

Adages

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Do not try to block out your memories for it is impossible. Try to minimize the unpleasant ones and maximize those that are pleasant.

Much of mankind's time is spent trying to explain why they did or did not do something.

Why is so much time spent trying to crowd out someone else?

Never let your wants exceed your pocketbook.

Often when you became the most unraveled all of a sudden things will suddenly come together.

The first requirement of a pill manufacturer is – make the pill as bitter and nasty tasting as possible.

Never do some things today that you can put off until tomorrow – if you are lucky you might not have to do it at all.

Some people fail to give even deserved credit to others if it dilutes their own.

It seems that with some politicians much of their time is spent trying to justify their own existence.

Do not ask someone else to do that which you can do yourself.

When you are careful to put something away where it belongs it may take years to find it again.

Some people have all of the answers as long as they are not asked the wrong questions.

Try not to do an injustice to anyone. However remember that if you try too hard you probably will do one to yourself.

Some people constantly try to feather their own or their friends nests even though there are often already more feathers there than necessary.

No one likes to be made a fool of. Most people can do a good enough job without help from anyone else.

Let people solve their own problems. If you help it is seldom appreciated.

Some people feel that they control the use of their time. Then they realize that time controls them.

Over a mountain
and through a swamp
to grandma's house we go
That's the way we go today
for it is the shortest way—maybe

During a long life there are many things we feel bad about. Deal with them as best you can but be careful; they can overwhelm you.

We all strive to get what we want however sometimes we wonder if the price was too high.

If you make demands on someone make sure they are realistic.

A dictator is someone who wants to put his foot on you.

The deeper the chasm gets the more difficult it is to return to the brink.

Some people when asked a question seem to answer from the far back door without ever quite reaching the front.

Humans are sometimes like flying geese. They go in the wrong direction.

It should be important to each one of us that when our time on this earth is over we have left something to the generations yet to come.

Try not to look for trouble. It will find you quick enough.

We have many experts who know little or nothing about what their expertise should be.

Perfection is something that some strive for. Some feel they have attained it. All should realize that it is not within our reach.

Habits are easy to follow but hard to break.

The best friendships are those that are tested by time.

At times we watch the world narrow around us. It is only with cautious optimism that we hope for it again widening.

It is good to be a dreamer as we keep in mind that only sometimes do dreams come true.

Written words are often the reflection of the writer's moods.

Once when we were bleeding to death it was red blood. Now it's gasoline.

Some people dare to be different. Being different does not mean bad; it just means not the same.

Some of us feel we did not measure up to our elders expectations. The best advice is to listen to our own drummer.

Life is like a favorite sweater – when it is new most things are uncomplicated. Some day it gets old and worn. Then it just fades away.

Do not blindly follow the person in front of you. They may not know where they are going any more than you do.

When an unpleasant situation is smoothed over the usual result of trying to minimize it is that it is magnified instead.

Some say that old people depress them however they are our only real connection to all of the yesterdays that lie behind us.

When we are young and hear about 50 years it sounds like eternity but after living it we might say “that isn’t so long”.

The greatest joy you can get when giving a gift is when that gift is something you treasured yourself.

I haven’t accomplished anything so far today. There is quite a lot of day left but there is no use destroying my record.

We hear someone say “I’ll just keep that for a rainy day”. The trouble is that many of them will not admit that the rainy day is already here.

Telling the truth and hearing it is usually very important and yet there are times you are better off not knowing it.

Sometimes we remember what we want to remember. The only trouble is that some people are more adept at the art than others.

If you are going in the wrong direction, change it before you fall over the cliff.

Take time to watch the sunsets for they are the best examples of one of nature’s wonders that cost us nothing.

Sometimes when you feel compelled to take a strong stance on an issue you make bad friends however that person should remember that in all probability they did also.

Most people understand what they want to understand.

Be sure not to listen to the truth. It might narrow your vision or warp your judgment.

It is better to have a belief even though others question it than to have no belief at all.

When you disregard the past you jeopardize the future.

Nothing is going to last forever. Sometimes it just seems that it does.

Some people always talk down to you. That is because they have so elevated themselves in their own mind that there is no one up higher to talk to.

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again. A traditional adage that Skip likes a lot.

Sometimes when you do something that you feel is going to be a feather in your cap it turns out to be a thorn in your side.

One of life's most difficult tasks is to do an accurate self evaluation.

We can fret for a long period of time as to something that might happen to us but often what actually does is something we never thought of.

Beware of overly gushy people.

When you think you're walking in clover don't be too surprised to find a little poison ivy mixed in.

If you do something alone you do not have to try to find someone else to give the credit or blame for the results.

Tradition between generations links just below the surface. However it will probably arise again.

As your age advances some people think your mental capacity is diminished particularly if you do not always agree with them.

A disappointment or broken heart often comes from an unrealistic or too great expectation.

Some people think you are out of your mind – usually when you do not agree with them.

There is a thin line between what some people call a shrewd business transaction and what others call a crooked deal.

Just because something looks nice that is no sign that it is.

In search of something better we sometimes pay a tremendous price.

When you wait long enough trying to attend to every little detail you sometimes fail to do anything.

History does seem to repeat itself but our memories often fail or refuse to recognize it.

Sometimes what we consider to be treasure turns out to be junk and what we consider to be junk turns out to be treasure.

If we save something for a long period of time and finally discard it – the next day we need it.

When we try to find a bee that produces more honey, sometimes we get stung.

What would some people do for money? Anything!

Sometimes when you try to do something nice for someone your purpose is misunderstood.

You are considered a gentleman if you always agree with those who are trying to define the word or constantly redefining it.

Education should open the door to gaining more knowledge through everyday life, not deciding that you already know it all.

A closed mind, which we all have from time to time, is akin to stopping breathing.

When you ask someone for their opinion you seldom get an honest one without extenuating circumstances.

A baby kissing politician often deserves no more than the bacteria he gets from the contact.

A straight line is the shortest distance to where you are going but it isn't wise to take it especially when a burning building or a manure pile lies in your path.

When you loan something to some people you will eventually find out that you gave it away.

You won't lose contact with former generations if you preserve that which they cherished.

If we had not had yesterday we would not have today or tomorrow.

You have a cake with beautiful frosting – when you cut into it and find the cake itself is made of cement it is difficult to still praise the frosting.

Many of the threats to us are threats only because we allow them to be.

If you strive for a simple life and think you have attained it sometime shortly you find it is not so simple after all.

Firsthand knowledge of any event is superior to several second hand views since with the latter you get several different versions.

Blind allegiance is a handicap.

When people decide they know more of your business than you do they are often unfair and wrong.

If you are distressed by disagreeing with your friends you will be far more distressed for agreeing when in reality you do not.

When we narrowly avoid a catastrophe we use the word almost. It is best to go on and know that almost doesn't count.

The result of doing a good job is that you are asked to do more.

Sometimes we hear of the “March of Civilization” but when we reach a time of life when there have been far more years behind us than there are ahead of us we take a deeper look at civilization and realize it has been more of a stagger than a march.

You cannot avoid being struck by a speeding train unless you step out of its path. You cannot solve a problem until you admit there is one.

If somewhere back in your life you did not master doing a certain job you may regret it. However in time you may learn to do it or it may not be necessary any longer.

Try not to lose your cool – when you do something is often said that hurts yourself or someone else.

When at any period of your life you sum up the plusses and minuses and the plusses come up the winner give thanks for your blessing.

The best course in psychology is 100 years of life. But when you have taken it you usually find it is pretty late to make use of it.

How to be contented –remember yesterday, cherish today, and look forward to tomorrow.

You cannot satisfy everybody. If you try hard enough you will not be satisfied yourself.

Most of the things we worry about never happen. Usually what does happen we never thought of.

Don't throw anything out but there is a good chance you will not be able to find it anyway.

Some people do terrible things to others because they have different opinions. Does that mean we should not have different opinions? If that happens it opens the way to the rule of tyrants.

Problems can be solved if people are not too stubborn to find and accept the solutions.

What you put off 'til tomorrow probably never will be done.

If you know you can't trust someone and you trust them do not be surprised by the outcome.

Some people try not to rock the boat so it does not capsize. Do the same people realize that even a boat that isn't rocking can develop a hole that will cause it to capsize anyway?

Politicians refer to pork. Some of us know that there is a hog on both ends.

We sometime say: “We should have done this or that”. When we look deeper we know that some things we should have done we did not and others we should not have we did.

It's not wise to wait for a dead man's shoes – he may be waiting for yours.

It is said that we are what we eat, but we are also who we meet.

When we become too satisfied with what has been done in the past it impedes the present and future.

When at a young age you start to search for truths and knowledge the search must never end.

Everyone is less than perfect. The only trouble is that some people do not realize it.

Sometimes when some people's cages are rattled they are not smart enough to look who is rattling it or why.

If you do not get your own way do it the American way – throw a tantrum.

Are we what someone expected us to be? It depends on who someone is.

There is always something interesting about tomorrow if you will only let it come to the surface.

We sometimes become attached to certain things which can be like tying a millstone around your neck.

Always tell the truth. That way you do not have to have a good enough memory to remember what lies you told.

Always make sure of the facts before you accuse anyone of anything. It will help to make sure an apology is not necessary.

Those who profess to be rich probably aren't. Those who profess to be poor may not be either.

If your philosophy is "I can't" you probably won't be able to.

In this age of simplicity everything seems to be more complicated.

What worked yesterday often does not work today. Tomorrow it may not work either.

Those who point out our transgressions try to cover up their own.

To help others is the right thing to do. But sometimes it is not considered enough.

All that it takes to make a mountain out of a molehill is some dirt.

Different does not mean bad; it just means not the same.

Follow the rules. If they are not right strive to change them.

We can try to get along with everyone but should not expect to accomplish it.

When you try to give someone else a test you may discover you are not up to the task.

Since passing the age of 80 years I sometimes have difficulty solving my own problems. Given another ten years, I may become more reluctant to try to solve other people's.

If an injustice is done to you it is much the same as a kick in the butt. It stings. However if you allow it to, the sting eventually subsides.

Never be too sure that someone knows what they are talking about. Sometimes you find out the hard way that they do not.

Horse manure in the road is like life's other little problems; you just try to dodge them.

Have you ever heard "That's not fair!" Who ever said life is fair?

Sometimes we refer to our adult life. Are any of us sure when our adult life began?

Two old adages that it is wise to remember are: don't try to reinvent the wheel and if it's not broken don't fix it.

Those who preach to us about waste are often the greatest offenders themselves.

Many people are really busy. Others strive to appear busy to justify their own existence.

The knowledge of an individual unless shared with others is useless or nearly so.

Old dogs and old men sit in the sun and dream.

Some people use you. At the other end of the spectrum are those who disregard you. Give thanks to those who lie some place in between.

Get the money. The first three words of the ____ _____. You fill in the blanks.

If you stick to an exact schedule you will likely always be behind.

Be as liberal as you choose but if you go to excess you can liberal yourself into oblivion.

Sometimes when you feel you have lots of time to accomplish something you turn out to be wrong.

Those who say they can always agree with anyone, be they friend or enemy, are either fools or liars.

It is much easier to say: "Oh to hell with it!" than to take some action but is it the correct path to take.

When you are alone you do not get on someone else's nerves. If you get on your own you are in trouble.

Sometimes when discussing someone you will hear that money is no object with them. Then some day you find that money is nearly the whole object.

A smile will take you a long way with most people. With a few you would have to add a hundred dollar bill.

Never overestimate or underestimate anyone. You may not possess all of the facts.

When you try to go the extra mile you often fall down and break your butt.

Many people are too busy in their big world to have much to do with others in their little ones.

Too often we get a kick in the butt. If we have lived a lot of years we should be getting used to it.

Many people will express an opinion just as long as it does not inconvenience them.

There are some people who always appear to be talking down to the rest of us. That is because they have elevated themselves so high, at least in their own opinions, that there is no one left to talk up to.

If two things could be eradicated life would be more pleasant. They are greed and jealousy.

The world is full of people whose job is to solve problems – most of which are not solved anyway.

When there are two versions of a story the listener is free to decide which one to believe.

There are some people who never give anyone else credit when they can seize it all themselves.

Sometimes someone likes to put another on a pedestal even though the honor is neither deserved nor desired. At times it is difficult to know who does desire to be up on the pedestal.

When it is said that someone is difficult it does not mean that they are bad, just not the same as someone else.

Structures are not erected from the top down but from the bottom up. Businesses and organizations must be built the same if they are to succeed.

Some people will dislike you far more for turning out to be right than being wrong.

We sometimes hear someone plead poverty when it is well known that is not the reality. Usually the only one who is persuaded is the one doing the pleading.

Have you ever heard anyone say: "It can't happen here." Do not be too sure.

Sometimes we so complicate simple things that they become complicated also.

Some memories even from long ago are so etched in our minds that they are easily recalled. Others equally or more important can too easily slip from our grasp.

Every once in a while we all suffer from foot in mouth disease.

I'm not involved in politics and probably never will be. However for many years I've heard the president this or the White House that. My question is: where in hell is Congress?

Flattery will get you somewhere with some people, but only some.

At times it is difficult to determine if someone's feelings are hurt or they are angry. It may be some of both.

Some people are too practical to be contented.

It is far easier to get someone invited than to cease the invitation.

Some of our roots have come up through a lifetime of accumulations.

It is much easier to go down than up.

Blind allegiance to politics produces slaves.

Those who can be abused by word or deed and not react should be nominated for sainthood.

It is amazing what we can do if we have to.

Each day we all have a multitude of things to do. How often do we ask ourselves how many of them really amount to anything?

It is time to put things back where they belong, but where the hell do they belong?

I think this morning about strange traits our friends and relatives have or had. Ain't it great that you and I don't have any?

Both individual and nations have enemies. Be aware of it and tread lightly or some day you will regret that you did not.

We often hear that we can't do this or that. It is amazing what we can do when we have to.

Sometimes we say nothing can go wrong with this or that. A while later we say something went wrong.

We at times hear that there is going to be a knock down and drag out. Often little is gained from the event itself. It is best to consider beforehand who deserves to be knocked down and drug out. Often it is someone who does not deserve it. It may be you.

When someone threatens to walk out someone else offers to hold the door open.

Some people seem to be able to prove what a horse's rear end they really are very easily.

Organized BS is not that superior to unorganized BS.

How to have happy days: Do something nice for someone or several someones each day.

A society that has lost sight of a spirit of giving and only understands getting is a sick society.

Instruction booklets are great things even when there are no instructions in them and they are in four different languages.

Hold onto your money at all costs. Help is coming – someday you will be dead and not need it.

Many people remember what they want to even though it is often not accurate.

It is remarkable how cooperative some people can be if you pay them enough.

Some people will agree with you to your face. It is a different matter when you turn around.

You can be wrong once and everyone reminds you but if you are right a hundred times no one notices.

When you get up in the morning and you say to yourself “there are so many interesting things to do” you are very much alive.

Do something nice for someone today. It will bring joy to the receiver and the giver also.

One of the unfortunate facts of life is those who are friends today may not be tomorrow.

One fact of life is that the more you give the more some people will take.

Change is not necessarily bad but it is not always good either.

Try not to owe anyone any more than you absolutely have to.

What you can't do yourself may not get done.

You correct one mistake only to make two others.

When you say “I can't” think again. You often can do most of what you think you can.

I stole this one liner from a mother of a young boy who about 70 years ago told her son that: “Just because you're smart does not mean you're intelligent.”

An advisor is someone who gives you advice either solicited or not. Some day you find out, often the hard way, that you knew more about the subject than the advisor did.

Today I have the satisfaction that I have gotten back to normal. The only thing is that I'm not sure what normal is.

Years ago when I was trying to finish a job I was told: “that is good enough”. In my opinion “that is good enough” when it is right.

Some brilliant people do some very stupid things.

Good friends believe that you should be tolerant of their belief about religion and politics. When it comes the other way around there is no such requirement.

Some people say that chicken leg bones are not good for dogs. Is it possible that dogs have been eating them since dogs and chickens were first invented?

When you look into someone's coffin and the occupant had very little some people would say that the guy was really stupid even though he may have done great good. On the other hand if he died with a great fortune he is labeled as a greedy hog. Is there a way to win?

Do not depend on someone else to do that which you can do yourself.

You can agree with some people even when they are wrong once, but expect to do the same forever more.

Some people have an opinion about almost everything even if they know nothing about the matter.

Don't let your job go to your head; your head may be too small to hold it.

When you speak try to know what you are talking about.

Two ways to make enemies: (i) Say something when you feel it is necessary; (ii) Fail to say something when you feel it is necessary.

Making a habit of telling people what they want to be told can be detrimental to the one being told and to the teller.