

PROBABLE YOGI BERRA SAYINGS

"Why buy good luggage? You only use it when you travel." (However, Yogi says he has since changed his mind on this subject.)

"A little bit." (Yogi's reply when asked if he really had confused Glenn Close, the actress, with Glen Cove, a suburb.)

"How long have you known me and you still can't spell my name?" (Yogi's comment after having received a check for \$25.00 made out to "Bearer" from Jack Buck in payment for having appeared on Jack Buck's radio show.)

"I don't have a ten." (Yogi's reply, after thumbing through a large roll of bills that he pulled out of his pocket, to Joe Pepitone's request for ten dollars for breakfast.)

"I will get it when I die!" (Yogi's somewhat heated reply to a teammate in the clubhouse telling him that he was foolish for buying life insurance.)

"Even the music was nice." (Yogi's comment about the opera Tosca.)

"Is he living? Is he living now?" (A question from Yogi during a game of 20 Questions.)

"...we were overwhelming underdogs..." (Yogi's comment to Nolan Ryan when talking about the 1969 Mets.)

"How did yours come out?" (Yogi's question after finishing a comic book one night to roommate/teammate Bobby Brown about the book he was reading - a medical textbook.)

"It's not too far, it just seems like it is." (Yogi giving directions to Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame Racquetball Club in Fairfield, New Jersey.)

"Do you mean now?" (Yogi's response when asked what time it was by Rube Walker, the Met's pitching coach, while flying from New York to Los Angeles.)

"I know, Texas has a lot of electrical votes." (Yogi's response to former president George Bush's remark that Texas was very, very important in the coming election.)

"You don't hit with your face." (Yogi's standard reply to people who said he was bad looking.)

"If the guy was poor, I would give it back." (Yogi's response when asked what he would do if he found a million dollars.)

"He must have made that before he died." (Yogi said this about Steve McQueen while watching one of his movies. Yogi claims to have said this about Jeff Chandler and some other actors, too.)

"Yeah, only in America can a thing like this happen." (Yogi's comment on a Jewish mayor being elected in Dublin, Ireland.)

"You don't look so hot yourself." (Yogi's reply to then New York mayor John Lindsay's wife, Mary, after she had told Yogi that he looked nice and cool.)

"If the world were perfect, it wouldn't be."

"That's his style of hitting. If you can't imitate him, don't copy him."

"Thank you for making this night necessary." (Yogi's speech at Yogi Berra Night held for him by the St. Louis Cardinals.)

"I haven't seen him." (Yogi's reply to a teammate when told that he was waiting for Bo Derek.)

"A home opener is always exciting, no matter if it's home or on the road."

"I'm not in shape yet." (Yogi's reply when, as a young player, he was asked what size hat he wore.)

"The other teams could make trouble for us if they win." (Yogi's comment on the Yankee's chances in 1964.)

"What's a Yogi-ism?" (Yogi's question after being told by Phil Garner that he had used a Yogi-ism.)

"Yeah, what paper do you write for, Ernie?" (Yogi's comment when introduced to Ernest Hemingway.)

"Where is that coming from?" (Yogi's query when it started raining while he was sitting in the back seat of a friend's car.)

"Slump? I ain't in no slump. I just ain't hitting."

"All pitchers are liars or crybabies."

"...the meat's too tough and the horns get stuck in my teeth." (Yogi turning down mousse for dessert while visiting Alaska.)

"Better make it four. I don't think I can eat eight." (Yogi's reply when asked if he wanted his pizza cut into four or eight slices.)

"No, but I saw him." (Yogi when asked if he had had an audience with the Pope.)

"Those guys make a pair. " (Yogi's comment after seeing three of his players in the locker room wearing conehead caps. Incidentally, according to Yogi, Matt Galante, who went to St. John's for four years, didn't pick up on this for almost an hour.)

"No, ma'am, it's not even carbonated." (Yogi's answer when asked if the word Yoo-Hoo was hyphenated.)

"I can see how he won 25 games. What I don't understand is how he lost 5." (Yogi's comment on Sandy Koufax.)

"They are not going to make them next year, so I am going to buy a Volkswagen or a foreign car." (Yogi's comment to a friend regarding the fact that GM had stopped making the rear-engine Corvair.)

"No, but I was scared." (Yogi's reply when a reporter asked him if he were apprehensive during a 1973 playoff game won by Pete Rose with a 12th-inning home run.)

"I usually take a two-hour nap from one to four." (Yogi's answer when asked if he takes a nap before a night game.)

"What difference does the uniform make? You don't hit with it." (Yogi's comment on becoming coach of the Houston Astro's.)

"It gets late early out there." (Yogi's comment on the glare of the sun in left field at Yankee Stadium during the 1961 World Series against the Reds.)

"Closed." (Yogi's comment when asked what he liked best about school.)

"It ain't over 'til it's over." (Yogi's comment on the 1973 pennant race, as manager of the New York Mets.)

"You can see a lot just by observing."

"Baseball is ninety percent mental; the other half is physical."

"Swing at the strikes."

"A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore."

"Nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded." (Yogi's opinion of Rugerio's, a popular St. Louis restaurant where he had once worked as headwaiter.)

"If people don't want to come to the ballpark, how are you gonna stop them?"

"How can you think and hit at the same time?"

His wife Carmen asked where he would like to be buried, to the reply 'Surprise me'.

"I am ... happy to speak my words at the university graduation. A lot of people have been quoting me ever since I came to play for the Yankees in 1946. But, as I once said, I really didn't say everything I said. So now it's my turn. I want to give some of my famous advice to the graduates. First, never give up, because it ain't over 'til it's over. Second, during the years ahead, when you come to the fork in the road, take it. Third, don't always follow the crowd, because nobody goes there any more. It's too crowded. Fourth, stay alert. You can observe a lot by watching. Fifth, and last, remember that whatever you do in life, 90 percent of it is half mental. In closing, I want to quote myself again: Thank you, Montclair State University, for making this day necessary." (Excerpts from Yogi Berra's commencement speech as delivered to the Class of 1996, Montclair State University.)

POSSIBLE BERRA SAYINGS

It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future.

I didn't say the things I said.

In baseball, you don't know nothing.

You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you are going because you might not get there.

It ain't the heat, it's the humility.

I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. I just blame the bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if I know it isn't my fault that I'm not hitting, how can I get mad at myself?

He hits from both sides of the plate. He's amphibious.

Ninety percent of this game is half mental.

If you don't know where you're going, chances are you're not gonna get there.

We make too many wrong mistakes.

Always go to other people's funerals otherwise they won't go to yours.

You have to give 100% in the first half of the game. If that isn't enough, in the second half, you

have to give what is left.

Never answer an anonymous letter.

If you don't know where you're going, you'll wind up somewhere else.

If you don't know where you're going, you might not get there.

Ninety percent of all mental errors are in your head.

90% of putts that are short don't go in."

When I was young and green behind the ears...

We made too many wrong mistakes. (He said that won't deny that he said it because it gave him such a thrill when former president George Bush quoted Yogi as having said it.)

You can observe a lot by watching.

The towels were so thick there I could hardly close my suitcase.

He can run anytime he wants. I'm giving him the red light.

I always thought that record would stand until it was broken.