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Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First" routine is for me one of the funniest comic routines of all time. I never cease to be entertained when I see or hear it. Wordplay: puns, malapropisms, spoonerisms, etc. whether intentional or unintentional provide quick and funny moments in life. Sketches like "Who's on First" may take a few minutes but most wordplay humor are short momentary flashes provoking a smile or a frown. When this type of humor occurs spontaneously it's more enjoyable than if staged; the unexpected as opposed to scripted.

My wife and I traveling in England years ago were going to take a train from Bristol to London. It was suggested we buy first class tickets. At the ticket counter my wife tells me to ask the agent what's the difference between coach and first class. I asked the agent "what's the difference between coach verses first class". He says 5 pounds (cost). I turn to my wife and say its 5 pounds; she stares at me and says "no, what's the difference in service." Oh, I turn back to the agent and again ask "what's the difference between coach verses first class". He stares at me and says "5 pounds. I already told you." A failure in communications! "Ah, I mean what difference in service?" Two seats verse three for row width. To this day when ever Hilda and I have a misunderstanding one or the other will simply say "5 pounds". A moment of humor from a misunderstanding that still entertains us and grounds us in our personal history.

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