

Chatterbox #75 – Let's go to the movies

Transcript

Harp: Hello everyone. This is Harp.

Maura: And Maura.

Harp: And we're here with your Culips English learning podcast.

Maura: And don't forget to go to our website, Culips.com. That's C-U-L-I-P-S.com. And there, you can become a member, which gives you the transcripts for all of our episodes, more detailed explanations of all of the expressions that we use in our episodes, and even quizzes to help test yourself.

Harp: Yes. And if you're on Facebook, like the Culips page, because there's a lot of fun stuff going on there. And you can always ask us a question if you have one, too.

Maura: So, let's get started. Today we're going to do a Chatterbox episode, and that is where Harp and I chat about some topic of interest.

Harp: Exactly. Sometimes we interview people, sometimes we talk about a cultural thing, sometimes we just chat in general.

Maura: We always chat.

Harp: **Mmhmm**. So today we're gonna talk about movies. We're going to start with talking about memories of movies.

Maura: And then we're going to tell you some famous movie **lines** that many people will **quote** in regular, everyday conversation.

Harp: And then we're going to finish with talking about our favourite movie **quotes**.

Maura: I'm excited for this episode because I love a good movie.

Harp: Me too. All right. Let's get started with memories of movies.

Maura: You know, I have **a fuzzy memory** of first getting a VCR, which means when you could first watch movies at home. You could go to the video store and rent a movie and watch whatever movie you wanted, when you wanted.

Harp: You know, I have no memory of when the VCR first arrived at my house. But I do remember watching a lot of movies at home.

Maura: I was quite young, probably even six years old? I'm not sure.

- Harp: Yes. No, I have no memory of that, but I loved watching movies.
- Maura: Yeah.
- Harp: And my favourites I watched over and over and over again with my VCR.
- Maura: That is something that kids are famous for. When they love a movie, they just want to keep watching it over and over again, even though they've already seen it.
- Harp: **Mmhhh**. Definitely.
- Maura: Do you remember going to the movie theatre for the first time?
- Harp: I do, but I don't remember what movie it was. But I remember I was with my sister and I think two or three of my cousins, and we had to leave because one of us started crying. It wasn't me, but someone started crying because it was scary, so we had to leave the movie theatre in the middle of the movie.
- Maura: Aw, that's not fun.
- Harp: I really have no idea what movie it was though. I was very young.
- Maura: Well, I hope it was a kids' movie.
- Harp: I don't know. With my older cousins, you never know. Maybe they took us to a scary movie.
- Maura: I don't remember the first time I ever went to the movie theatre, but I do remember the first time I ever went to the movie theatre without parents.
- Harp: Oh, what movie was it?
- Maura: It was the movie *My Cousin Vinnie*.
- Harp: Ah. And you went with some of your friends?
- Maura: I went with a friend. I think she might have even had a free pass. But you know, I didn't even like the movie.
- Harp: Ah.
- Maura: But I was still excited and happy to be there because I wasn't with my parents.
- Harp: That's funny. You know, when I was growing up, we only had one movie theatre in town and it only played one movie at a time, so really you could only **go to movies**, max, maybe once a month.

- Maura: Wow. I can't imagine that any more. Now, especially living in a big city like Montreal, there are so many places to see movies. You can see foreign films or big Hollywood movies. You can see English movies or French movies. And at one time, at one place, there's at least five or ten movies playing.
- Harp: I know. **Back in the day**, I remember that one movie, at one time.
- Maura: I always remember when I went to go see movies when I was in Thailand.
- Harp: Oh really?
- Maura: Because there they have some special movie showings where your seat is like a big recliner **La-Z-Boy**, so you can **curl right up** and they give you a little blanket too.
- Harp: Oh, I've heard of that. I've never done it but that sounds like fun, 'cause I don't really like **going to the movies** any more. I don't find the seats are very comfortable. I'd rather be at home, on the couch, with a blanket.
- Maura: Right. So this experience in Thailand is like you're at home, but you're still out with a huge screen. It's kind of funny, because before I went to Thailand, I was excited to do stuff like go to the big city of Bangkok and see the beaches and also go see a movie with a big cozy couch and a blanket.
- Harp: I think that they do that in a lot of Asian countries, because my sister's in Singapore and she tells me about the theatre there that's like that.
- Maura: Well they should definitely bring it over here, too.
- Harp: Yeah. I would be more willing **to go to the movies**. The only reason why I like to go to the movie theatre now is because of the popcorn.
- Maura: Oh! One of Harp's secret guilty pleasures.
- Harp: I love popcorn in a movie theatre.
- Maura: Popcorn is good, I have to say. But it also gets so expensive.
- Harp: I know, but it's my indulgence. If I'm going **to go to the movies**, I'm going to get popcorn.
- Maura: Do you think it's the whole experience together, though? Like, could you imagine eating movie popcorn at home? Would it be the same?
- Harp: I try, you know, the microwave popcorn. But it's just not as good.
- Maura: Mmm. Now you're making me crave popcorn too.

- Harp: So good.
- Maura: So, let's move on to the next part now, which is classic movie **lines**.
- Harp: Yeah. it's interesting, because there are these **quotes** that are from movies, but we've started to use them in real life. And we always know they're from the movies.
- Maura: Sometimes people might even use a movie **quotation** that's not really well known or is more obscure and you're like "What are you saying?" and they're like "Oh, it's from this movie." But there are some that almost everyone does know, and so when you use one of these **lines**, people know that you're referencing that movie and you're kind of making a joke.
- Harp: Exactly. And the one that I always think of is "I'll be back."
- Maura: I love that one. So, the movie **line** "I'll be back" is from the movie *The Terminator*. And it was Arnold Schwarzenegger in that movie who says, "I'll be back." So that's why when we say it we put a little accent on it.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely. If you can hear both of us when we're saying this, we're definitely trying to have an accent.
- Maura: So, this one I think is really popular because it can be used so easily, any time you're meeting with people. It could be at work—only if you're with close colleagues that know you very well—or it could be at a party. But for whatever reason, you leave the room and you're going to come back in a few minutes, you can use this **line**. You can say, "I'll be back."
- Harp: I love the way you say it. It's so funny.
- Maura: See, I also like to use this **line** with a very straight, serious face like Arnold Schwarzenegger did in *The Terminator*.
- Maura: Let's move on to another one now.
- Harp: Yes. Another one that I always think of, when there's is any sort of boat around, is "I'm the king of the world!"
- Maura: That is such a classic one too. "I'm the king of the world!" I wonder if you listening there already know where this **line** is from.
- Harp: I think so, because it's from such a popular movie.
- Maura: So, if you're not sure, we'll tell you. This **line**, "I'm the king of the world," is from the movie *Titanic*.

- Harp: Yeah. And *Titanic* just re-released I think, right?
- Maura: So there might even be more people who know this **line**, because they're watching this movie again or for the first time.
- Harp: You know, I've had friends who have said this **line** even when we're at, let's say, on a rooftop and there's the balcony. And, just, people use this **line** all the time.
- Maura: So, in the movie, Jack, who is played by Leonardo DiCaprio, is at the very front of the Titanic and he kind of climbs out on the ledge and puts his arms out and the wind is blowing because he's, obviously, outside on a boat and he says, "I'm the king of the world" and gets excited and yells. So now people use this maybe when they're on a boat or when they're in some open space, or they're up really high in a building.
- Harp: Yup. We use this all the time.
- Maura: And it's always a joke. No one's using this seriously. It's just a joke to reference that movie.
- Harp: Definitely. Any time anyone uses it, everyone else starts laughing.
- Maura: Another classic one is from the movie *Jerry McGuire*. There are actually a couple that are from the movie *Jerry McGuire* that are still well known, but there's one in particular that happens when there's a love scene between the two main characters.
- Harp: Yes, and the famous **quote** is "You had me at *hello*."
- Maura: Right. So Jerry McGuire comes to see his girlfriend, who he'd been having trouble with. Maybe they'd just broke up or something, and he says *hello* and then he gives a whole big speech about why they should be together, trying to convince her that they should get back together, and then she says, "You had me at *hello*," which really means "You didn't even need to say all that other stuff. As soon as you said *hello* I wanted to be back with you and you didn't have to convince me. I agreed with you right away."
- Harp: And the funny thing with this **quotation** is that it's often used in different ways.

- Maura: Right. So, someone might replace the word *hello*, and put another word in there. Like, you had me at something else. So, just like I was saying, in the movie she says, "You had me at *hello*," to mean "You didn't have to convince me. When you said *hello* I was already convinced." So, for example, if two friends are trying to decide what to have for dinner, and one friend says, "I want to have pizza because I've been really craving it and it's really healthy, so I think we should get it." And the other friend doesn't need to be convinced, because they want to have pizza too.
- Harp: So they could say, "You had me at *pizza*."
- Maura: Right. In so many different situations where one person is already convinced of something and doesn't need to be convinced, they can say, "You had me at..." And then put the word in there.
- Harp: Exactly.
- Maura: So do you want to talk about one more famous movie **line**?
- Harp: Yes. The last one I want to talk about is "You can't handle the truth."
- Maura: That's a good one too. And it's one of those **lines** that you can't help but try to use the same voice, again. "You can't handle the truth."
- Harp: Yup. You always try to make your voice deeper when you're saying this.
- Maura: This **line** is from the movie *A Few Good Men*, and it was the famous actor Jack Nicholson who says this **line** in the movie, when they're in a court.
- Harp: Yes. They're in a courtroom setting and someone's asking him questions and he says, "You can't handle the truth."
- Maura: Right. They're putting so much pressure on him and he feels the pressure and so the lawyer says to him, "I want the truth," and then Jack Nicholson responds with "You can't handle the truth." So this **line** is used when one person wants to know something. The other person might respond with "You can't handle the truth." But it's always a joke.
- Harp: Yeah. It is always a joke. And the funny thing with this **quote** is I hear people using it and I know they don't know the movie.
- Maura: Yeah, for sure. I've seen that too, where people know the **line**, but they don't know the movie. It's kind of interesting.
- Harp: It is. It's such a famous **quote** and sometimes people don't know where it comes from. Okay, let's move onto our last topic.

- Maura: All right. The last topic we're going to talk about is our own favourite movie **lines**. So, maybe not everyone knows these **lines**, but Harp and I enjoy them.
- Harp: Yup. I'm really excited to talk about this one.
- Maura: So, why don't you tell us?
- Harp: Well, my favourite movie **quote** comes from my favourite movie of all time.
- Maura: And, first tell us what the movie is.
- Harp: The movie is ***The Princess Bride***.
- Maura: Okay. I know that movie. It's kind of an older movie now, wouldn't you say?
- Harp: Yeah. It's from 1987.
- Maura: Oh wow. That is older.
- Harp: Yeah, it is. But it is a fantastic movie and it's one of the movies that I watched over and over and over again when I was young. So, with my sisters and I, we use these **quotes** all of the time.
- Maura: Oh, fun. So what's one of your favourite **quotes**?
- Harp: One of my favourites is when Wesley, who is one of the main characters in the movie, the main character in the romantic couple of the movie, he always says to Princess Buttercup, "As you wish." when she asks him to do something. So it's always, when someone asks you to do something, you can say, "As you wish."
- Maura: Okay, so, you actually use these **lines** sometimes, no?
- Harp: All the time.
- Maura: That's funny though, because you probably know it's from the movie, but no one else actually does.
- Harp: Well, in my head people know it. But, I'm not sure if they know the movie or not.
- Maura: So, in that case, some people might get it and laugh and the other people might not get it but they still can understand the sentence and it fits anyway.
- Harp: Exactly. But when people know the movie, you can tell because they laugh a little bit with me.

- Maura: Nice. So, you said it was one of your favourite **lines**. What's another one?
- Harp: The other one is hilarious. And it's kind of long, so I'm gonna say it slowly. "Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die."
- Maura: So why do you like this **line** so much?
- Harp: Because he says it so many times in the movie. It's so awesome when he says it because he has a Spanish accent and it's just "Prepare to die."
- Maura: It's very direct. "You killed my father. Prepare to die."
- Harp: Exactly. It's a good **line**.
- Maura: Now, I can't imagine you have much opportunity to use this one in day-to-day conversation.
- Harp: No, but I just watched *The Princess Bride* last week with one of my francophone friends who's never seen it before and I kept **quoting** it before he would say it.
- Maura: That's fun.
- Harp: What about you? What's your favourite movie **quote**?
- Maura: Well, one movie does come to mind. Even though it's been years since I watched it a lot, I can still remember so many **lines** from the movie because I watched it so many times and one of my friends also liked it, so we liked **quoting** from the movie afterwards because we thought it was so funny.
- Harp: What movie was it?
- Maura: The movie is *Dumb and Dumber*.
- Harp: That's funny that you loved it so much. It was good, but enough to watch over and over again?
- Maura: I think what made it so funny was that I watched it with a good friend and we always laughed and then made jokes about it after, too. So that's part of it. But there are some really funny **lines** in that movie.
- Harp: Yeah, I'm sure. I'm even having **flashbacks** to some of the scenes in the movie. It was funny.

- Maura: Yeah. One of my favourite ones that I still **quote** sometimes with some friends is when there is a person who says he's from Austria and Jim Carrey responds to him by using an Australian accent, or trying to use an Australian accent, and he uses Australian expressions. So, after this guy says that he's Austrian, which is very far from Australia, then Jim Carrey responds and says, "G'day mate. **Let's put another shrimp on the barbie.**"
- Harp: That's really funny.
- Maura: Yeah, and he thinks he's being really cute and clever and the Austrian man is just looking at him like he's crazy.
- Harp: Yeah. I can imagine, because Austria is in Europe and they have more of a German accent.
- Maura: Right. So these expressions, *g'day mate*, that's a typical Australian greeting and also to say, "**Let's put another shrimp on the barbie**" is also Australian, because in Australia they like to BBQ a lot, so that's what *barbie* means when you're in Australia.
- Harp: I think I remember the scene. It was funny.
- Maura: Yeah. It's a good one, see? It's a funny movie.
- Harp: It was a funny movie. **I'll give you that.**
- Maura: Yeah. There are so many funny **lines** from that movie. And I remember being in class when I was in high school and my friend and I would just recite the **lines** and then **laugh our heads off**.
- Harp: That's funny. Okay, so that's it for this episode. Let's do a quick recap.
- Maura: So, first we started talking about movies and our own movie memories, and Harp told us that she loves movie popcorn.
- Harp: Yes I did. And then the second topic, we talked about movie **quotations**, very famous ones.
- Maura: Right. And then we gave you a few of our own personal favourite movie **lines** from movies that we've enjoyed.
- Harp: Yes. And I think all of you out there should watch ***The Princess Bride*** because that's an awesome movie.
- Maura: You should also watch ***Dumb and Dumber***.
- Harp: Okay, okay.

- Maura: All right. So, don't forget to go to our website, Culips.com, that's C-U-L-I-P-S.com, and check out all we have to offer there.
- Harp: And remember to join us on Facebook and ask any questions, if you have any.
- Maura: All right. We'll see you later.
- Harp: I'll be back.
- Maura: Bye!
- Harp: Bye everyone!

Detailed Explanation

Mmhmm

Mmhmm is a casual way to say yes. We did a Culips episode in May about sounds that mean yes and no. Take a peek back at the episode and you can learn more about words like **mmhmm**.

A fuzzy memory

When people describe a memory they have or something that they remember, but they can't remember it very well, they can say that they have **a fuzzy memory**. When we use the word *fuzzy*, we're usually referring to something that is blurry or unclear. For example, your vision can be fuzzy, especially if you are dizzy or you need glasses. If the things you see are blurry or unclear, you can say that you have fuzzy vision.

But *fuzzy* doesn't have to refer to just physical things like your vision. It can also refer to ideas, thoughts, dreams, or (as we see in this episode), memories. If you think about something in your head and it's not very clear or understandable, it's almost like the feeling of having blurry vision, because you can't clearly perceive or identify it.

In this episode, Maura uses the word *fuzzy* to describe her memory of first getting a VCR (a video cassette recorder). It was probably a very long time ago, so the details of the memory are probably not very clear.

Back in the day

People use the phrase **back in the day** to mean *before*, like when they were younger. When people use this phrase, they're usually talking about something from the past that is a lot different now. This expression is used when you're comparing how something in the past was very different from the way it is now. For example, you can talk about how much a can of soda pop cost **back in the day**.

In this episode, Harp and Maura talk about how movie theatres used to be when they were younger, and Harp says that she remembers how **back in the day**, movie theatres in her town only played one movie at a time.

La-Z-Boy

In this episode, Maura talks about her experience watching movies in Thailand. She describes how some of the theatres in Thailand have recliner **La-Z-Boys**. **La-Z-Boy** is a brand of chairs that are comfortable and plush and recline so that you are leaning back with your feet up. The brand **La-Z-Boy** is so popular for these types of chairs, that their name has become synonymous with all reclining, plush, and comfortable chairs.

The chairs Maura sat in at the movie theatre in Thailand were probably not really **La-Z-Boys**, but it's easier to call them **La-Z-Boys** than it is to explain that the chairs are plush and reclining.

We hear this often in the English language, where a brand name has become so popular that we associate it with the product and the names become interchangeable. For example, the brand name *Kleenex* has become so popular that people call all tissues Kleenex. *Scotch tape* is another example, where *Scotch* is actually the brand name but it is now used to talk about all tape similar to it. There are many more examples in English too, such as *Tylenol*, *Q-Tips*, *Band-Aids*, and *Chapstick*.

To curl up

To curl up is an expression that usually means to get comfortable and cozy by snuggling up to a blanket or to another person. It uses the verb *to curl* because you are almost literally curling around the blanket or person. **To curl up** is used as a figurative expression, but it can also be used literally when something is actually **curling up**, like a fallen leaf.

In this episode, Maura tells Harp about watching movies in Thailand, where they give you blankets in the theatres and they even give you big comfortable chairs so that you can **curl up**, meaning that you can get cozy by **curling up** with the blanket.

To go to the movies

In this episode, we learn about movies and films. To see a movie, you usually go to a place that has lots of seats and a big screen, called a theatre. The term *movie theatre* has many different names and variations.

To go to the movies is a casual, shorter way to say *to go to the movie theatre*. A *show* is another word for a movie, and some people say that they are going to a show. A drive-in is a movie theatre that's outside. There's a big outdoor screen, and you can drive up to it and sit in your car or sit outside and the movie's sound is pumped through speakers next to your car. There are many car spots and it's sort of like a campground. It can be a very fun experience!

A *cinema* is another word for a movie theatre. It's not a term used for drive-ins, but only for indoor theatres, and it's usually reserved for nicer places that show films, but some people use it for all types of theatres.

Quote vs. quotation

Often in the English language, the words **quote** and **quotation** are used interchangeably to mean the same thing. Even though this is common, it's actually incorrect. In this episode, Maura talks about classic movie lines, and says that classic movie lines are **quotes** that are from movies. Maura actually uses the word **quote** incorrectly, but it's so common that her mistake is overlooked.

To quote is a verb, or action word. It refers to the action of repeating or reciting a line that someone has already said, whether in a book, movie, or speech. If you're talking about a line from a movie you like, and telling somebody else the exact line from the movie, you are **quoting** the movie.

A quotation is a noun, meaning that it's a thing and not an action. **A quotation** is what the line you are **quoting** is called. People **quote quotations**. When you copy a line from a movie, you **quote** the movie **quotation**.

A line

In this episode, Maura talks about classic movie **lines**, and says that classic movie **lines** are quotations that are from movies. In the previous detailed explanation, we learned what quotes and quotations are. But what does Maura mean when she says **lines**?

Lines are parts of the dialogue or conversation in a movie. **A line** is part of the script, or some sentences that the actors say in the movie. **A line** can also be a sentence from a book or the lyric to a song. Basically, **a line** is a quotation from a movie or book.

The Princess Bride

The Princess Bride is a very popular movie that was made in 1987. It appeals to a wide audience because it's a comedy, as well as a romance and an action/adventure movie.

It's an odd movie because it doesn't really follow the traditional movie or film structure. It's whimsical, fun, unusual, and eccentric. When the movie first came out, this strange structure appealed to certain people who enjoyed movies that were different from mainstream and traditional movies. These people became very attached to the movie, eventually leading to a small but devoted fan base. People call movies that cause this sort of attention cult classics.

Cult classics are movies that have a very dedicated and enthusiastic following. The movies are always very eccentric and tend to be very different from other movies. They may also deal with issues that aren't commonly dealt with in movies. Usually, this is done in a very light and fun way. These movies are named after cults because, like cults, they have a dedicated and devoted group of followers that like things that are outside of what is considered normal or traditional.

Cult movies usually have fan clubs, who organize special screenings of the movies, sometimes weekly. People come to see the movie again and again, and some dress up like the movie's characters. These special screenings are very fun and end up being more like parties. Some more examples of cult classics are: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (perhaps the most famous), *Hairspray*, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, and a lot of low-budget zombie movies such as *Night of the Living Dead*.

Dumb and Dumber

In this episode, Maura and Harp talk about movies that they often quote lines from. Maura says she quotes from the movie **Dumb and Dumber** because there are so many funny lines in it.

Dumb and Dumber is a movie made in 1994 starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels. As the name suggests, the movie is about two very dumb (stupid) friends who make a cross-country trip to return a suitcase to a woman that one of them has a crush on. Their trip has many complications that are always very funny because the characters are both so stupid and silly.

The *b* in *dumber* is a silent *b*. This is because the root word of *dumber* is *dumb*, which also has a silent *b*. If the root word (original word) has a silent *b*, it stays silent even if you put an *er* or *ed* on it. Words like *number* and *September* have *b*'s that are pronounced, because they are whole words without a root (original) word. *Numb* is not the root word of *number*, and *Septemb* is not the root word of *September*. In words that end in *mb*, the *b* is silent even if there is an *er* or *ed* added to it. But, if the *mb* is in the middle of a word that is already a whole word, the *b* is pronounced.

Here are some more examples:

-mb (b silent)

dumb/dumber
thumb/thumbed
climb/climber
comb/combed

-mb (b pronounced)

September
number
combine
remember

A flashback

A flashback is another word for a scene from the past. In this episode, Maura and Harp talk about their favourite lines and scenes from movies. When Maura talks about her favourite lines from a movie, she tells Harp that she is having **flashbacks** to some of the scenes in the movie. What Maura's saying is that she's having memories of certain scenes in the movie.

Flashbacks are like memories, but are usually sudden little scenes from your past that pop back into your head sometimes. They're usually very vivid, and it's almost as though you're back in the past reliving it.

Sometimes the word **flashback** refers to movies, and it's when the movie's storyline stops for a minute to show something from the past that relates to the part of the movie you're watching. For example, if you were watching a movie about someone who became a celebrity, the movie may interrupt the story to show you a scene from when the main character was a kid. This scene from the character's past would be called **a flashback**.

Let's put another shrimp on the barbie

In this episode, Maura talks about one of her favourite movies, *Dumb and Dumber*. She talks about one line from that movie that she really loves, when Jim Carrey says, "G'Day mate. **Let's put another shrimp on the Barbie.**" to someone who he thinks is Australian, but is actually Austrian.

G'Day mate is a common way of saying *hello* in Australia, and a *barbie* is another word for a *barbeque*.

A barbeque is an outdoor grill that usually uses coal or propane to cook meats and other food. Barbeques are very popular in the summertime, and especially popular in Australia, where there are actually public barbeques that people can use!

The term *barbeque* has many different spellings. Some people (mainly in the US) spell it with a *c*, like *barbecue*. Other ways of spelling barbeque are *BBQ*, *bar-B-Q*, and *barbie*, which is the most common way that Australians say *barbeque*. *Barbeque* is a funny word because it can be used to explain the tool (the actual grill), the method of cooking (*I am going to barbeque some steaks*), and the food that is grilled on it (*I'm craving some barbeque tonight*).

I'll give you that

I'll give you that is a common English phrase used to respond to what someone else is saying, and it means that you agree with them.

In this episode, Maura tells Harp about how funny the movie *Dumb and Dumber* was, and Harp says, "It was a funny movie. ***I'll give you that.***" What Harp is saying when she says this to Maura is that she agrees that it was a funny movie. What makes this expression a bit different than just saying *I agree* is that it is used when you only agree with a part of what someone is saying, but not all of what they are saying. For example, Harp may not like the movie *Dumb and Dumber*, or may not like certain parts, but she can agree with Maura that it is a funny movie, so she tells Maura "It was a funny movie. ***I'll give you that.***"

As another example, imagine that you and a friend are talking about a new restaurant. Your friend loves everything about the restaurant, but you didn't like the food. You may say to your friend something like "I didn't really like the food, but the waiters were really friendly. ***I'll give you that.***" What you're telling your friend by saying ***I'll give you that*** is that even though you don't like the food, you do like one part of the restaurant, and that is how friendly the staff is.

To laugh your head off

To laugh your head off means to laugh very hard for a very long time. This expression is used when you want to emphasize how hard something made you laugh, or how funny it is.

In this episode, Maura uses this phrase to tell Harp about how hard she and her friend would laugh after quoting lines from the movie *Dumb and Dumber*. Maura uses this phrase because if she just said that she and her friend would recite the lines and then **laugh**, it wouldn't have the same impact or emphasis as saying that they would **laugh their heads off**.

The origin of this expression is unclear, but because *head* can be used as another word for *mind* or *sanity* (eg., *he lost his head* or *thinking with your head*), the expression **to laugh your head off** may mean to laugh so much that it seems like you are crazy or insane.

Quiz

1. Which of the following is NOT another expression that means *going to a movie theatre*?
 - a) going to see a show
 - b) going to the cinema
 - c) going to the movies
 - d) going to the seats

2. What's the difference between a quote and a quotation?
 - a) A quote is a line an actor says, and a quotation is when a person who has watched the movie repeats the actor's line.
 - b) *Quote* is not a real word, only a short form for *quotation* and should only be used in casual conversation.
 - c) To quote is a verb that means to repeat a line from something, and a quotation is the line that you are repeating.
 - d) A quote is a line from a movie, and a quotation is a line from a film.

3. What is a cult classic?
 - a) a movie that's different, and has a group of very devoted fans
 - b) a documentary about groups that differ from mainstream society
 - c) a movie that makes over \$3 billion in the first week that it shows in theatres
 - d) a type of movie similar to horror movies, but only about zombies

4. What is a flashback?
 - a) a portable device for showing home videos
 - b) a scene from the past, either in your memory or in a movie
 - c) a type of movie that incorporates dancing into the script
 - d) a type of movie chair with a reclining back

5. What does it mean when you laugh your head off?
 - a) you laugh so hard in a movie theatre that someone tells you to be quiet
 - b) you laugh really hard for a very long time
 - c) you laugh at the wrong time during a movie, like when something sad happens
 - d) you laugh so hard that you hurt your neck or head

6. When is it correct to say *I'll give you that* in a conversation?

- a) when someone says something about a movie you haven't seen yet and you don't want them to tell you what happens
- b) after someone laughs really hard
- c) before you quote a line from a movie
- d) when you agree with part of what someone says, but not everything

Answers:

1.d 2.c 3.a 4.b 5.b 6.d