

## Real English Conversations: Weird food combinations

### Conversation Transcript

- Lori: When I was over in the States recently, I was reading one of my mom's magazines. And in that magazine I read about a new hamburger.
- Michael: OK.
- Lori: That...it really **takes the cake**, this new hamburger. You know, we've talked about junk food before, but this is amazing. It's a big beef burger, and they put **sharp** cheddar cheese and two slices of bacon...
- Michael: What... Can I just stop you there? What is sharp cheddar cheese?
- Lori: Sharp cheddar cheese? A sharp cheese is a cheese that has a strong flavor.
- Michael: Ooh, OK.
- Lori: So cheese can be mild or sharp.
- Michael: Right.
- Lori: You'd think that the opposite would be "dull," but you don't talk about a dull cheese.
- Michael: Or "blunt" cheese.
- Lori: Yeah, a blunt cheese, right, exactly. Exactly. So sharp cheddar cheese. But anyway, back to the burger, it's got...yeah, a big beef patty, sharp cheddar cheese and two slices of bacon. And now here is the **key**.
- Michael: Mmm, the bacon sounds good.
- Lori: Yeah, but the key ingredient...the bun is actually a KrispyKreme **glazed donut**.
- Michael: Uh huh.
- Lori: Can you believe that? And it's actually a baseball team, I think, the Gateway Grizzlies, it's what they're calling "Baseball's Best Burger," and they're serving it at their baseball games.
- Michael: Baseball's weirdest burger, maybe!
- Lori: Baseball's most artery-clogging burger.
- Michael: So you said that it was, the burger bun is a donut,
- Lori: Mmm hmm. A donut, yes.
- Michael: Is that, um, I mean, donuts are sweet though, aren't they?
- Lori: Yeah, it's a glazed donut so it would be sweet. And apparently they cut it in half and toast it and use that as the bun on this burger.
- Michael: That sounds **horrendous**.
- Lori: It..I couldn't...I thought it was a joke when I first read about it. I thought it must be a joke but apparently it's true.
- Michael: It really makes me wonder, you know, they have this, um this kind of, stereotype of American people being fat.
- Lori: Right.



**Glazed donuts**



Michael: And I guess if, you know, they're eating things like that whilst sitting down at the baseball game.

Lori: Yeah, sitting down watching other people do sports.

Michael: Exactly...that's what I'm thinking, yeah!

Lori: Right. I just wonder, how would someone even **come up with** that, the idea of using a donut as a hamburger bun.

Michael: Well, there is something that you can, I mean, being an American you can tell me

if this is true or not, I remember hearing about sandwiches that Americans like, and it's peanut butter and jelly.

Lori: Well, that's, yeah, that's a classic kid's sandwich. Peanut butter and jelly or even peanut butter and honey, you can have...

Michael: Well, what you call jelly, isn't that what we [British English speakers] would call jam?

Lori: Yeah, jam.

Michael: So peanut butter and jam. So it's the **savory** peanut butter, salty, peanutty tasting butter and something like sweet strawberry jam.

Lori: Yeah, but I guess it's kind of like putting pineapple on your pizza. You know, some people think that's just an **aberration**. But there's something about the sweet, tart pineapple combined with the salty, savory ingredients of a pizza that is actually...I like it.

Michael: Well, I guess it's like having **gammon** and pineapple, you know, the thick cut of ham which is also salty.

Lori: Yeah, or pork chops and applesauce.

Michael: Ah, right. OK.

Michael: I'm thinking, if you can combine something like peanut butter and jam, then combining a hamburger with a donut doesn't seem so strange.

Lori: I'm sorry! I know what you're trying to say, but just, even hearing you say that, just sounds so funny, "combining a hamburger with a donut."

Michael: Well, yeah, it's pretty **loony**.

Lori: Yeah, loony. I couldn't believe that when I read that story in my mom's magazine. But I went on the Internet and had a look, and there were people saying that it sounds disgusting and looks disgusting, but actually they were quite tasty, so what do I know?

Michael: I can't even begin to imagine what it would taste like. You know, I have no frame of reference. My taste buds cannot picture it, you know, I have an image of a donut in my head and an image of a nice juicy hamburger with a couple strips of bacon on. And forget the cheese because I hate cheese as you know, but the hamburger with bacon, that's something that...in fact we should cut this podcast short right now because I want to go to the store and get some bacon and some bacon and some hamburger because I'm getting hungry now.

Lori: Sounds like a plan, but let's **ix-nay** on the donuts.

Michael: Right, yeah, Hold the donuts!



## Vocabulary list

<b>takes the cake</b>	(Informal American English) you can say that something <i>takes the cake</i> if it is something that you think is very surprising or annoying.
<b>sharp</b>	<i>Sharp</i> is a word to describe the strong taste of certain foods, such as cheese. Cheeses range from <i>sharp</i> (strong) to <i>mild</i> (not strong).
<b>key</b>	<i>key</i> (adjective) means very important
<b>glazed donut</b>	A glazed donut is a type of fried pastry covered with a thin coat (glaze) of sugary icing.
<b>horrendous</b>	terrible, horrible, extremely unpleasant
<b>come up with</b>	To <i>come up with</i> something means to invent it or think of it.
<b>savory</b>	Food that is <i>savory</i> is salty, meaty, or spicy, not sweet. In British English it's spelled <i>savoury</i> .
<b>aberration</b>	An <i>aberration</i> is something that differs from the normal state, particularly the normal moral standards.
<b>gammon</b>	<i>Gammon</i> is also called <i>ham</i> . It is meat from the back leg of a pig, usually preserved with smoke or salt or both.
<b>loony</b>	<i>loony</i> is an informal word for crazy, stupid, or foolish
<b>ix-nay</b>	Lori is using Pig Latin to play with the word <i>nix</i> , which means <i>no</i> , <i>nothing</i> , or <i>not</i> . (See Wikipedia for an explanation of Pig Latin.)

If you enjoyed this lesson from Better@English, we'd really appreciate your support. You can support us lots of ways that don't cost you anything but time:

- / Tell your friends about our website, [www.betteratenglish.com](http://www.betteratenglish.com)
- / Participate in our forum: [www.betteratenglish.com/forum](http://www.betteratenglish.com/forum)
- / Write nice things about Better@English on other forums
- / Subscribe to our RSS: <http://feeds.feedburner.com/betteratenglish>

Additionally, if you would like to make a donation or send us a surprise gift from our Amazon wish list, see [www.betteratenglish.com/support.php](http://www.betteratenglish.com/support.php) for details about how you can do this.

Thanks!