

What's in a Name?

by Hugo Slavia

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- 1 The earl of Sandwich was an English nobleman. He liked to play games. One day he was at the gaming tables. He was having a fine time.
- 2 This is fun, he thought. I don't
- 3 But he hadn't eaten for a while. He was getting hungry. He needed some food but didn't want to stop playing to get a meal. Well, you know how it is. When you're having fun, you don't want to stop. Right?

"Bring me some meat," he said. "Or some cheese. Put it between two pieces of bread. I'll eat it right here. And I'll go on playing." And so he did. This way of eating worked so well that he kept it up. He did it often. It became a habit. His friends talked about it. They found a name for two pieces of bread with some other food between them.

5 What was the name? *Sandwich*, of course. They gave it the name of the man who liked to eat that way. And that's how the sandwich got its name.

6 Now another English nobleman was the earl of Cardigan. He had some sweaters. But he didn't like to pull them over his head. Perhaps they mussed his hair. Perhaps they strained his back. It doesn't matter.

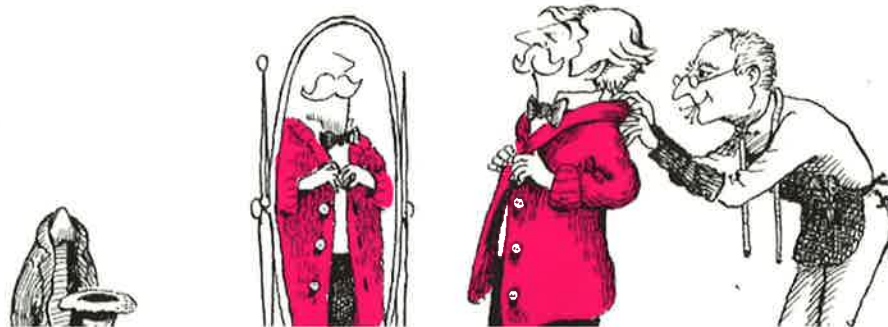
7 Anyway, he didn't like to pull them

on. So he went to his tailor. "Make me some sweaters with buttons down the front," said he. "I'll put them on like shirts. And I'll button them up."

8 So the tailor made some. And what did he call them? Why, *cardigans*, of course. He named the button-up sweater after the earl who thought of it. And that's how the cardigan sweater got its name.

9 But think about this. What if the earl of Cardigan had been too busy for meals? What if *he* had eaten quick snacks between bread? And what if the earl of Sandwich had disliked pullover sweaters? What if *he* had asked for one with buttons?

10 You know the answer. It's easy. We'd eat cardigans. We'd wear sandwiches. And we wouldn't mind at all! Only the names would be different.



How Well Did You Understand?

A Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a*, *b*, or *c*.

- 1 It doesn't matter what a thing's name is as long as
 - a people use it as they like
 - b people call it the same thing
 - c people find it in the same place
- 2 The earl of Sandwich probably asked for bread because
 - a he did not want to get his fingers dirty
 - b he knew there was bread in the kitchen
 - c he liked bread more than any other food
- 3 Other people started eating sandwiches because
 - a the earl of Sandwich told them to
 - b they couldn't find anything else to eat
 - c they didn't want to take time off to eat a meal
- 4 Putting buttons on a sweater makes the sweater
 - a nicer to look at
 - b easier to put on
 - c warmer to wear
- 5 Jules Leotard was like the earl of Cardigan, so you can tell
 - a he made costumes for clowns
 - b he made leotards for dancers

Learn about Words

B Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

Directions: Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- 1 pleasant; good (1)
- 2 had to have; wanted (3)
- 3 person who serves or helps (4)
- 4 rumped; made messy (6)
- 5 hurt; hurt by stretching (6)
- 6 light meals (9)
- 7 not hard; not difficult (10)
- 8 care (10)

C too = also
two = the number after one

Say *too* and *two*. They are homonyms. **Homonyms** are words that *sound* the same but aren't spelled the same and don't mean the same thing.

Directions: Look at each word in **heavy type**. Note the paragraph number. Look at the paragraph and find the homonym. Which of the two words fits in the blank in the sentence? Write the word.

9 ~~meet~~ (4) **meet**

The earl of Sandwich and his friends would ____ to play games.

Think about It

D A word was left out of each sentence. Look at the two words in **heavy type** under each sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Write the word.

1 A duke, a knight, and an ____ are English noblemen.

uncle earl

2 A tailor makes shirts, dresses, and ____.

sweaters shoes

3 The earl of Sandwich ate sandwiches for lunch, dinner, and even for ____.

breakfast morning

4 The earl of Cardigan wanted a sweater that closed with hooks, snaps, or ____.

pockets buttons

5 A sandwich is made of bread, meat, and ____.

cheese milk

E Read each set of words. Look at the first and second letter in each word. Write the word that comes first in alphabetical order.

6 friends food fun

7 hair his head

8 pull play pieces

9 snack stop spike

10 buttons bread between

Write about It

What would you like to have named after you? Would it be a kind of food or a game? Write two or three sentences to tell