

101 Riddles, How To Write Them

By Nathan Fearon (Blaze)

www.101Riddles.com

Page 2: 101 Riddles

Page 70: How to write your own riddles

Page 80: Example answers

Page 82: Printable riddle sheets

Riddles 1 - 3

- 1 Hiding in a corner of the house - with whiskers and tail.
I am a ?????? - and eat cheese without fail.**

- 2 I have horns, but am not an ox.
Carry a pack-saddle, but slower than a fox.
Upon my journey I leave silver in my wake.
Seeing the world, low as a snake.
I tuck in my eyes and tail.
Safe in my house, I am a ??????**

- 3 Either bug or bird - can make my name.
Whichever you heard - I'm a lady just the same.**

Answers 1 - 3

- 1** *Hiding in a corner of the house - with whiskers and tail.
I am a ?????? - and eat cheese without fail.*

We are of course starting with the easiest one first. The answer is a mouse, which along with the clues, the rhyming hints at. Technically, mice prefer a lot of other foods over cheese, however they are still happy to eat it, and it's too strong a stereotype not to use it for the riddle.

- 2** *I have horns, but am not an ox.
Carry a pack-saddle, but slower than a fox.
Upon my journey I leave silver in my wake.
Seeing the world, low as a snake.
I tuck in my eyes and tail.
Safe in my house, I am a ??????*

The answer is a snail. While most of us are used to small garden snails, the largest snail on record is over 27 centimetres/10 inches.

- 3** *Either bug or bird - can make my name.
Whichever you heard - I'm a lady just the same.*

The answer is either ladybird or ladybug (used most commonly in North America). While the riddle is easiest if you have heard of both names for it, I hope it's possible to figure it out by knowing just one of the two names.

Riddles 4 - 6

- 4 Black, white and read all over.
Sometimes I'm fetched by rover.**
- 5 Finding food shoreward - I always take a pinch.
Don't go back or forward - but sideways is a
cinch.**
- 6 I always have my rattle - shaking it before I
battle.**

Answers 4 - 6

- 4** *Black, white and read all over.
Sometimes I'm fetched by rover.*

The answer is a newspaper. Black, white and read all over is an old riddle, but I added the extra line to make it more obvious it's a newspaper, rather than a sunburned zebra or penguin.

- 5** *Finding food shoreward - I always take a pinch.
Don't go back or forward - but sideways is a cinch.*

The answer is a crab. Most types of crabs can actually walk forwards (and some which don't walk at all, just dig), but sideways is still usually easiest for them.

- 6** *I always have my rattle - shaking it before I battle.*

The answer is a rattlesnake. Although they will rattle their tails when they are scared, they are silent when they hunt prey.

Riddles 7 - 9

- 7 Hammering a nail
He let out a wail.
(explain what happened).**
- 8 I smell more than anything else.
Even a dead mouse.
Smelling bad or good.
Depending on where you stood.**
- 9 A third of your life I take.
Striking when you are not awake.**

Answers 7 - 9

7 *Hammering a nail - he let out a wail. (explain what happened).*

The answer is that the nail he hammered wasn't the metal spiky one, but his fingernail.

8 *I smell more than anything else - even a dead mouse. Smelling bad or good - depending on where you stood.*

The answer is your nose. Bears are considered to be the animal with the best sense of smell, with some travelling up to 29 kilometres/18 miles to food sources.

9 *A third of your life I take - striking when you are not awake.*

The answer is sleep. It may be less than a third for those of us who suffer from insomnia, but I assure you, it's nothing to envy.

Riddles 10 - 12

10 A canine in heat - without feet - people eat.

**11 Count on us to regale.
If you wish to hear a tale.**

**Open our mouths wide.
And silently we speak.**

**Languages we can guide
From Chinese to Greek.**

**But based on our name.
What we say is always the same.**

**12 Pull me and I stretch, shoot and bend.
My end's my beginning and my beginning's my
end.**

Answers 10 - 12

10 *A canine in heat - without feet - people eat.*

The answer is a hotdog. While it can refer to either the sausage in a bun, or even just the sausage, in New Zealand it is mostly used for a battered sausage on a stick, similar to a corndog.

**11 *Count on us to regale - if you wish to hear a tale.
Open our mouths wide - and silently we speak.
Languages we can guide - from Chinese to Greek.
But based on our name - what we say is always the same.***

The answer is books. While there are countless different books in the world, generally any with the same name/title will have the same contents.

**12 *Pull me and I stretch, shoot and bend.
My end's my beginning and my beginning's my end.***

The answer is a rubber band. I still find it fascinating that you can keep twisting a rubber band, turning it inside out again and again without damaging it.

Riddles 13 - 15

- 13** An army of trillions, a squad for a fee.
In my death, I kill those who buy me.
An assassin in your home invited.
I carry out my mission burnt or lighted.
- 14** Long teeth and my body's light.
The human head I bite.
I live in people's pockets, bags and drawers.
Though I have no legs, feet or claws.
- 15** The fastest I flee.
Yet am all people see.

Answers 13 - 15

- 13** *An army of trillions, a squad for a fee.
In my death, I kill those who buy me.
An assassin in your home invited.
I carry out my mission burnt or lighted.*

The answer is cigarettes. Currently there are 6.5 trillion cigarettes produced per year, estimated to cause the deaths of around 7 million people per year.

- 14** *Long teeth and my body's light.
The human head I bite.
I live in people's pockets, bags and drawers.
Though I have no legs, feet or claws.*

The answer is a comb, but my wife pointed out that it could also cover many types of hair clips.

- 15** *The fastest I flee.
Yet am all people see.*

The answer is light, or to be more precise, photons.

Riddles 16 - 18

- 16 I eat and eat, and grow to the sky.
But when at last, I drink, I die.**
- 17 An explosive that people eat.
White as snow, I grow like wheat.**
- 18 I am the hope or fear of many, yet never seen.
Always coming, yet never been.
I never was, but am always to be.
Both good or bad, people foresee.**

Answers 16 - 18

16 *I eat and eat, and grow to the sky.
But when at last, I drink, I die.*

The answer is fire, although it's possible to have a fire burning underwater, depending on what fuel you are using.

17 *An explosive that people eat.
White as snow, I grow like wheat.*

The answer is popcorn. While it is of course very popular today, people have been eating it for thousands of years.

18 *I am the hope or fear of many, yet never seen.
Always coming, yet never been.
I never was, but am always to be.
Both good or bad, people foresee.*

The answer is tomorrow. I hope your now is good and your tomorrow is even better.

Riddles 19 - 21

**19 I sound like a hog, and I lie on the ground.
Hard, dead and round.**

**20 Where I dwell - hanging up high,
I hunt for a smell - upon which I cry.
A scream or a bell - I hope you don't die.**

**21 I cannot see, yet I saw.
Repeatedly hitting the floor.**

Answers 19 - 21

**19 *I sound like a hog, and I lie on the ground.
Hard, dead and round.***

The answer is a log, although it could also be argued that a dead hog could fit. I suppose then, rather than sounding like it, it would have the exact same sound. It's use of "sound like" makes it similar to the riddle "what's orange and sounds like a parrot?".

**20 *Where I dwell - hanging up high,
I hunt for a smell - upon which I cry.
A scream or a bell - I hope you don't die.***

The answer is a smoke alarm or CO2 detector. While all homes should have smoke alarms, you should also have a CO2 detector if your house has anything which burns any kind of fuel (gas, wood, coal, petrol/gasoline, etc.). In the US alone, tens of thousands of people get CO2 poisoning with around 500 deaths per year.

**21 *I cannot see, yet I saw.
Repeatedly hitting the floor.***

The answer is a seesaw. The name seesaw comes from French, and means "this that".

Riddles 22 - 24

- 22 Each year I smile a warm glowing light.
Trying to startle, and give you a fright.**
- 23 Used, but not seen.
A pair to the poor, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without me, in minutes, all would die.**
- 24 Hollow I am - and I do not inflate.
I'm always a gram - but have no weight.**

Answers 22 - 24

**22 *Each year I smile a warm glowing light.
Trying to startle, and give you a fright.***

The answer is a jack-o-lantern, and I admit trying to startle, and give you a fright is a bit of a stretch. When I think of them sitting there, trying to scare each person but failing again and again, I feel rather sorry for them.

**23 *Used, but not seen.
A pair to the poor, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without me, in minutes, all would die.***

The answer is lungs. Those suffering from cardiac arrest can't be saved after around 10 to 15 minutes without oxygen being supplied to their body. If someone is performing CPR on them though, not only is there far more time for the paramedics to arrive, but they are also less likely to have brain damage once they have been resuscitated.

**24 *Hollow I am - and I do not inflate.
I'm always a gram - but have no weight.***

The answer is a hologram. While it could be argued that the photons which make a hologram may have weight in a certain sense, if you shine them on a scale, it will still show 0.

Riddles 25 - 27

25 Hard to the touch, great wealth I can claim.
I am your servant who bares your name.
Use me too much, neglecting to save.
You will soon become my slave.

26 Invisible, but can be seen.
Used by the servant, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without my contents, all would die.

27 Speak, and voiceless, I answer.
You created me before I was.
Lest I would have never been.
I came to be after a pause.
Yet I hide unseen.
Light and darkness cannot find me.
Nor chains bind me.

Answers 25 - 27

- 25 *Hard to the touch, great wealth I can claim.
I am your servant who bares your name.
Use me too much, neglecting to save.
You will soon become my slave.***

The answer is a credit card. While there are many advantages to using one responsibly, their extremely high interest rate means that those in debt will soon be in far greater debt.

- 26 *Invisible, but can be seen.
Used by the servant, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without my contents, all would die.***

This is a slightly different version of riddle #23. The answer this time is a drinking glass. A healthy adult can usually survive 3 weeks without food, but only 3 or 4 days without water.

- 27 *Speak, and voiceless, I answer.
You created me before I was, lest I would have never been.
I came to be after a pause, yet I hide unseen.
Light and darkness cannot find me, nor chains bind me.***

The answer is an echo. Personally whenever I read a riddle like this, I am slightly disappointed by the answer, because I was hoping for something more magical. Then again, it could be argued that everything we experience is amazing and magical, depending on how you see it.

Riddles 28 - 30

- 28** A truck of wood.
And as it went.
I saw the wood.
Was neither straight nor bent.
- 29** Legs, but don't walk, food but can't eat.
I just hide beneath a sheet.
- 30** You command and we obey.
Yet are lashed 20,000 times a day.
We come in many colours, and often match.
Feeding on light when you open our hatch.

Answers 28 - 30

28 *A truck of wood - and as it went.
I saw the wood - was neither straight nor bent.*

The answer is sawdust. Be extremely careful when cutting wood, and sawdust is a carcinogen, so avoid inhaling it.

29 *Legs, but don't walk, food but can't eat.
I just hide beneath a sheet.*

The answer is a table. I would like to give a super interesting fact about tables, but I can't think of one.

30 *You command and we obey.
Yet are lashed 20,000 times a day.
We come in many colours, and often match.
Feeding on light when you open our hatch.*

The answer is eyes. Humans blink somewhere around 15 to 20 times per minute, which would be up to 28,800 times in 24 hours, however if you take time spent sleeping into account, 20,000 is probably a high estimate.

Riddles 31 - 33

- 31** The opposite of a god am I.
Beneath the ground, I place pieces of those that die.
- 32** I neither fire arrows, nor can you wear me on your head.
Try to catch me, and I am elsewhere instead.
- 33** Pipes and bag you hear.
Carrying nothing but air.

Answers 31 - 33

- 31 *The opposite of a god am I.
Beneath the ground, I place pieces of those that die.***

The answer is a dog. Dog's generally bury their surplus food in case they want it later, so they are more likely to do so if you give them bones or treats when they are already full.

- 32 *I neither fire arrows, nor can you wear me on your head.
Try to catch me, and I am elsewhere instead.***

The answer is a rainbow. Rainbows are usually thought to have 7 different colours, but the amount can be higher or lower, depending on someone's colour classifications and their eyesight. It's estimated the human eye can see around 100 different hues.

- 33 *Pipes and bag you hear.
Carrying nothing but air.***

The answer is bagpipes. While they are currently an instrument strongly associated with Scotland, there is evidence some kind of bagpipes were used in ancient Rome and even in the Middle East around 1000 BC.

Riddles 34 - 36

34 I dry, yet become more wet.

35 A party with punch served to the guests of honour alone.

Showing off neither coats or hats, but the belts they own.

36 We sometimes cause discomfort and pain.

Getting rid of us is quite a strain.

**We small, white things live in your head and bite.
But we are not a parasite.**

Answers 34 - 36

34 *I dry, yet become more wet.*

The answer is a towel. Towels appear to have been invented in Turkey around the 17th century.

**35 *A party with punch served to the guests of honour alone.
Showing off neither coats or hats, but the belts they own.***

The answer is a boxing match. Boxing existed in different forms over 3,000 years ago, with evidence of an early type of boxing glove used in Crete around the year 1500 BC.

**36 *We sometimes cause discomfort and pain.
Getting rid of us is quite a strain.
We small, white things live in your head and bite.
But we are not a parasite.***

The answer is teeth. Most mammals form two sets of teeth (starting with their baby teeth). However, elephants, kangaroos and manatees will keep on growing new teeth.

Riddles 37 - 39

- 37 Wingless, yet I fly.
Touch me, and I die.**
- 38 Constructed in a day.
But in a moment, swept away.
Stronger than steel, finer than thread.
Those who visit are soon dead.**
- 39 No dog or rope.
Nor wall or slope.
Just a ball and me alone.
Yet it returns each time it's thrown.**

Answers 37 - 39

37 *Wingless, yet I fly.
Touch me, and I die.*

The answer is a soap bubble. Currently, Gary Pearlman has the record for the largest bubble, with a volume of almost 3,400 square feet.

38 *Constructed in a day.
But in a moment, swept away.
Stronger than steel, finer than thread.
Those who visit are soon dead.*

The answer is a spider web. Spiders' silk has many incredible properties, and based on weight, is around 5 times as strong as steel.

39 *No dog or rope.
Nor wall or slope.
Just a ball and me alone.
Yet it returns each time it's thrown.*

The ball is being thrown straight up, and gravity is bringing it back. During the Apollo 15 mission, David Scott demonstrated that on the moon, if you drop a hammer and a feather, they both fall at the same speed.

Riddles 40 - 42

**40 Inside me lies a golden treasure.
That was not gained through sloth or leisure.
Knock me down and you better run.
For out of me an army shall come.**

**41 I'm a long furry thing.
Not much bigger than a toad.
Sometimes when people sing.
I explode.**

**42 You wash and drink.
When I spit in the sink.**

Answers 40 - 42

- 40** *Inside me lies a golden treasure.
That was not gained through sloth or leisure.
Knock me down and you better run.
For out of me an army shall come.*

The answer is a beehive. Man-made beehives were used in Egypt, with depictions from over 4400 years ago.

- 41** *I'm a long furry thing.
Not much bigger than a toad.
Sometimes when people sing.
I explode.*

The answer is a weasel, notable in the song "pop goes the weasel". While no one is certain what the lyrics of the song mean, people suspect it is either referring to a spinner's weasel used to measure thread (as they would make a popping noise when you used them), or it may be Cockney rhyming slang, about someone pawning their coat (weasels are like stoats, and stoat rhymes with coat).

- 42** *You wash and drink.
When I spit in the sink.*

The answer is a tap/faucet. When I think about it, I am amazed how much I take having taps with running water for granted, rather than having to carry bucket after bucket of water from the nearest source.

Riddles 43 - 45

- 43 Tall and long - and removing my hat.
I tell tale or song - but it will be flat.**
- 44 I can be seen, but have no weight.
I shrank when I ate.**
- 45 My ear can't hear, but I breathe.
I'm capped in brown, cloaked in green.
You can cook me if you must.
But I warn you, I might combust.**

Answers 43 - 45

- 43** *Tall and long - and removing my hat.
I tell tale or song - but it will be flat.*

The answer is a pen. The first ballpoint pen was invented around 1888 by a tanner who wanted a pen that could write on leather.

- 44** *I can be seen, but have no weight.
I shrank when I ate.*

The answer is a hole. No matter how much you fill or empty a hole, it will always be a whole hole and never half a hole.

- 45** *My ear can't hear, but I breathe.
I'm capped in brown, cloaked in green.
You can cook me if you must.
But I warn you, I might combust.*

The answer is corn or maize. Explode is probably more accurate than combust, but it doesn't rhyme nearly as well. While corn is popular around the world now, originally it was only in the Americas, where it has been selectively bred over time.

Riddles 46 - 48

- 46** Down I lie.
Leaving tracks wherever I go.
Get in my way and die.
Animals to me are slow.
Wherever I go, I'm followed.
Each of us are hollowed.
To a path I am bound.
Letting out a mighty sound.
- 47** I always go up, yet never come down.
To some I bring joy, to others a frown.
- 48** Living atop a post in the ground.
For post is what I eat.
To that same post I am bound.
For I have no legs or feet.

Answers 46 - 48

- 46** *Down I lie - leaving tracks wherever I go.
Get in my way and die. Animals to me are slow.
Wherever I go, I'm followed. Each of us are hollowed.
To a path I am bound. Letting out a mighty sound.*

The answer is a train. The part on the front that does the pulling is the locomotive, and when it has carriages, together they are a train.

- 47** *I always go up, yet never come down.
To some I bring joy, to others a frown.*

The answer is your age. While everyone ages as time flows, time doesn't flow equally everywhere. For instance, time dilation is caused by extremely fast movement.

If you were to travel at 99% of the speed of light for 1 year, 7 years would have passed on Earth.

- 48** *Living atop a post in the ground - for post is what I eat.
To that same post I am bound - for I have no legs or feet.*

The answer is a letterbox / mailbox. In 1914 in the United States, someone mailed their daughter to her grandparents for \$0.53. After that, the post office banned mailing humans.

Riddles 49 - 51

**49 The more taken, the more left behind.
And at that place, I am confined.**

**50 In the woods, under a tree.
It was there he got me.
He sat to seek me in vain.
Then returned home to try again.**

**51 Spinning where I'm placed.
In squares I'm spaced.
They argued which way I'm faced.
Shrinking as I raced.
Dealing with waste.
I vanished and was replaced.**

Answers 49 - 51

- 49** *The more taken, the more left behind.
And at that place, I am confined.*

The answer is footsteps / footprints. Technically in the case of a footprint, you could dig up the ground and move it somewhere else, but it would at least still be confined to that piece of ground.

- 50** *In the woods, under a tree.
It was there he got me.
He sat to seek me in vain.
Then returned home to try again.*

The answer is a splinter. While people commonly get them out with tweezers or needles, some use duct tape or mixtures of baking soda and water. And of course don't be afraid to get medical attention.

- 51** *Spinning where I'm placed.
In squares I'm spaced.
They argued which way I'm faced.
Shrinking as I raced.
Dealing with waste.
I vanished and was replaced.*

The answer is toilet paper. Whether it should be hung over or under is a heated issue. Over is currently the most common. Arguments in favour of it include that it's easier to grab, more hygienic, and less likely to be completely unrolled by a child or animal.

Riddles 52 - 54

- 52 A tree was struck, but it remained.
A box was struck and the forest flamed.**
- 53 The moment you say my name, I break.**
- 54 "You and those strings, always on us you pick!"
said the bony things to the small pointy stick.**

Answers 52 - 54

- 52** *A tree was struck, but it remained.
A box was struck and the forest flamed.*

No matter how hard you hit a tree, you will probably just hurt your hand. However a tiny strike of a matchbox can easily start an out-of-control fire and destroy huge forests.

- 53** *The moment you say my name, I break.*

The answer is silence. Silence is just the lack of noise, but at the same time it can be incredibly powerful.

- 54** *"You and those strings, always on us you pick!" said the bony things to the small pointy stick.*

It's some teeth referring to a toothpick and dental floss. Ideally you should floss every day before you brush your teeth, instead of only on rare occasions like me, such as just before I see the dentist.

Riddles 55 - 57

55 I am yours, yet others use me more.

**56 Neither brains nor sight.
Together held tight.
To sever and bite is our delight.**

**57 White as snow.
Inside I grow.
Uprooting me to your face.
Another appears in my place.**

Answers 55 - 57

55 *I am yours, yet others use me more.*

The answer is your name. In many cases, surnames/last names would come from the person's profession (Baker, Smith, Potter, Tailor and many other less obvious ones).

**56 *Neither brains nor sight.
Together held tight.
To sever and bite is our delight.***

The answer is a pair of scissors. Scissors were used in Mesopotamia around 4,000 years ago, and they had a similar appearance to many thread cutters today.

**57 *White as snow.
Inside I grow.
Uprooting me to your face.
Another appears in my place.***

The answer is facial tissues. While disposable tissues have been used in Japan for centuries, tissues as we know them today were invented as a substitute for bandages during WW1. After the war, the surplus was sold to the public, originally advertised as a cold cream remover.

Riddles 58 - 60

- 58** Bite, bite and bite again.
Each bite my fangs remain.
- 59** Drawer all day and drawer all night.
I have nothing to draw with, in sight.
I cannot fight - but chest in tight - I can bite.
- 60** Found in the ground.
A horse leafy and round.

Answers 58 - 60

**58 *Bite, bite and bite again.
Each bite my fangs remain.***

The answer is a stapler. The first stapler-type device was patented in 1866, and it was almost 100 years later in 1941 when the modern stapler as we know it today was invented.

**59 *Drawer all day and drawer all night.
I have nothing to draw with, in sight.
I cannot fight - but chest in tight - I can bite.***

The answer is a chest of drawers. Technically it could also fight by falling on you.

**60 *Found in the ground.
A horse leafy and round.***

The answer is a Horseradish. The horse in horseradish isn't because horses like to eat them, but to show that it is something large, coarse and strong.

Riddles 61 - 63

61 Though so close, I must confess.
Listen to us, and you hear less.

62 Kept only when you give me to another.
Be they friend or brother.
Hold me or I break.
For I am something you make.

63 When I die.
My killer shall cry.

Answers 61 – 63

61 *Though so close, I must confess.
Listen to us, and you hear less.*

The answer is earplugs. The first known mention of their use is in the Odyssey, when the crew puts wax in their ears to avoid being lured by the song of the Sirens.

62 *Kept only when you give me to another.
Be they friend or brother.
Hold me or I break.
For I am something you make.*

The answer is a promise. The best way to avoid breaking them is avoid making them in the first place and just do your best in life.

63 *When I die - my killer shall cry.*

The answer is an onion. Methods to stop onions from making you cry range from; freezing them slightly and using a very sharp knife, or holding a piece of bread in your mouth, to using onion goggles.

Riddles 64 - 66

**64 I shift, yet stay in place.
No room, yet I have space.
Enter or escape, with my lock and keys.
But beware, for your time I seize.**

**65 Tightrope walkers in a set.
We get time off when it's wet.**

**66 A skin - without and within.
Filled, I point the way.
Empty, I cannot obey.**

Answers 64 - 66

64 *I shift, yet stay in place. No room, yet I have space.
Enter or escape, with my lock and keys.
But beware, for your time I seize.*

The answer is a keyboard, but computer is also acceptable. Almost all keyboards are based on the QWERTY design of typewriters. It has been theorised that part of the reason for the key placement is to allow people during demonstrations to easily write "typewriter" using only one row of keys.

65 *Tightrope walkers in a set. We get time off when it's wet.*

The answer is clothes pegs, or clothes pins. Clothes pegs are commonly used in the film industry, but usually referred to as C-47's. There are many possible explanations for the origin of the name, such as it being in reference to the WW2 plane, or being a coded term to look better on expense and tax forms.

66 *A skin - without and within.
Filled, I point the way.
Empty, I cannot obey.*

The answer is a glove. In the past, knights would throw their gauntlet on the ground to issue a challenge to duel. As gauntlets became less common, people began to throw down and slap with gloves for the same purpose.

Riddles 67 – 69

- 67 I get a sale.
And have no tail.
But it's been said.
It's behind my head.**
- 68 Working on a tray.
Golf I never play.
Cooking things, never eaten.
With heat that stings, I neaten.**
- 69 Clinging to your face.
Who you are, I replace.**

Answers 67 - 69

67 *I get a sale - and have no tail.
But it's been said - it's behind my head.*

The answer is a coin, of course in reference to heads and tails. The first coins go back to around 600BC and were made of electrum (a naturally occurring gold and silver alloy).

68 *Working on a tray.
Golf I never play.
Cooking things, never eaten.
With heat that stings, I neat.*

The answer is a clothes iron. Not only are they used for clothes, but in the past, butlers would often iron the newspaper to take out any creases and stop the ink from coming off.

69 *Clinging to your face.
Who you are, I replace.*

The answer is a mask. They can either hide your identity, or make it easier to tell you apart, such as in the case of Ninja Turtles.

Riddles 70 - 72

- 70** Almost giAnts, but very small.
Our weight is huge if you weigh us all.
- 71** Even though I met my fate.
Every day I smile.
Yet my sight people hate.
And say I'm vile.
- 72** Sometimes people and I are together.
But when we are apart, they are missed.
Wearing my finest feather - my enemy I kissed.
Taking no bow at the end - Instead I leave it.
I do not bend - but he on whom I sit.

Answers 70 - 72

**70 *Almost giAnts, but very small.
Our weight is huge if you weigh us all.***

The answer is ants. While it's hard to calculate exactly how many ants there are on earth, estimates are around 100,000,000,000,000 (one hundred trillion), which would give them a combined weight of over 330 billion kilos. In comparison, all the elephants in the world weigh less than 5 billion kilos.

**71 *Even though I met my fate - every day I smile.
Yet my sight people hate - and say I'm vile.***

The answer is a skull. While the skull is usually seen as a single object, it is made up of 22 bones that fit together like a jigsaw puzzle.

**72 *Sometimes people and I are together.
But when we are apart, they are missed.
Wearing my finest feather - my enemy I kissed.
Taking no bow at the end - Instead I leave it.
I do not bend - but he on whom I sit.***

The answer is an arrow. As of the date I am writing this (22/10/2018), the record for the farthest accurate archery shot was by Matt Stutzman, with a distance of just over 930 feet. This was despite having no arms. He made the shot using his foot and shoulder.

Riddles 73 - 75

- 73** Chips I eat - but I discuss fruit.
Can't feed me meat - if you want to get my loot.
While I ruin many, I mean no harm.
I am too lazy to move my arm.
- 74** I have existed longer than any remember, but no
more than a month old.
Horns when I die and am reborn.
But while I live, they are never worn.
- 75** People say I'm an enemy, but we'll sea.

Answers 73 - 75

- 73** *Chips I eat - but I discuss fruit.
Can't feed me meat - if you want to get my loot.
While I ruin many, I mean no harm.
I am too lazy to move my arm.*

The answer is a slot machine. Before you play one, remember that people playing slot machines lose enough money to pay not only for the building it's in, and the staff and anything else you see, but also to make a large profit on top of that. The highest average payout of 100% is never gambling at all.

- 74** *I have existed longer than any remember, but no more than a month old.
Horns when I die and am reborn.
But while I live, they are never worn.*

The answer is the moon. If you take a photo of the moon, it will normally come out looking smaller than you expect. While the camera lens and many other factors can make a difference, another reason is that the moon appears bigger than it really is to your eyes because it's so bright compared to the dark night sky.

- 75** *People say I'm an enemy, but we'll sea.*

The answer is a sea anemone. Clownfish will use some species of sea anemone as their home. The clownfish is protected by the sea anemone's stingers, while the clownfish will chase off any fish that try to eat their

home.

Riddles 76 - 78

- 76 Jack in a box am I.
But a song I have not.
Food I dry.
And pop out hot.**
- 77 Light vanishes when.
We are drawn, without ink or pen.**
- 78 Fake hair - for an ear.**

Answers 76 - 78

**76 *Jack in a box am I.
But a song I have not.
Food I dry.
And pop out hot.***

The answer is a toaster. Electric toasters go back to 1893, with the first pop-up toaster invented in 1919.

77 *Light vanishes when - we are drawn, without ink or pen.*

The answer is curtains. Before shower curtains, people used to have cloth curtains around their bath, which wouldn't have been so useful for stopping water, but gave the bather privacy.

78 *Fake hair - for an ear.*

The answer is an earwig. Despite the myth, earwigs don't intentionally crawl into people's ears, however ear wig mothers are notable for taking care of their young. While there are examples of other insects with a maternal instinct, it's not that common either.

Riddles 79 - 81

- 79 No hole in the roof as it rained.
Yet the leek in the house remained.**
- 80 I have your face - but not quite.
We move while I stay in place - but left is right.**
- 81 Five lefts, ink, but cannot write.
With my size, I win every fight.**

Answers 79 - 81

79 *No hole in the roof as it rained.
Yet the leek in the house remained*

The answer is a (vegetable) leek. The leek is one of the national emblems of Wales. Theories of the origin range from battles in leek fields, with the Welsh soldiers wearing them, to being in honour of Saint David who ate them while fasting.

80 *I have your face - but not quite.
We move while I stay in place - but left is right.*

The answer is a mirror. It can sometimes seem strange that mirrors reverse things left and right, but not up and down.

81 *Five lefts, ink, but cannot write.
With my size, I win every fight.*

The answer is a giant or colossal squid. The largest colossal squid caught to date was around 15 feet, however there have been estimates that the largest could be closer to 50 feet.

Riddles 82 - 84

- 82 Working harder when you stress.
I beat into a bloody mess.
Not a crime - but as important as breath.
I do it all the time - to avoid death.**
- 83 A tug of war - for what I stowed.
There can be no draw - for I explode.**
- 84 I wave more than any - by day and by night.
My colours are many - green, blue and white.
In some parts I'm red - in others, I'm dead.
Under or over, but to those I have bound.
Getting past me, they can't go around.**

Answers 82 - 84

- 82** *Working harder when you stress.
I beat into a bloody mess.
Not a crime - but as important as breath.
I do it all the time - to avoid death.*

The answer is your heart. While humans have an average heart beat of around 80 beats per minute (115,200 beats per day), some hummingbirds have a heartbeat of around 1200 beats per minute (1,728,000 beats per day!).

- 83** *A tug of war - for what I stowed.
There can be no draw - for I explode.*

The answer is a Christmas cracker. After Tom Smith's invention of bon-bon candy sweets stopped selling, he eventually added a banger mechanism, and over time, they evolved into the Christmas crackers we know today.

- 84** *I wave more than any - by day and by night.
My colours are many - green, blue and white.
In some parts I'm red - in others, I'm dead.
Under or over, but to those I have bound.
Getting past me, they can't go around.*

The answer is the sea, or ocean. There is estimated to be over 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (one billion trillion) litres of water in the ocean.

Riddles 85 - 87

**85 Small, brown and hairy am I - living in trees.
Milk I supply - but I never sneeze.**

**86 A blade by my neck is what I obey.
Shining in the sun, I'm the opposite of day.**

**87 I am slumbering dragon, deep asleep.
Stones are what I weep.
When I wake.
My roar makes ground break.
And valleys shake.**

Answers 85 – 87

**85 *Small, brown and hairy am I - living in trees.
Milk I supply - but I never sneeze.***

The answer is a coconut. It is believed by some that falling coconuts kill 150 people every year. Fortunately, the actual number of deaths is far, far lower, but they do still occasionally happen.

**86 *A blade by my neck is what I obey.
Shining in the sun, I'm the opposite of day.***

The answer is a knight. During a knight's accolade, when they are first being dubbed as a knight, they would usually be tapped on each shoulder with the flat side of a sword. Further back though, they would often be hit or slapped as the final time they would be humiliated without defending their honour.

**87 *I am slumbering dragon, deep asleep.
Stones are what I weep.
When I wake - my roar makes ground break - and valleys shake.***

The answer is a volcano. The largest known volcano on Earth is Tamu Massif in the Pacific Ocean. It is around 2 kilometres below the ocean at its highest point, and over 6 kilometres at its base. Its total size is almost 300,000 square kilometres.

Riddles 88 - 90

- 88** Place of cold and place of ice.
If you hunger, they are quite nice.
- 89** A horn played with hands and feet.
It makes neither song nor beat.
- 90** Clutching my neck, you decapitate me and toss
me aside, bled dry. Because you love me is the
reason why.

Answers 88 - 90

88 *Place of cold and place of ice.
If you hunger, they are quite nice.*

The answer is a fridge freezer. Being able to keep food frozen using electricity in your home is an incredible invention, compared to having to constantly have ice delivered for your ice box.

89 *A horn played with hands and feet.
It makes neither song nor beat.*

The answer is a shoehorn or shoospoon. The origin of shoehorns is unknown, but they date back to at least the middle ages. During Victorian times is when they really started to become popular, as tight shoes were very fashionable.

90 *Clutching my neck, you decapitate me and toss me aside, bled dry.
Because you love me is the reason why.*

The answer is a bottle. There are estimated to be over 100,000,000 (one hundred million) plastic water bottles used every day, which is having serious environmental issues. When possible, use a reusable bottle to both do less damage to the environment, and save a lot of money.

Riddles 91 – 93

- 91 My teeth don't bite - instead they're swallowed.
Into a place that's tight - and hollowed.
To gain entry - I yearn.
My teeth defeat the sentry - as I turn.**
- 92 From the sea I am caught – surrounding those
who dive.
To be eaten I am bought - though I was never
alive.**
- 93 Rearrange the letters to make them into a single word:**
- EDGAR WILSON
SLOW READING
WILD ORANGES**

Answers 91 - 93

- 91** *My teeth don't bite - instead they're swallowed.
Into a place that's tight - and hollowed.
To gain entry - I yearn.
My teeth defeat the sentry - as I turn.*

The answer is a key. While keys and locks of different types go back a very long way, the oldest known is located in Nineveh, dated around 2000BC.

- 92** *From the sea I am caught – surrounding those who dive.
To be eaten I am bought - though I was never alive.*

The answer is salt. While the ocean is made up of about 3.5% salt, the Dead Sea has almost 10 times that, which makes it extremely easy to float in. Although it is almost impossible to drown floating on your back, if you somehow end up on your stomach, turning over can be extremely difficult and result in drowning. On top of that, care should be taken to avoid swallowing the water, as too much salt can be extremely dangerous.

- 93** *Rearrange the letters to make them into a single word:
EDGAR WILSON
SLOW READING
WILD ORANGES*

The answer is "A SINGLE WORD". Often, the English language makes many assumptions, which can lead to very big misunderstandings.

Riddles 94 - 96

- 94 Standing in place - fins on face.
One another they chase.
Press my base - to change the pace - of the race.**
- 95 My teeth are bit - by the spiky soft cave that leads
to a pit.**

The following questions may require some extra knowledge.
Many of the previous ones did as well, but these may be a bit more unusual.

- 96 No legs - but I lay eggs.
I dislike cars despite my name.
But as a pet I can be tame.**

Answers 94 - 96

- 94** *Standing in place - fins on face.
One another they chase.
Press my base - to change the pace - of the race.*

The answer is an electric fan. While the first electric fan was invented in 1882, human-power fans go back thousands of years, probably beginning with people using palm leaves.

- 95** *My teeth are bit - by the spiky soft cave that leads to a pit.*

The answer is a fork. In America, the use of forks while eating was largely resisted until the 18th century. Once they were finally accepted, people would generally use them in their right hand after cutting up their food, unlike the traditional method in which the knife would be in the right hand and the fork in the left for the entire meal.

- 96** *No legs - but I lay eggs.
I dislike cars despite my name.
But as a pet I can be tame.*

The answer is a carpet snake/carpet python. How hard or easy this one is may depend on whether or not you live in a country that has them.

Riddles 97 - 99

- 97 A pig with the price in my name.
Not a pig, but I am quite tame.**
- 98 I must confess.
The one who is gross is me.
But if there were one more or less.
Gross I would no longer be.**
- 99 Not thread - but you should note.
Despite my lead - I make a fine coat.**

Answers 97 - 99

**97 *A pig with the price in my name.
Not a pig, but I am quite tame.***

The answer is a guinea pig. This one is quite unfair, as it uses the commonly believed idea that their name came about because they were sold for a guinea, however it can't be true, because there are records of them being called guinea pigs 10 years before guinea coins were minted. There are theories for the actual origin of their name (both "guinea" and "pig"), but currently, none of them have been proven.

**98 *I must confess - the one who is gross is me.
But if there were one more or less - gross I would no longer be.***

The answer is 144, which is one gross. It is considered a part of the duodecimal system, which uses base 12 instead of base 10. The advantages to base twelve include being able to divide it in halves or quarters without using decimals, but also thirds (unlike 10, which ends up as 3.333333... for eternity).

**99 *Not thread - but you should note.
Despite my lead - I make a fine coat.***

The answer is lead-based paint. Not only do you need to know about lead-based paint, but also know that lead is being pronounced "led" (rather than like leader). It was for that reason the band Led Zeppelin misspelt their name, to avoid any confusion about pronunciation.

Riddles 100 - 102

**100 Blood - from me you'll never get.
Dry or flood - I'm always whet.**

**101 I live in the USA.
But I want to visit America someday.**

And one final bonus riddle:

**102 We are up top, down bottom, charming and
strange.
To change lead to gold, take us and rearrange.**

Answers 100 - 102

100 *Blood - from me you'll never get.
Dry or flood - I'm always whet.*

The answer is a whetstone. This one could be hard as you not only have to know the idiom "can't get blood from a stone", but also know what a whetstone is (a type of stone used to sharpen knives and axes).

101 *I live in the USA.
But I want to visit America someday.*

The answer is that the person lives in Hawaii, which is part of the United States of America, but it is located in Oceania, rather than the continent America.

102 *We are up top, down bottom, charming and strange.
To change lead to gold, take us and rearrange.*

The answer is quarks. Quarks make up parts of atoms, and come in 6 different types (known as flavours), up, down, strange, charm, top, and bottom. It's one of those riddles which is easy if you have knowledge of the answer, but if you don't, it's almost impossible.

How to write your own riddles

Riddles have been popular among humanity for thousands of years, from Samson's riddle to the Philistines: "Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet.",

to the riddles that the Sphinx was said to ask travellers, and devour them if they couldn't give the correct answers: "Which creature in the morning walks on all fours, in the afternoon walks on two feet, and in the evening is three footed?"

And the second riddle of the Sphinx: "There are two sisters: one gives birth to the other and she, in turn, gives birth to the first. Who are the two sisters?" (The answers to all three riddles are on page 80).

They are still very much a part of humanity still today, although more often than not, people are still telling the same old riddles. There is nothing wrong with that, as they are the ones that have successfully passed the test of time. However, there is no reason why someone today couldn't rewrite a riddle just as good or better, which future generations will be passing around and consider to be an old classic.

If someone is going to write it, there is no reason why it shouldn't be you, and I hope these rules might help you on your way.

Disclaimer: These are by no means the only ways of writing riddles, but simply the methods I have used that have worked for me personally. I consider them to be good guidelines, but at the same time, rules are made to be broken.

Rule 1

Ideally the answer to your riddle should be something that people know. It can't always be avoided entirely, but most people will have a fairer chance of figuring out the answer is a door, rather than a pink fairy armadillo or sea bunny (both are real animals, and they are pretty adorable).

On the other hand, maybe you are friends with a marine biologist who studies sea creatures. In that case, having sea bunny or dumbo octopus as an answer might be perfect.

Whatever the case, if you have an answer that someone is unlikely to have heard of, be extra graceful if they can't answer it, and ideally they should at least learn something new and interesting afterwards.

Rule 2

Once someone figures out the answer, ideally they should have no doubt that it's correct. I have tested out my riddles on a lot of people before publication, and usually they will be throwing around random guesses, but then as soon as they figure out the correct answer, they react and excitedly ask or exclaim the answer.

This is by no means necessary for a riddle, but it is something I like to try to do at least. Here is an example of an old traditional riddle, which I feel the answer fits very loosely, and could easily be something else entirely.

"A white dove flew down by the castle. Along came a king and picked it up handless, ate it up toothless, and carried it away wingless."

When you give up, turn to the Example Answers on page 80 to see the answer, and make up your own mind if the answer seems obvious once you hear it.

Rule 3

Make riddles with the answer first. While it's certainly possible to figure out the question first and then find something that fits it, it doesn't always work as easily as you would hope. An example of a riddle I made up, going with the question first: "Round and tall, big and fat. Larger than all, yet totally flat".

I think it's quite a good riddle, except for the fact I have no idea what the answer is. There have been suggestions of Obelix from the Asterix and Obelix comic series, (he's large, but flat because it's a comic), however that's a rather obscure answer, and there are lots of things far larger than him.

Or maybe the Earth could be the answer, but only if you are at a Flat Earther's convention.

Rule 4

Make sure there are not too many possible answers. If there are several, either you can change the question to limit the possibilities, change the answer, a mix of both, or simply accept multiple answers. Usually I find a change of wording or an additional line is your best bet.

Rule 5

One possible method is to have a riddle based on a pun, or something that can be seen two ways. Such as riddle number 30 or 77.

**30 You command and we obey.
Yet are lashed 20,000 times a day.
We come in many colours, and often match.
Feeding on light when you open our hatch.**

**77 Light vanishes when.
We are drawn, without ink or pen.**

Some riddles written like this, should be presented written, and others should be spoken. For instance, riddle number 75 would be almost impossible to figure out if it were only spoken, and the apparent misspelling is a very important hint.

75 People say I'm an enemy, but we'll sea.

On the other hand, I feel the following riddle should only be used if it's spoken, rather than written (unfortunately I don't have much choice). *"One knight, a butcher, a baker and a candlestick maker stayed at a hotel, but in the morning they were charged for four people staying. How could there have been four people?"*

You quite likely figured it out in its written form, however it is a lot harder when spoken. If you have any trouble with it though, it's also on the Example Answer page 80.

Writing can also be used with actual intentional errors to give a hint. For instance, Riddle number 70.

**70 Almost giAnts, but very small.
Our weight is huge if you weigh us all.**

In some cases you may even want to use a misspelling in the answer, as Lewis Carroll did for his riddle "Why is a raven like a writing-desk?".

Rule 6

Riddles don't have to rhyme, but it adds a lot to them, simply because it makes them both seem more professional, and adds an extra air of mystery. I just search for "rhyming dictionary" and use some of the websites that come up. Often, rhyming can be limiting, but other times it can also be helpful, as it may bring up the perfect word which you wouldn't have considered normally.

Rule 7

Often, you just start with a small part of a riddle, or even just an idea, and it grows over time. Other times, you think of an entire perfect riddle right away. It's less common, but nice when it happens.

As soon as you think of a riddle, or just something which may become a riddle in time, write it down, either on paper or on your phone. People think they won't forget, but it's amazing how much and how soon it happens.

Also, don't write down just the question, but the answer as well, especially if you are making a lot of different riddles. There's nothing more embarrassing than forgetting the answer to your own riddle (no need to ask me how I know).

Rule 8

Look at things you see in every day life and consider if they would be good for a riddle. Is there some unusual way the thing or object could be seen? How would the object be described by an alien seeing it for the first time, or how would the object itself describe itself, or its relationship with people, if it were alive and had awareness?

Often riddles are seeing the world in a strange and magical way that doesn't seem to make sense, until you realise what the answer is. A riddle is similar to a joke, in that it's something unexpected, but makes sense. Jokes should ideally have an unexpected amazing punchline, while riddles often sound like they will have an amazing answer, but it is actually something totally mundane.

Rule 9

The clues and answers don't have to be 100% factual, but they should either be close, or at least something people commonly believe (as I did in Riddle number 97). Describing something poetically is fine, but just being lazy factually makes it far more of a bad joke.

**97 A pig with the price in my name.
Not a pig, but I am quite tame.**

Rule 10

Do your best to be open to feedback, especially if someone figures out another answer which fits well. If they do figure out a new answer, refer to Rule 4.

At the same time, people will sometimes try to make answers fit which don't fit at all. Try to be open minded without allowing anyone to bully you into accepting bad answers. It's good to try riddles out on people, but you should also try to choose your audience carefully, to avoid any jerks or such to begin with.

You should get feedback on not just how good the riddle and answers are, but also how hard to easy they are. There is a need for both very easy and very difficult riddles, and everything in between. Which brings us to the next rule.

Rule 11

Try different difficulty levels, depending on the age and patience of who you are asking. Generally you shouldn't ask a child impossible riddles, nor are adults as likely to appreciate the bad joke style riddles. Then again, it can be surprising how easy someone may find an apparently hard riddle, and then they find an apparently easy one impossible. A great deal of it is the person's mindset. Also, if the answer is a toothpick, they are more likely to figure it out if they are using one at the time.

Rule 12

If it's a long riddle, you may be best to write it down for the person you are asking, as it isn't fair to have a riddle that can't be answered just because it's too long to be remembered. If it's something which can't be written down without giving something away, such as a pun that uses another spelling, then you have no choice but to keep repeating the question for them again and again.

The other exception to this rule is when the entire point of the riddle is to make it long and confusing so they forget, for instance, *"You are driving a bus, when 3 people get on. At the next stop, 2 people get off, and 4 get on. Next, half the people get off, and 1 more comes on. At the next stop, everyone stays on the bus, and the same number again get on the bus, causing the number of passengers to double. Then at the last moment, one person runs out of the bus.*

What is the name of the bus driver?" (answer on page 80).

Rule 13

There are several different types of riddles. The main types are usually:

A: What am I (most of the riddles in this book).

B: Explain what happened (usually a description of something with a logical inconsistency. Such as Riddles number 7, 39 or 52.

7 Hammering a nail - he let out a wail. (explain what happened).

**39 No dog or rope - nor wall or slope.
Just a ball and me alone - yet it returns each time it's thrown.**

**52 A tree was struck, but it remained.
A box was struck and the forest flamed.**

C: Riddles which use a confusing sentence structure, so they appear to be asking one thing, but the question is actually something entirely different. Riddle number 93 is an example of this.

**93 Rearrange the letters to make them into a single word:
EDGAR WILSON SLOW READING WILD ORANGES**

D: Jokes, which are often similar to the others, but come from a slightly different angle.

E: Probably a number of others which I haven't had the pleasure to come across, or may not have even been written yet. More importantly, you may be the person to write them.

Rule 14

Write riddles based on words that sound the same. This is just one of many methods, and should not by any means apply to all riddles. Using this method, I ended up with Riddle number 51, which I consider a success.

**51 Spinning where I'm placed.
In squares I'm spaced.
They argued which way I'm faced.
Shrinking as I raced.
Dealing with waste.
I vanished and was replaced.**

But I also ended up with something which I will just refer to as a tongue twister, as I couldn't think of a way to turn it into a riddle.

"Here is my hare, my heir, who puts on airs, sticking the hair of his ears in the air to hear."

Rule 15

Look at lots of other riddles for inspiration. Maybe even find a bunch of old ones, and see if you can improve on them or find a way to make them rhyme, which is how I got started. Originally I was just going to make a page of a few classic riddles, but then as I started writing them, I eventually started making some of my own, and soon enough, I was most of the way through this book.

Rule 16

Many riddles may not work in other languages if you translate them, likewise they may not be very fair to someone who isn't fluent in the language they are in.

At the same time, if a riddle can be translated from another language, it may be a good way to find one which most people haven't heard before.

Rule 17

Make a riddle with an answer that is super obvious, and then in the last line of the question, pull the rug out from under them. Both riddles number 14 and 36 appear to be head lice until the very last line (Obviously it would work for anything, and I don't know why I ended up with the appearance of head lice for both, but that's how it turned out).

**14 Long teeth and my body's light.
The human head I bite.
I live in people's pockets, bags and drawers.
Though I have no legs, feet or claws.**

**36 We sometimes cause discomfort and pain.
Getting rid of us is quite a strain.
We small, white things live in your head and bite.
But we are not a parasite.**

Rule 18

You can have very similar sounding riddles, but with very slight difference in the question which results in a totally different answers. Riddles number 23 and 26 are good examples of this.

**23 Used, but not seen.
A pair to the poor, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without me, in minutes, all would die.**

**26 Invisible, but can be seen.
Used by the servant, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why?
Without my contents, all would die.**

Likewise, you can have two questions which sound totally different, but have the same answer, such as Riddles number 36 and 54.

**36 We sometimes cause discomfort and pain.
Getting rid of us is quite a strain.
We small, white things live in your head and bite.
But we are not a parasite.**

54 "You and those strings, always on us you pick!" said the bony things to the small pointy stick.

Rule 19

You can have a riddle which seems obvious, but makes no sense at the same time. This is basically a mix of misleading sentence structure and having an obvious answer, but (partly) pulling the rug out from under them, for instance: "I start with E and end with E, but I only have one letter". (answer on example page 80)

Rule 20

You don't need to be good at solving riddles to write them. I feel I am a good example of this, as I'm probably average at solving them at best, but I have written a lot more than the average person.

Rule 21

As I have done for most of the riddles in this book, if a riddle can have some kind of interesting fact tied to it, it's totally unnecessary, but a nice extra bonus.

And on that subject, here's an extra bonus. Riddles are very similar to magic tricks, in that both seem impossible when you don't know the answer, but it's often far more simple than you would ever expect, and it's often both exciting and a bit of a let down once you figure it out or have it explained to you. I'm not sure how that information helps, but it was a realisation I had recently.

Once again, remember these so called rules are just mental guidelines I developed while writing these riddles. I didn't start with any kind of rules, and you don't have to either, but I hope that some of them may inspire you and help you skip some of the extra effort I had to put in while figuring things out.

Thank you very, very much for reading this far, good luck with all your future riddle writing endeavours and may God bless you!

Example Answers

Introduction riddles:

"Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet."

The answer is a dead lion Samson previously killed, and he later discovered some bees had made a hive inside it, and ate some of their honey. After Samson asked this riddle and made a very large bet on it, everything started to go very much downhill for him.

"Which creature in the morning walks on all fours, in the afternoon walks on two feet, and in the evening is three footed?"

There are many slightly different versions of this riddle. The day represents a lifetime, and the creature is a human. At the beginning of their life, they crawl on fours, then walk on two feet when they are older, and finally use a walking stick as a third leg when they are very old.

"There are two sisters: one gives birth to the other and she, in turn, gives birth to the first. Who are the two sisters?"

The day gives birth to night, and the night gives birth to the day. In some versions of the tale, the Sphinx kills herself after Oedipus correctly answers both riddles, while in others the Sphinx herself tells him the answers, both so she won't have to kill any more, and also because she is in love with Oedipus.

Rule 2 Riddle:

"A white dove flew down by the castle. Along came a king and picked it up handless, ate it up toothless, and carried it away wingless."

The answer is that the sun melted some snow. I leave it up to your judgement whether or not this riddle is poetic to the point of unfairness.

Rule 5 Riddles:

"One knight, a butcher, a baker and a candlestick maker stayed at a hotel, but in the morning they were charged for four people staying. How could there have been four people?"

It sounds like "One night" when spoken, but is actually a knight in shining armour.

“Why is a raven like a writing-desk?”.

Originally when Lewis Carroll had this riddle in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, it had no answer. With the popularity of the book, people started to demand it, so Lewis Carroll came up with "because it can produce a few notes, though they are very flat; and it is never put with the wrong end in front!" (the spelling of "never" is intended as "raven" backwards). Several other people have come up with other possible solutions. My favourite of which is "Edgar Allan Poe wrote on both".

Rule 13 Riddle:

“You are driving a bus, when 3 people get on. At the next stop, 2 people get off, and 4 get on. Next, half the people get off, and 1 more comes on. At the next stop, everyone stays on the bus, and the same number again get on the bus, causing the number of passengers to double. Then at the last moment, one person runs out of the bus. What is the name of the bus driver?”

The riddle begins "YOU are driving a bus", meaning your name is the name of the bus driver. Of course you may have noticed if you reread it, however if it's spoken, you first warn them that you will only tell them the riddle once.

Rule 20 Riddle:

“I start with E and end with E, but I only have one letter”

The answer is an envelope. The very first form of an envelope was used over 5,000 years ago, and was clay used to protect a stone tablet or similar.

Licensing terms

Legal owners of this book may freely print and distribute the following four pages. They must be unedited, and with the www.101Riddles.com URL visible.

There are no limits to the amount you can print and distribute, and you may give them away for free or sell them.

Any use or publication of the riddles must include a link to www.101Riddles.com (i.e. if you use them in a Youtube video, please put a link in the description. If you ask your Twitter followers some of the riddles, please let them know they are from www.101Riddles.com. If they are used on a TV show, it must be mentioned, either during the show or in the credits, that they are from www.101Riddles.com).

While you can print and distribute as many pages as you would like, the files themselves to print the pages may not be distributed, as only those who have purchased this book may print copies. Speaking of which, thank you very much for buying this book! I appreciate it very much!

And while it's entirely optional, I suggest printing them double sided, so you only need 2 sheets of paper for all 101 riddles.

Answers at: www.101Riddles.com

- 1 Hiding in a corner of the house - with whiskers and tail. I am a ????? - and eat cheese without fail.
- 2 I have horns, but am not an ox. Carry a pack-saddle, but slower than a fox. Upon my journey I leave silver in my wake. Seeing the world, low as a snake. I tuck in my eyes and tail. Safe in my house, I am a ?????
- 3 Either bug or bird - can make my name. Whichever you heard - I'm a lady just the same.
- 4 Black, white and read all over. Sometimes I'm fetched by rover.
- 5 Finding food shoreward - I always take a pinch. Don't go back or forward - but sideways is a cinch.
- 6 I always have my rattle - shaking it before I battle.
- 7 Hammering a nail - he let out a wail. (explain what happened).
- 8 I smell more than anything else - even a dead mouse. Smelling bad or good - depending on where you stood.
- 9 A third of your life I take - striking when you are not awake.
- 10 A canine in heat - without feet - people eat.
- 11 Count on us to regale - if you wish to hear a tale. Open our mouths wide - and silently we speak. Languages we can guide - from Chinese to Greek. But based on our name - what we say is always the same.
- 12 Pull me and I stretch, shoot and bend. My end's my beginning and my beginning's my end.
- 13 An army of trillions, a squad for a fee. In my death, I kill those who buy me. An assassin in your home invited. I carry out my mission burnt or lighted.
- 14 Long teeth and my body's light. The human head I bite. I live in people's pockets, bags and drawers. Though I have no legs, feet or claws.
- 15 The fastest I flee - yet am all people see.
- 16 I eat and eat, and grow to the sky. But when at last, I drink, I die.
- 17 An explosive that people eat. White as snow, I grow like wheat.
- 18 I am the hope or fear of many, yet never seen. Always coming, yet never been. I never was, but am always to be. Both good or bad, people foresee.
- 19 I sound like a hog, and I lie on the ground - hard, dead and round.
- 20 Where I dwell - hanging up high, I hunt for a smell - upon which I cry. A scream or a bell - I hope you don't die.
- 21 I cannot see, yet I saw - repeatedly hitting the floor.
- 22 Each year I smile a warm glowing light. Trying to startle, and give you a fright.
- 23 Used, but not seen. A pair to the poor, king and queen. Filled and then emptied. The reason why? Without me, in minutes, all would die.
- 24 Hollow I am - and I do not inflate. I'm always a gram - but have no weight.
- 25 Hard to the touch, great wealth I can claim. I am your servant who bares your name. Use me too much, neglecting to save. You will soon become my slave.

Answers at: www.101Riddles.com

- 26 Invisible, but can be seen. Used by the servant, king and queen.
Filled and then emptied. The reason why? Without my contents, all would die.
- 27 Speak, and voiceless, I answer. You created me before I was, lest I would have never been.
I came to be after a pause, yet I hide unseen. Light and darkness cannot find me, nor chains bind me.
- 28 A truck of wood - and as it went. I saw the wood - was neither straight nor bent.
- 29 Legs, but don't walk, food but can't eat. I just hide beneath a sheet.
- 30 You command and we obey. Yet are lashed 20,000 times a day.
We come in many colours, and often match. Feeding on light when you open our hatch.
- 31 The opposite of a god am I. Beneath the ground, I place pieces of those that die.
- 32 I neither fire arrows, nor can you wear me on your head. Try to catch me, and I am elsewhere instead.
- 33 Pipes and bag you hear. Carrying nothing but air.
- 34 I dry, yet become more wet.
- 35 A party with punch served to the guests of honour alone. Showing off neither coats or hats, but the belts they own.
- 36 We sometimes cause discomfort and pain. Getting rid of us is quite a strain.
We small, white things live in your head and bite. But we are not a parasite.
- 37 Wingless, yet I fly. Touch me, and I die.
- 38 Constructed in a day. But in a moment, swept away. Stronger than steel, finer than thread. Those who visit are soon dead.
- 39 No dog or rope - nor wall or slope. Just a ball and me alone. Yet it returns each time it's thrown.
- 40 Inside me lies a golden treasure. That was not gained through sloth or leisure.
Knock me down and you better run. For out of me an army shall come.
- 41 I'm a long furry thing - not much bigger than a toad. Sometimes when people sing - I explode.
- 42 You wash and drink - when I spit in the sink.
- 43 Tall and long - and removing my hat. I tell tale or song - but it will be flat.
- 44 I can be seen, but have no weight. I shrank when I ate.
- 45 My ear can't hear, but I breathe. I'm capped in brown, cloaked in green.
You can cook me if you must. But I warn you, I might combust.
- 46 Down I lie - leaving tracks wherever I go. Get in my way and die. Animals to me are slow.
Wherever I go, I'm followed. Each of us are hollowed. To a path I am bound. Letting out a mighty sound.
- 47 I always go up, yet never come down. To some I bring joy, to others a frown.
- 48 Living atop a post in the ground - for post is what I eat. To that same post I am bound - for I have no legs or feet.
- 49 The more taken, the more left behind. And at that place, I am confined.

Answers at: www.101Riddles.com

50 In the woods, under a tree. It was there he got me. He sat to seek me in vain. Then returned home to try again.

51 Spinning where I'm placed. In squares I'm spaced. They argued which way I'm faced.
Shrinking as I raced. Dealing with waste. I vanished and was replaced.

52 A tree was struck, but it remained. A box was struck and the forest flamed.

53 The moment you say my name, I break.

54 "You and those strings, always on us you pick!" said the bony things to the small pointy stick.

55 I am yours, yet others use me more.

56 Neither brains nor sight. Together held tight. To sever and bite is our delight.

57 White as snow. Inside I grow. Uprooting me to your face. Another appears in my place.

58 Bite, bite and bite again. Each bite my fangs remain.

59 Drawer all day and drawer all night. I have nothing to draw with, in sight. I cannot fight - but chest in tight - I can bite.

60 Found in the ground. A horse leafy and round .

61 Though so close, I must confess. Listen to us, and you hear less.

62 Kept only when you give me to another. Be they friend or brother. Hold me or I break. For I am something you make.

63 When I die - my killer shall cry.

64 I shift, yet stay in place. No room, yet I have space. Enter or escape, with my lock and keys.
But beware, for your time I seize.

65 Tightrope walkers in a set. We get time off when it's wet.

66 A skin - without and within. Filled, I point the way. Empty, I cannot obey.

67 I get a sale - and have no tail. But it's been said - it's behind my head.

68 Working on a tray. Golf I never play. Cooking things, never eaten. With heat that stings, I neaten.

69 Clinging to your face. Who you are, I replace.

70 Almost giAnts, but very small. Our weight is huge if you weigh us all.

71 Even though I met my fate - every day I smile. Yet my sight people hate - and say I'm vile.

72 Sometimes people and I are together. But when we are apart, they are missed. Wearing my finest feather - my enemy
I kissed. Taking no bow at the end - Instead I leave it. I do not bend - but he on whom I sit.

73 Chips I eat - but I discuss fruit. Can't feed me meat - if you want to get my loot.
While I ruin many, I mean no harm. I'm too lazy to move my arm.

74 I have existed longer than any remember, but no more than a month old.
Horns when I die and am reborn. But while I live, they are never worn.

75 People say I'm an enemy, but we'll sea.

Answers at: www.101Riddles.com

76 Jack in a box am I. But a song I have not. Food I dry - and pop out hot.

77 Light vanishes when - we are drawn, without ink or pen.

78 Fake hair - for an ear.

79 No hole in the roof as it rained. Yet the leek in the house remained.

80 I have your face - but not quite. We move while I stay in place - but left is right.

81 Five lefts, ink, but cannot write. With my size, I win every fight.

82 Working harder when you stress. I beat into a bloody mess.

Not a crime - but as important as breath. I do it all the time - to avoid death.

83 A tug of war - for what I stowed. There can be no draw - for I explode.

84 I wave more than any - by day and by night. My colours are many - green, blue and white.

In some parts I'm red - in others, I'm dead. Under or over, but to those I have bound. Getting past me, they can't go around.

85 Small, brown and hairy am I - living in trees. Milk I supply - but I never sneeze.

86 A blade by my neck is what I obey. Shining in the sun, I'm the opposite of day.

87 I am slumbering dragon, deep asleep. Stones are what I weep.

When I wake - my roar makes ground break - and valleys shake.

88 Place of cold and place of ice. If you hunger, they are quite nice.

89 A horn played with hands and feet. It makes neither song nor beat.

90 Clutching my neck, you decapitate me and toss me aside, bled dry. Because you love me is the reason why.

91 My teeth don't bite - instead they're swallowed. Into a place that's tight - and hollowed.

To gain entry - I yearn. My teeth defeat the sentry - as I turn.

92 From the sea I am caught – surrounding those who dive. To be eaten I am bought - though I was never alive.

93 Rearrange the letters to make them into a single word:

EDGAR WILSON

SLOW READING

WILD ORANGES

94 Standing in place - fins on face. One another they chase. Press my base - to change the pace - of the race.

95 My teeth are bit - by the spiky soft cave that leads to a pit.

96 No legs - but I lay eggs. I dislike cars despite my name. But as a pet I can be tame.

97 A pig with the price in my name. Not a pig, but I am quite tame.

98 I must confess - the one who is gross is me. But if there were one more or less - gross I would no longer be.

99 Not thread - but you should note. Despite my lead - I make a fine coat.

100 Blood - from me you'll never get. Dry or flood - I'm always whet.

101 I live in the USA. But I want to visit America someday.