

Monty Python's The Holy Grail - Clip 1 - 1975 UK c.3 min. 00:09:11 - 00:12:00

Michael Palin, Graham Chapman: [YouTube](#) [IMDb](#) [il Sacro Graal](#)

• **grammar points:** can, could, reported speech, passive, emphatic do, if only: 2° conditional, mixed conditional, past perfect, say/tell, have to, will, would

• **phrasal verbs:** find out, get, hang on, hold aloft, shut up, go round, put s.o. away, to be on about s.t.,

• **idioms:** over there, Well, just, bother, look, like, what I object to is that, by, if there's ever going to be, down here, How do you do?, fool yourself, there you go, what it's all about, to be in haste, take it in turns, act as a sort of, I see, clad in the purest shimmering samite, the bosom of the water, watery tart, moistened bint, to lob, bloody, a giveaway

.....
KING ARTHUR:

Old woman!

PEASANT MAN:

Man!

KING ARTHUR:

Man. Sorry. What knight lives in that castle **over there**?

PEASANT MAN:

I'm 37.

KING ARTHUR:

What?

PEASANT MAN:

I'm 37. I'm not old.

KING ARTHUR:

Well, I **can't just** call you "man."

PEASANT MAN:

You **could say** "Dennis."

KING ARTHUR:

I didn't know you **were called** Dennis.

PEASANT MAN:

Well, you didn't **bother** to **find out**, did you?

KING ARTHUR:

I **did say** sorry about the "old woman," but from behind you **look...**

PEASANT MAN:

What I object to is that you automatically treat me **like** an inferior.

KING ARTHUR:

Well, I am king.

PEASANT MAN:

Oh, King, eh? Very nice.

And how did you **get** that, eh? **By** exploiting the workers!

By hanging on to outdated imperialist dogma which perpetuates the economic and social differences in our society!

If there's ever going to be any progress...

PEASANT WOMAN:

Dennis, there's some lovely filth **down here**.

Oh...**How do you do?**

KING ARTHUR:

How do you do, good lady?

I am Arthur, King of the Britons.

Whose castle is that?

PEASANT WOMAN:

King of the who?

KING ARTHUR:

The Britons.

PEASANT WOMAN:

Who are the Britons?

KING ARTHUR:

Well, we all are. We're all Britons. And I am your king.

PEASANT WOMAN:

I didn't know we **had** a king. I thought we **were** an autonomous collective.

PEASANT MAN:

You're **fooling yourself**. We're living in a dictatorship.

A self-perpetuating autocracy in which the working classes...

PEASANT WOMAN:

Oh, **there you go**. Bringing class into it again.

PEASANT MAN:

That's **what it's all about**. **If only** people **would realise (realised)**...

KING ARTHUR:

Please, good people. I **am in haste**. Who lives in that castle?

PEASANT WOMAN:

No one lives there.

KING ARTHUR:
Then who is your lord?

PEASANT WOMAN:
We don't have a lord.

KING ARTHUR:
What?

PEASANT MAN:
I **told you**. We're an anarcho-syndicalist commune.
We **take it in turns** to **act as a sort of** executive officer for the week.

KING ARTHUR:
Yes.

PEASANT MAN:
But all the decisions of that officer **have to be** ratified at a special biweekly meeting.

KING ARTHUR:
Yes, **I see**.

PEASANT MAN:
By a civil majority in the case of purely internal affairs.

KING ARTHUR:
Be quiet!

PEASANT MAN:
But **by** a two-thirds majority in the case of more major...

KING ARTHUR:
Be quiet! I order you to be quiet.

PEASANT WOMAN:
"Order." eh? Who does he think he is?

KING ARTHUR:
I am your king!

PEASANT WOMAN:
Well, I didn't vote for you.

KING ARTHUR:
You don't vote for kings.

PEASANT WOMAN:
Well, how did you become king then?

KING ARTHUR:

The Lady of the Lake, her arm clad in the purest shimmering samite, held aloft Excalibur from the bosom of the water, signifying, by divine providence, that I, Arthur, was to carry Excalibur.
That is why I'm your king!

PEASANT MAN:

Listen. Strange women lying in ponds, distributing swords, is no basis for a system of government.
Supreme executive power derives from a mandate from the masses.
Not from some farcical aquatic ceremony.

KING ARTHUR:

Be quiet!

PEASANT MAN:

You can't expect to wield supreme executive power just 'cause some watery tart threw a sword at you.

KING ARTHUR:

Shut up!

PEASANT MAN:

If I went round saying I was an emperor because some moistened bint had lobbed a scimitar at me, they'd put me away!

KING ARTHUR:

Shut up! Will you shut up?

PEASANT MAN:

Ah, now we see the violence inherent in the system.

KING ARTHUR:

Shut up!

PEASANT MAN:

Oh, come and see the violence inherent in the system!
Help, help, I'm being repressed!

KING ARTHUR:

Bloody peasant!

PEASANT MAN:

What a giveaway. Did you hear that? Did you hear that, eh?
That's what I'm on about. Did you see him repressing me?
You saw it, didn't you?