Creative stories out of Lateral Thinking Edward de Bono

Mr Churchill sat down next to lady Astor at dinner one day. She turned to him and said, ‘Mr Churchill, if I was married to you I should put poison in your coffee’.

Mr Churchill turned to her and said: ‘Madam, if I was married to you … I should drink the coffee’.

A policeman was seen walking along the main street pulling a piece of string. Do you know why he was pulling the piece of string? ….. (Have you ever tried pushing a piece of string?)

A flock of sheep was moving slowly down a country lane which was bounded by high banks. A motorist in a hurry came up behind the flock and urged the shepherd to move his sheep to the side so that the car could drive through. The shepherd refused since he could not be sure of keeping all the sheep out of the way of the car in such a narrow lane. Instead he reversed the situation. He told the car to stop and then quietly turned the flock round and drove it back past the stationary car.

In Aesop’s fable the water in the jug was at too low level for the bird to drink. The bird was thinking of taking water out of the jug but instead he thought of putting something in. So he dropped pebbles into the jug until the level of water rose high enough to drink.

A man jumped off the top of a skyscraper. As he passed the third floor window, he was heard to mutter: ‘so far so good’

The duchess was much overweight. Physician after physician tried to reduce her weight by putting her on a near starvation diet and each physician was in turn dismissed on account of the unpleasantness of the diet. At last there came a physician who fussed over the good lady. Unlike the others he told her that she was not eating enough to sustain her huge body. He recommended that she drink a glass of sweetened milk half-an-hour before all meals (which of course reduced her appetite very much).