, I have. Our dad [00:31:00] used to take us to, we went sort of went through a kite phase, I think, and we got a couple of kites. We got a kind of more traditional one with a frame, which was quite tough to, to work, to use on a, on a very windy day.

[00:31:16] It would be brilliant and it would fly really high and just stay there. Yes. You know, quite exciting when you're on a big beach or something as a kid and, you know, it's a beautiful thing I think. And you had that kind of little. Just stickless kite, that was just kind of looked a bit, it looks a bit like a sort of praying.

[00:31:36] No. What they call those things that live underwater, live in the sea?

[00:31:40] What, fish?

[00:31:41] The manta, it looks a bit like a manta ray just hanging in the sky and it would, it would just inflate instantly the minute you chucked it in the air and just stay there, wouldn't it? It was really good. And we did have stunt stunt kites as well, didn't we? With double strings and I [00:32:00] could, I could do loop the loops and stuff or barrel rolls, whatever they are. Yeah.

[00:32:04] **Luke Thompson:** [00:32:04] So yes.

[00:32:06] You have? Yes. And it sounds like it went really, really well. That kite I used to have, yeah. With no sticks in it, it was like a foldable kite, to be honest, it was a bit like a, a blue carrier bag, plastic carrier bag.

[00:32:19] Yeah essentially it was.

[00:32:21] Just like flying a big plastic bag in the sky is kind of what it was like.

[00:32:24] It didn't

[00:32:25] **James Thompson:** [00:32:25] have such a challenging element to the, to the...

[00:32:28] No.

[00:32:28] **Luke Thompson:** [00:32:28] But, it was well designed. It had these little air pockets that would inflate that allowed it to hang in the sky. It was a bit like a parachute or something. Quite cute, but basically like a plastic bag, like nice, nice plastic bag you got there in the sky.

[00:32:43] **James Thompson:** [00:32:43] Yeah. Nice one. You get that from like the local cost cutter?

[00:32:47] Okay.

[00:32:48] **Luke Thompson:** [00:32:48] Another question please.

[00:32:49] Eight, please.

[00:32:52] Have you ever tried sushi?

[00:32:55] Yes.

[00:32:57] And?

[00:32:58] **James Thompson:** [00:32:58] I like sushi a lot. I haven't [00:33:00] had it for quite long time now. But I love eel nigiri. That's my favorite sushi. I like a California roll. I know they're a bit frowned upon by the sort of hardcore sushi community, but I don't mind a California roll.

[00:33:15] I like, I like all of it really likes sashimi. I like wasabi. I mean, obviously you don't always get as good sushi as here as you do in Japan, but you can still find good places. There's a place in Leicester square, which is quite good or near Leicester Square near the Prince Charles Cinema. And there's a place in Stockwell or near Kennington, which is quite good.

[00:33:43] So yeah, I love, Oh, you're making me hungry now. I'd

[00:33:47] **Luke Thompson:** [00:33:47] love some sushi.

[00:33:49] Okay. Maybe you can get yourself a little... I was going to say a little "cheeky" takeaway.

[00:33:54] Don't say that. Don't

[00:33:55] **James Thompson:** [00:33:55] say "cheeky".

[00:33:57] **Luke Thompson:** [00:33:57] Why do people say cheeky like that?

[00:33:59] **James Thompson:** [00:33:59] Only, [00:34:00] only certain people say that like people from Essex basically say cheeky guy for taking

[00:34:04] **Luke Thompson:** [00:34:04] Nando's, going for a cheeky Nando's or having a cheeky pint.

[00:34:11] **James Thompson:** [00:34:11] Just don't do it.

[00:34:13] **Luke Thompson:** [00:34:13] You find

[00:34:13] **James Thompson:** [00:34:13] it annoying. I don't like the word cheeky in that context.

[00:34:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:34:18] But what's the purpose of it though?

[00:34:20] **James Thompson:** [00:34:20] It's just saying it's a bit naughty innit. You know, it's not supposed to break the diet, but let's have a cheeky Nando's.

[00:34:26] Right. Okay. That sounded quite snobby probably, but you know, what can you do? I can't help my feelings.

[00:34:34] **Luke Thompson:** [00:34:34] You're okay. Another, another one. Oh, that was a...

[00:34:37] **James Thompson:** [00:34:37] Something

[00:34:39] **Luke Thompson:** [00:34:39] ominous.

[00:34:40] Did you hear something go ping?

[00:34:41] Yeah.

[00:34:42] Yeah. That's a WhatsApp on my computer, but because I'm recording in a different way at the moment. I can't stop it. I can't bloody shut it up. So I'm sorry if it goes, if it goes ping. Anyway, another question, please.

[00:34:55] One please.

[00:34:57] Question number one. Are you ever [00:35:00] mistaken for a celebrity? Who are you ever mistaken for anyone else to enter? Does anyone ever say that you look like a celebrity?

[00:35:07] **James Thompson:** [00:35:07] People say it looked like

[00:35:08] that bloke from a program that I've never watched. You'll know that one I mean, he's got a lot more hair than me. It is a comedy program.

[00:35:17] Oh

[00:35:18] **Luke Thompson:** [00:35:18] you look like the guy from...

[00:35:19] it's not a Grey's Anatomy.

[00:35:21] Is, is it a medical program or something?

[00:35:25] What do medical people wear like nurses and stuff? They wear...

[00:35:29] Scrubs

[00:35:30] **James Thompson:** [00:35:30] Scrubs. That's it!

[00:35:32] That's the one, the guy from that people say, I look like him and I'm just like "Whaaaat?"

[00:35:36] **Luke Thompson:** [00:35:36] Yeah, yeah, yeah! I think his name is, ah, damn. I've got to find out his name. Bear with me, everybody.

[00:35:46] Zach Braff.

[00:35:48] Right.

[00:35:49] Right. Yeah. Yeah. That you went through a period of looking like Zach Braff from Scrubs.

[00:35:54] When I had more hair.

[00:35:56] I don't think it's true any more.

[00:35:58] **James Thompson:** [00:35:58] I don't think it's a [00:36:00] terrible insult or anything. He's not, you know, unattractive. You just don't think, you just don't think I look like him.

[00:36:08] **Luke Thompson:** [00:36:08] Or

[00:36:08] **James Thompson:** [00:36:08] you think I do maybe.

[00:36:11] **Luke Thompson:** [00:36:11] A little bit. I can see it. If he was bald, if he was bald, it would be a different story, but I can see it totally. When you go to Japan, people you get told by people that you look like other people. So you know, Oli, our cousin, what some Japanese people told him, do you know? Who do they, who do you think they thought he looked like?

[00:36:31] Rutger Hauer?

[00:36:32] **James Thompson:** [00:36:32] No.

[00:36:33] The guy that did Facebook?

[00:36:35] **Luke Thompson:** [00:36:35] He doesn't look like him.

[00:36:36] I'm just being stupid.

[00:36:37] Oh yuck! What's his name?

[00:36:41] **James Thompson:** [00:36:41] Facebook guy?

[00:36:42] I don't know, the one with the scary eyes.

[00:36:44] **Luke Thompson:** [00:36:44] Can't remember his name, the one with the lifeless reptilian eyes, Mark Zuckerberg.

[00:36:50] No, that's not fair on Oli at all.

[00:36:52] He doesn't look like him at all! Oli looks more like a James Bond, Daniel Craig.

[00:36:56] Oh yeah, he definitely does. Yeah. But anyway, no, in [00:37:00] Japan they thought he looked like oh, flipping Dances With Wolves, what's his name?

[00:37:07] Kevin Costner??

[00:37:08] Kevin Costner! So Kevin Costner desu..

[00:37:11] No.

[00:37:12] Yeah. They thought he looked like Kevin Costner.

[00:37:15] He could be

[00:37:15] **James Thompson:** [00:37:15] a sort of German baddy.

[00:37:16] Heeee, Kevin Costner desu.

[00:37:18] Woah woah woah woah. What happened there?

[00:37:20] What, what happened.

[00:37:21] It's alright, it just went mega muffled, but it's okay.

[00:37:24] What were you going to say?

[00:37:25] I think he looks like a, kind of a German baddy from a diehard film or something like that. Yeah, it looks like a

[00:37:31] **Luke Thompson:** [00:37:31] bad guy from a Die Hard sequel.

[00:37:33] Yeah.

[00:37:33] **James Thompson:** [00:37:33] Maybe. And he's kind of quite well built. So he looks like he could be a body guard or a sort of higher echelon gangster or something.

[00:37:41] **Luke Thompson:** [00:37:41] Generic sort of Eastern European TaeKwonDo

[00:37:44] Hard man. Yeah.

[00:37:46] He's, he's really good at TaeKwonDo and he's, he's got bleached blonde hair for no reason. Yeah. Yeah. I know that kind of thing.

[00:37:57] Okay. Fine.

[00:37:59] I don't think

[00:38:00] [00:37:59] **James Thompson:** [00:37:59] I've been told I look like anyone else.

[00:38:02] **Luke Thompson:** [00:38:02] Yeah. I think that that's the guy. It was his name. Zach Braff or something from Scrubs. Yeah, definitely as you in another life. Okay. Another question please. Another number.

[00:38:13] I'm running.

[00:38:14] **James Thompson:** [00:38:14] It I've forgotten which ones I've chosen. So I'll just say two.

[00:38:16] **Luke Thompson:** [00:38:16] Two, two is this, have you ever been in a canoe?

[00:38:21] Yes.

[00:38:23] All right. Do you care to tell us about it?

[00:38:25] I've been canoeing a

[00:38:26] **James Thompson:** [00:38:26] few times. I think we did. I think both of us did canoe lessons as kids at the local swimming pool for a

[00:38:33] **Luke Thompson:** [00:38:33] while.

[00:38:34] We did. Yeah. We used to go and do canoeing classes.

[00:38:36] I was

[00:38:37] **James Thompson:** [00:38:37] brilliant in the swimming pool. I could do Eskimo rolls. I could, you know, Oh, had it nailed. As soon as I went out into real water, panic mode, you know, just like capsizing, bailing out, flapping around, just useless, but I was good in the pool. Yeah, I can canoe, but I haven't done it in a very long time.

[00:38:58] **Luke Thompson:** [00:38:58] Isn't it funny [00:39:00] how, if you say, can you canoe?

[00:39:01] It sounds like you're saying the same thing twice. Isn't that hilarious?

[00:39:04] Can you, can you.

[00:39:06] Can you canoe? Can you canoe? Is it, I just thought of that now. It's not like an established thing people share on the internet. Have you noticed like memes, have you noticed if you say can you canoe, it's like...

[00:39:18] I can't really see that one taking off,.

[00:39:22] It's not taking off is it? I'm going to ask you another question. Number 10. Have you got what it takes to be a spy?

[00:39:29] **James Thompson:** [00:39:29] Probably not. Because I think spies, I don't know. I could, maybe I could be Michael Caine in the Ipress File.

[00:39:37] **Luke Thompson:** [00:39:37] Yeah, because Michael Caine in the Ipress File, does it, I mean, how much spy stuff does he actually do?

[00:39:41] He doesn't do a

[00:39:42] **James Thompson:** [00:39:42] lot, he well he does do a bit in the middle.

[00:39:45] But he basically just swans around looking like a bit of a mod making coffee, cooking dinner, listening to classical music. You know, having it off with various people,

[00:39:54] **Luke Thompson:** [00:39:54] well, one person.

[00:39:55] Does he have any lines in it? Like classic lines.

[00:39:57] **James Thompson:** [00:39:57] He's just very dry and very sort of [00:40:00] cool. And he's kind of like the opposite of Bond, you know, he's like working class and he's kind of not on a huge wage, you know, lives in a small apartment and he's a bit of a smartarse and it's a good film.



[00:40:11] I like the Ipress File. It Gets a little bit silly right. Towards the end, but Good film. Yeah. Nice to see London in the sixties looks just like a different world.

[00:40:21] **Luke Thompson:** [00:40:21] There was no one there at all it was

[00:40:23] **James Thompson:** [00:40:23] empty.

[00:40:24] But I reckon I could pull that off. I'm quite good at grinding coffee beans. Delivering dry one-liners.

[00:40:30] Yes.

[00:40:30] And I quite like when they go to the spy headquarters, it's like a recruitment agency with a sort of old dear behind the counter smoking and going up the third floor of dear, second on the left and then it's actually the spy headquarters, but it looks like a kind of rundown employment agency.

[00:40:46] That bit's quite cool. Cool film. Cool film,

[00:40:49] **Luke Thompson:** [00:40:49] man. So basically, you'd like to be Michael Caine in the Ipress File.

[00:40:53] Not doing

[00:40:54] **James Thompson:** [00:40:54] any real spying. Just doing the kind of poncing

[00:40:56] **Luke Thompson:** [00:40:56] around. Yeah.

[00:40:57] Walking around saying now you might not know but [00:41:00] I

[00:41:01] **James Thompson:** [00:41:01] am a spy.

[00:41:01] His boss meets him in the supermarket and goes I'm not keen on this American form of shopping, but I suppose we must move with the times because you're paying nine P too much for your mushrooms.

[00:41:12] And he goes, no, these do have a better flavor sir.

[00:41:17] I'll leave you with your champignons shall I? Very good, sir. I could do all that kind of stuff no probs.

[00:41:24] **Luke Thompson:** [00:41:24] [Aaaah CHOOO!]

[00:41:25] Excuse me! We've got to do one more question, James, and then I have to go and pick up my daughter. Okay. From

[00:41:30] **James Thompson:** [00:41:30] school.

[00:41:31] Let's say 15.

[00:41:33] **Luke Thompson:** [00:41:33] 15.

[00:41:35] You were supposed to say it with me.

[00:41:37] 15. You said let's say 15.

[00:41:40] Oh God.

[00:41:41] Okay. So the question is, if you could jump into a pool of something, what would you jump into? It could be a pool of anything. Normally, obviously it's a pool of water, a swimming pool.

[00:41:54] I tell you what it

[00:41:55] **James Thompson:** [00:41:55] wouldn't be, custard.

[00:41:57] Sorry, what?

[00:41:58] It wouldn't be custard. [00:42:00] I'll tell you that much.

[00:42:01] Why not?

[00:42:01] Because I think it would be horrible.

[00:42:02] And I think there'd be quite high viscosity of the surface and you'd probably just sit there, splat! And stay on the surface and maybe drown slowly.

[00:42:10] You

[00:42:10] **Luke Thompson:** [00:42:10] might drown in customs because it's so viscous that it would pull you under because ultimately you would sink.

[00:42:16] **James Thompson:** [00:42:16] Yeah, it'd be very thick and heavy. What would I like to jump into pool of? Sort of like

[00:42:21] **Luke Thompson:** [00:42:21] lukewarm water.

[00:42:23] I hate that phrase. Ugh.

[00:42:26] **James Thompson:** [00:42:26] Nice warm, warm water then.

[00:42:29] **Luke Thompson:** [00:42:29] Lukewarm is maybe my least favorite word or phrase in the English language.

[00:42:34] **James Thompson:** [00:42:34] It's because it's got your name in it and it makes you feel a bit creepy and icky.

[00:42:39] **Luke Thompson:** [00:42:39] Because the word is, is generally negative, isn't it? Yeah. I mean, sure. If you were describing the temperature of water, it's that kind of water, which is maybe just above body temperature.

[00:42:50] No, just above room temperature, I mean.

[00:42:53] Like a

[00:42:54] **James Thompson:** [00:42:54] bath that you've forgotten about and has gone cold, but it's still got some [00:43:00] residual heat. So it's kind of like when you put your finger in, it's almost like you can't feel there's any water there cause it's such

[00:43:06] **Luke Thompson:** [00:43:06] yeah. Just slightly above room

[00:43:08] **James Thompson:** [00:43:08] temperature so that cancels out the kind of chill effect of the water.

[00:43:12] So it feels like not really there.

[00:43:15] **Luke Thompson:** [00:43:15] Yeah.

[00:43:15] But you wouldn't want to lie in a bath full of lukewarm water and similarly...

[00:43:19] And it wouldn't be refreshing

[00:43:20] **James Thompson:** [00:43:20] and it wouldn't be warming. It would just be, yeah.

[00:43:22] **Luke Thompson:** [00:43:22] Creepy.

[00:43:24] Yeah. And similarly, you wouldn't want to get a lukewarm response to something you've done.

[00:43:29] Definitely not.

[00:43:30] If you, if you launched a new album and it got a lukewarm response from the, from the audiences. That's bad, isn't it? Because a lukewarm response is that kind of like, "yeah, pretty good yeah. Well done". Ugh, a lukewarm response. Oh wait, you would choose to jump into a pool of lukewarm water?

[00:43:47] No I just

[00:43:47] **James Thompson:** [00:43:47] said lukewarm water because it's a funny phrase, but maybe nice, cool, cool water on a, on a hot day.

[00:43:53] That was what I'd choose to jump into, rather than anything mad. Tempting to jump into a pool of, you know, Chateau [00:44:00] Margaux claret. Yeah. But it would just be a waste. It'd just be such a waste. Yes, I'd rather just have it all bottled and drink it slowly, rather than dive into, you know, I'm not that keen.

[00:44:11] **Luke Thompson:** [00:44:11] It's about jumping into a pool of something,

[00:44:14] **James Thompson:** [00:44:14] so, well, I'm not going to do it, I'm not going to waste all that Margaux, so no.

[00:44:17] OK, well

[00:44:19] **Luke Thompson:** [00:44:19] all right. Well, on that underwhelming bombshell brings us to the end of this session of Emergency Questions. There are more which we could come back to another at another time. But what do you think, do you think that the listeners have been entertained by this? I don't

[00:44:33] **James Thompson:** [00:44:33] know. It's hard to tell sometimes because sometimes you think it's funny and then you listen back to it and it's crap and vice versa.

[00:44:39] What was question 13? The, the law James'

[00:44:42] **Luke Thompson:** [00:44:42] law.

[00:44:43] Yeah, that's right. If you could get a law named after you, what would it be?

[00:44:47] **James Thompson:** [00:44:47] Maybe legalize skateboarding

[00:44:49] **Luke Thompson:** [00:44:49] worldwide.

[00:44:51] **James Thompson:** [00:44:51] So you couldn't be prosecuted for skateboarding anywhere just because it's a green form of transport, we should be encouraging foot power [00:45:00] rather than motor power and I think it would be a

great benefit if more people chose non-motored transport. Okay. That would be my argument anyway. I mean, it's not really the reason. I just want to be able to skate everywhere, but yeah, there we go. That'll do.

[00:45:17] **Luke Thompson:** [00:45:17] What was that

[00:45:17] **James Thompson:** [00:45:17] thing you used to say about skateboarding? Why are they always in a rush? And when they get there, they turn around and do it again.

[00:45:22] **Luke Thompson:** [00:45:22] Yeah. So you say it's a mode of transport. If that's the case, why did they just keep jumping down the same flight of stairs over and over again?

[00:45:29] That's no way to get from A to B.

[00:45:32] **James Thompson:** [00:45:32] Yeah, I agree.

[00:45:35] **Luke Thompson:** [00:45:35] Okay. Well, James, it's been fun talking to you and let's talk again on the podcast at some point we could do this or we could, we could cover something maybe with a bit more substance to it. We can see.

[00:45:46] Have a good

[00:45:46] **James Thompson:** [00:45:46] afternoon, say hello to your wife

[00:45:48] **Luke Thompson:** [00:45:48] and daughter.

[00:45:49] I will, I will. And you have a lovely pleasant Friday evening. All right. Cheers.

[00:45:54] **James Thompson:** [00:45:54] Okay, mate. Cheers!

[00:45:57] **Luke Thompson:** [00:45:57] Nice [00:46:00] one. Bye. Bye.

[00:46:03] OK I hope you enjoyed that. That was my brother and me in conversation. It's always enjoyable to talk to James and just ramble about anything, but I reckon next time we will do something specific, like maybe a British film or music or something like that. In any case, I will repeat now what I said before about the idea of using those questions for your own conversations.

[00:46:25] If you have speaking partners, conversation groups, either in the real world or online and you need questions, then I find that silly lighthearted stuff like that tends to work very well as a way to generate fun conversations, which are good for practicing your English. You'll find the question list on the episode page on my website.

[00:46:47] If you're watching this on you YouTube, don't forget to like and subscribe and leave a comment to let me know what you think about the text video format I've been doing recently with the text printed on the screen as [00:47:00] you listen. What do you think of that? Let me know in the comments section. One commenter somewhere assumed that I was transcribing my episodes now in advance of recording.

[00:47:10] Well, I can assure you that that isn't happening, except in some cases when I'm reading out a specific introduction or ending to an episode that I have written in advance, but for the most part, my episodes and conversations are



to my son's English teacher, Mr Reed, who conducted the survey in 10 classrooms, he teaches. So most of those who answered who are high school students, Mr Reed said that some of them knew your podcast, but not your appearance. So the survey was conducted fairly. I would say. Here are the results.

[00:51:24] 155 people [51%] said it was you talking. About half of them thought it was you, but the rest thought it was not you.

[00:51:34] Okay. So 50, 51%, that does count as a majority. I don't know if there's a specific restriction on what can be considered a majority, but I think that's a majority of people.

[00:51:46] Next was 59 people, that's 19%, said it was Paul and Keiko says, my sister thought it was Paul talking, by the way.

[00:51:56] 46 people, that's 15%, said it was David Crystal. This [00:52:00] number is higher than I expected.

[00:52:02] Five people, that's 2%, said it was Tom Misch. He is the youngest among five handsome men. Maybe that's the reason he didn't have many votes.

[00:52:12] Yeah, it must be difficult if you are the youngest among five handsome men, because you'd be thinking I am handsome. I'm a handsome man, and these guys are handsome men too, but I'm younger than them. So what chance do I have? Is probably what he was thinking. And then 38 people that's 13% said it was Gerard Butler.

[00:52:32] Some of the people must have known him and his name. So the number is lower, I suppose. And Keiko continues. So what do you think of the results? And what do you think of my taste for handsome men? And she says they all happen to be British. It's excellent. Right? By the way, my son's teacher, Mr Reed, who helped me to do this survey is a kind and handsome gentlemen from the United States.

[00:52:57] There are handsome men around the world. [00:53:00] All around the world. There are handsome men all around the world. I guess there are. As to the results says Keiko, the biggest surprise for me was that many people guessed it was David Crystal.

[00:53:12] Yes, weird. Imagine that they listened to my voice and they see the, the face of David Crystal.

[00:53:18] And if you don't know what David crystal looks like, just imagine sort of like, a sort of Father Christmas, something like that. Father Christmas, but he's really good at linguistics, that sort of thing. And he's jolly as well. And, you know, generous. I think it sort of fits, I don't dunno. Anyway. Keiko was surprised that David Crystal was, was in there too, that many people thought it was him.

[00:53:43] And she says it was very interesting and fun to plan, conduct and get the results of the survey. I could not have experienced this without the competition and the support by people who helped me do the survey. I would like to thank you and thank them for this opportunity. It would be my pleasure if you [00:54:00] find my survey and the results interesting. If you have any questions, I would be so happy to answer. And she says, thank you so much again, for the fun and wonderful podcast. I always listen to your podcast as you are talking to me, like my friend, I'm sure that a lot of listeners feel that way. By the way, I was the one who asked you the question about what you had for lunch when you did a YouTube live stream last year.



[00:54:25] Oh, that was a great question. It's always a good one. What did you have for lunch? And you get to talk about how you cooked the food. Wa-hey! Whoops. Nearly dropped my microphone there in all the excitement. You get to talk about how you cook your food.

[00:54:38] And I ended up talking about how I cook rice and Keiko said, yes. I was so happy to have my question read and answered so kindly about how you cooked the rice. Thank you so much. Thank you very much for that as well. The world is, is still in a strange situation because of the pandemic. Please do take care.

[00:54:56] I wish you and your family safety, health, and joy. Thank you [00:55:00] very much as always. Warmest regards, Keiko.

[00:55:03] Well, that was Keiko's email. I hope he found it. Interesting. Thank you so much Keiko for sharing the results of this fairly extensive survey. And it seems that 51% of people seem to be able to get it right, but there you go. Listeners, dear listeners.

[00:55:20] I wonder what you thought. I looked like when you first listened to my podcast. The first time you heard my voice speaking on the podcast, what did you think I looked like? Were you surprised when you eventually discovered my actual face or not? Tell me what you thought I looked like when you listened to this podcast for the first time, let us know in the comments section.

[00:55:44] But for now, it's time to say goodbye. Bye bye. Bye. Actually, it's not time to say goodbye. Bye bye yet. So that's coming in a little bit, so anyway, there you go. That's kind of interesting, isn't it? I wonder what you thought I looked like when you first listened to this podcast. Let me know in the comments section.

[00:55:59] Thanks [00:56:00] again to Keiko.

[00:56:01] Another thing before we finish again, I feel like Colombo, you know, now you know that detective. Oh, just one more thing, you know, feel a bit like Colombo here. One other, one more thing before we finish. So reviews on, I guess it's, you can review this podcast on iTunes. You can review it on Google Play, is it?

[00:56:20] It's lovely. If you can leave a nice review, if you enjoy this podcast, if you feel like you've learned things from it at all or that you've just enjoyed listening to it, then leave me a review on wherever you get your podcasts, because it helps. And sometimes I do sometimes check my Apple reviews.

[00:56:36] I think it's iTunes or Apple podcasts anywhere. I check my reviews there sometimes just to have a look. And if you have left me a review on iTunes, I think the podcast has got like a four point. Is it like 4.7, 4.8? 4.9 out of five rating, which is good. That's great. And if you have left me a review or a rating on iTunes, then thank you very much.

[00:57:00] [00:57:00] It actually really helps. That does make a difference. It's not just, Oh, it makes me feel good and confident about doing the podcast, but in terms of how the podcast performs, those reviews and ratings, they do make a difference because again, it helps the algorithms. This podcast is more likely to make it to those promoted lists.

[00:57:20] If it has plenty of good ratings and reviews or, you know, it's likely to be promoted or categorized on iTunes or wherever you get your podcasts. Most of the time, the reviews, my reviews for my podcast are fine. And it's cool to read that stuff,

but occasionally I get a negative one and it's always, it's always like, like a dagger in my side.

[00:57:43] Yeah. Twist the knife. For some reason, cause you know, we're human beings. I'm sure it's. The same for you, if you ever get feedback in any way that the sort of positive feedback is all kind of like, yep. Okay. Okay, great. Great, great, good. And then the negative feedback is the kind of the bit that kind [00:58:00] of gets you for some reason.

[00:58:01] So every now and then I do get a negative review and I got one, I noticed one the other day and I... This time I felt compelled to share this one star review that I saw the other day. So this is a one-star review for Luke's English Podcast. Are you ready for this listeners? Okay, so here is the one-star review and the title of the review is this.

[00:58:22] DO NOT SING A SONG!!!!

[00:58:24] Okay. DO NOT SING A SONG in full caps lock. Do not sing a song with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 exclamation marks after it. Now this, if this is you, if you're the person listening to this, if you wrote this then, well, you know, I'm going to respond to what you wrote, but anyway, DO NOT SING A SONG!!!!

[00:58:45] And the review says, "I like the podcast."

[00:58:48] Okay. That's a good start. "I like the podcast, but he often sings a song. Even [00:59:00] though he is not good at singing a song. Whenever he starts singing, I stopped hearing." And the name I've blanked out the name via Apple podcast in Great Britain. So apparently this person is in Britain, but I don't know if this is a British person.

[00:59:14]"I like the podcast." Okay, good. You like the podcast? Fine. "But he often sings a song, even though he's not good at singing a song. Whenever he starts singing I stopped hearing". Whenever he starts singing I stop hearing? So my, my voice is powerful because it completely removes this person's ability to hear.

[00:59:36] "Whenever he starts singing I stop hearing."

[00:59:39] So just super singing power. I can completely cancel his hearing or her hearing abilities. I think the person means whenever he starts singing, I stop listening. Yes. Yes. So first of all, if this is you, hello, sorry, you don't like my singing, even though you do like my podcast. [01:00:00] So can I just walk through the logic of what you've done there though? Can I just walk through some of the logic of what you've written? So first of all, you like the podcast and you must listen to the episodes all the way to the end pretty much.

[01:00:14] And everything's great because you like the podcast. If you like it, right? So then at the very end of the episode, sometimes I say to you, I'm going to, I'm going to I'm going to sing a song now, okay. I'm going to sing a song now, but if you don't like the bits where I sing, you can always stop listening now and you won't miss anything because this is the end of the episode. There's nothing else after this accepts a song. That's what I normally say. So I get right to the end of the episode. Oh, I like this, I liked this. I like this. And then I say, I'm going to, I'm going to sing a song now, but you don't have to listen to it because this is, we're basically done.

[01:00:51] But apparently this was, this was too much for this commenter who despite enjoying what, 95% of the content and having, [01:01:00] let's say fair warning, that singing is about to happen. Despite those things. This commenter are

continue to listen in some kind of masochistic bid to get to the very end of the episode, like, ah, ah, just dragging themselves to the end of the episode, must reach the end, ah, music destroying my hearing skills.

[01:01:20] So yes, in some masochistic bid to get to the very end of the episode, and then they chose to write this one star review, despite liking all the rest of it, like 95% of it. And then, then just one thing, ah, one star.

[01:01:34] So the thing is with reviews sometimes that I think that, and I've been reviewed many times, obviously for these podcasts, but I've been reviewed also as a comedian as well. I've been reviewed several times by websites, popular websites that review comedians. And I've been reviewed as a teacher, so many times by the students themselves and by my [01:02:00] trainers and my managers, I'm just constantly being reviewed all the damn time. But the thing is with reviews sometimes is that a review often tells you more about the person writing the review than it does about the thing being reviewed. But really though, I am sorry that you don't like my singing. And of course, I know that it's not everyone's cup of tea. Of course I'm well aware of that.

[01:02:23] But I usually do it at the end of episodes. I tell you I'm going to do it so you can just skip the songs and you're not missing anything else in the episode. I think a one star review for this is a little bit hysterical. Aaaaaah one star! Especially if you actually like the podcast, but I shared this review on Twitter with the name removed.

[01:02:47] But I shared it on Twitter and people wrote back that they, they actually liked my singing and it helped them identify the lyrics and also introduced them to new songs that they hadn't heard before, which is nice. So [01:03:00] naturally I am not going to stop singing at the ends of episodes sometimes because it makes me happy and a portion of my audience enjoy it.

[01:03:09] And that's just the risk I'm willing to take. In my defense listeners, I am recording my voice without any effects whatsoever. So literally I'm just here in front of the microphone, guitar, and I just sing without any effects at all. Now these days, especially these days, singers will drown their voice in various effects, like reverb in particular. Now reverb is an effect which makes you sound like you're singing in a big hall or something like that, and it sort of like your voice reverberates and it kind of covers up any flaws in your singing, with big atmospheric reverb or they will use delay effects, which give the voice a bit of an echo, which again, sounds like you're in some kind of like you're on some old rock and roll record or something like that, or, you know, those [01:04:00] karaoke effects when you go to karaoke sometimes Yes, and we do, we pronounce it karaoke in English. When you go to karaoke and you get, you get a really, really good karaoke machine and it swamps your voice in reverb and bits of delay and stuff, and it can make you sound amazing.

[01:04:18] You've got, wow. I'm such a great singer. And you know, that's fairly cheap stuff, but the, the big artists are using lots of reverb and effects and things, and they also even use auto tune to fix sharp or flat notes. So basically the voice just gets completely, automatically tuned. I'm not, obviously I'm not using any of that.

[01:04:37] I'm just using the same microphone setup that I use for recording my talking. So the sound is dry meaning that there's zero reverb. I mean, really. If I clap my hands, it's almost no reverb. I mean, there's some in this room, but you're always trying to remove reverb

[01:04:55] So there's no reverb in here at all.

[01:04:57]Just totally dry. And the mic is, is close to my [01:05:00] mouth when I'm, when I'm talking. So you hear every detail and every little error. Hopefully you're also able to hear the lyrics a bit better than on the original songs in some cases. I always try to make an effort to make the lyrics like audible ,and you can always find the lyrics linked on the episode page if you'd like to read them too.

[01:05:18] But I would like to now sing a song at the end of this episode. Not only because I want to flip the Vs at this reviewer and remind them that they can just tap that stop button, whatever, whenever I start singing, because the episode is done and why torture yourself anyway, as a tribute to you, I am now going to sing a song and this is your singing warning.

[01:05:37]Actually I think the lesson I can learn from this is this basically don't read online reviews of your work. Ultimately I get the best results from this when I just sort of follow my heart and do what I want to do. That's always what this has been about in fact, I just do it my way and if some people don't like it fine. They can just jog on.

[01:05:57] Okay. So I would like to sing now. Have I given you [01:06:00] enough warning?

[01:06:01]It was nice of you to join us.

[01:06:05] Okay. That's the end of the episode, literally all there is after this is just some singing that you don't need to hear and then the jingle. So you can just move on to something else now, if you like. Okay. Right. Great. Great then. Okay. See you. Bye. Have a good one. Well, you're still here. You're still here.

[01:06:21] Okay. You just hang it, hang around then. I don't know why you do this to yourself. I really don't know. Anyway, if you keep listening now and you don't like it, well, you've only got yourself to blame haven't you? So the song I'd like to do is it's called the Urban Spaceman. By the Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band who were a sort of ridiculous Dada pop group from the 1960s.

[01:06:45]And you're probably thinking what's the Beatles connection? Okay. They were in a Beatles film. It was called Magical Mystery Tour. They turn up as a band playing their song, Death Cab For Cutie in the film. And also, [01:07:00] so this is, yes, this is another song written by Neil Innes who you probably know by now is like one of my favorite songwriters, but maybe someone that, not that many people know anyway, and this is probably his biggest hit reaching number five in the UK charts in 1968.

[01:07:19] Fun fact, this song was produced by none other than Paul McCartney under the pseudonym, Apollo C Vermouth. So on the back of the record, it says produced by Apollo C Vermouth, but actually that was Paul, Paul McCartney. Again, you know you'll find the lyrics. You'll find the lyrics linked on the page for the episode.

[01:07:40] If you don't like my singing, here's a little heads-up for your best tap that stop button. Don't forget to like, and subscribe though, just before you do it.

[01:07:48] Right. Everyone else. You're all on board then. Cool. Nice. Let's do the song. What's this song about what do you reckon? What do you think? You'll find the song lyrics linked on the page for the episode.

[01:07:57] I'm just going to pause the podcast and make sure this [01:08:00] guitar is fully tuned. I'm going to chew. I'm going to choose some nup. I need to chew up. I'm going to take some nap and I'm, I'm not going to chew it because I need to chew nup.

Huh? I need to tune up. I need to tune up anyway. Right. I'll do that. And then we'll get started.

[01:08:17] Okay. I'm in tune. Can I do this? Is it possible for me to do this without ...? Okay. So there is a moment when I'm going to have to scroll the scroll, the page down here on my computer, which means we're gonna have to lift my hand off at one point in the song. Huh. Okay. Well, we're going to try it anyway.

[01:08:38] Professional conditions here, at Luke's English Podcast. Okay. So I need to do it. I need to do it up here.

[01:08:49] Can you hear the guitar? Can you hear the guitar on the voice? Give us, see if we can get.

[01:09:02] [01:09:00] Okay.

[01:09:02] I'm the urban spaceman baby. I got speed. I've got everything I need.

[01:09:23] I'm the urban spaceman baby. I can fly.

[01:09:27] I'm a supersonic guy.

[01:09:32] I don't need pleasure. I don't feel pain. If you were to knock me down, I'd just get up again.

[01:09:42] I'm the urban spaceman, babe and I'm making out, I'm all [01:10:00] about.

[01:10:02] I wake up every morning with a smile upon my face, my natural exuberance spills out all over the place.

[01:10:21] Scrolling Scrolling Scrolling Scrolling Scrolling Scrolling Scrolling

[01:10:25] I'm the urban spaceman I'm intelligent and clean. Know what I mean?

[01:10:35] I'm the urban spaceman, as a lover second to none. It's a lot of fun.

[01:10:45] I never let my friends down. I've never made a boob.

[01:10:50] I'm a glossy magazine, an advert in the tube. I'm the urban spaceman babe but here comes the twist.

[01:11:00] [01:11:00] I don't exist.

[01:11:17] There you go, listeners. Thank you very much for listening to my podcast. That is the end of the episode and I will speak to you soon. But for now it's time to say. Goodbye bye bye bye bye bye bye...

[01:11:30] Thanks for listening to Luke's English Podcast. For more information, visit [teacherluke.co.uk](http://teacherluke.co.uk)