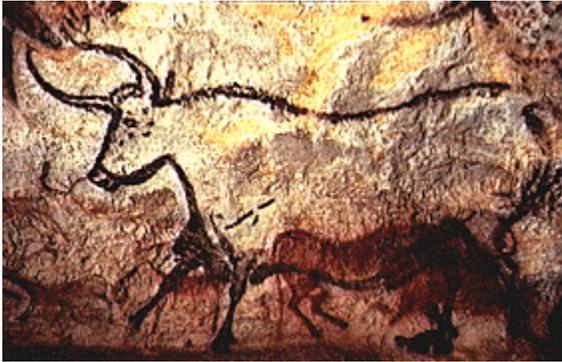


In the beginning....

>>>* The year is 1940. The place is somewhere near Lascaux in the south of France. While playing in some local caves, two young boys make the discovery of a lifetime. By the light of their lanterns, they discover paintings on the walls that are later deemed to be 17,000 years old. Although initially suggested to represent sacred rites and ceremonies, subsequent investigation, however, confirms that the drawings found in these primitive cubicles are actually the world's first documented interoffice communication!



"This sounds like bullshit, man!"

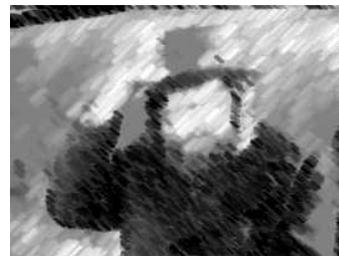


"The boss is a horses ass!"

While initially confined to office-related topics, the drawings soon veered off to cover other subjects of humor.



Yo mama is hairier than a mammoth!

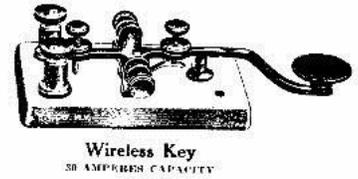


A rabbi and a Neanderthal go walking....

* >>> Quick note about e-mail etiquette. There is nothing more annoying than reading a message that has been forwarded a zillion times. >>>Do yourself (and your friends) a favor and use a great freeware program called The Cleaner by Steve Chin. It enables you to remove all of these annoying >>> signs from your messages.

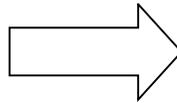
In the beginning....

Communication has evolved quite a long ways since those Paleolithic times. Indian tribes used smoke signals and beat tom toms. Samuel Finley Breese Morse developed the telegraph which was in turn adapted to wireless (radio) format by Guglielmo Marconi and used for tapping jokes out to ship captains at sea. (The real reason why the Titanic didn't notice the iceberg?)



March 10, 1876: "Mr. Watson, come here - I want to tell you a good joke" is what Alexander Graham Bell reportedly really spoke into the first telephone. (He later altered it somewhat for posterity's sake.)

A century later, fax machines ruled the office. Now, we had the capability of tying up office telephones lines for hours on end in order to send crudely drawn cartoons and jokes via dreadfully slow machines.



Today we bear witness to the era of electronic mail or e-mail. E-mail is spontaneous. It's fast. And it's a lot more fun than regular USPS snail mail. Thanks to e-mail and broadband Internet access, it's now possible to share that hysterical mpg file of naked skydivers with hundreds of your closest friends, around the world, in just a matter of a few mouse clicks. And how else would we have learned valuable information such as the Rules for Men and Women? Or kept abreast of those so eager to purge themselves from the human gene pool via The Darwin Awards?

The unfortunate reality is that despite Al Gore's attempts to truly make this a totally wired society, many are still searching for that elusive on-ramp to the great information superhighway. They are the e-mail deprived (not to be confused with the e-mail depraved, which is another problem). They have heard rumors about this e-mail stuff and of viruses that can be spread without the assistance of a toilet seat.

This book was written for them.

In the beginning....

It was also written for those who habitually purge their in-boxes in order to conserve precious hard disk space. (I should know - you are currently holding 10 MB of jokes in your hand!)

Finally, to state the obvious: e-mail jokes tend to be passed on anonymously. Therefore, it is next to impossible to give proper credit for individual jokes. Obvious sources, such as one-liners from George Carlin or Steven Wright have not been included for copyright reasons. Also, dammit, I'm a doctor, not an English teacher - it is not my job to correct the grammar of each and every message that is passed on to me. Get over it!

jocdoc