

Understanding English Grammar

Linguistic Problem of the Month, May 2011: Molistic

Original problem by Dragomir Radev, Copyright © 2008-9 North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad. Current adaptation by Tom Payne.

Imagine that you heard the following sentences:

Jane is molistic and slimpy.

Jennifer is cluvious and brostic.

Molly and Kyle are slimpy but danty.

The teacher is danty and plamby.

Mary is blitty but plamby.

Jeremiah is not only sleshful but also weasy.

Even though tramsy, Jim is sleshful.

Strungy and struffy, Diane was a pleasure to watch.

Even though weasy, John is strungy.

Carla is blitty but struffy.

The salespeople were cluvious and not slimpy.

Then, which of the following would you be likely to hear?

- a. Meredith is blitty and brostic.
- b. The singer was not only molistic but also cluvious.
- c. Mary's boyfriend is danty but sleshful.

For each of the following adjectives, indicate whether it describes a desirable or undesirable characteristic:

blitty:

brostic:

cluvious:

danty:

molistic:

plamby:

sleshful:

slimpy:

struffy:

strungy:

tramsy:

weasy: