

**Annie Hall** 1977 US Woody Allen c. 5 min. 00:48 - 06:02 Introduction

[50-Annie Hall - Clip 1: Introduction to Alvy - YouTube](#) [IMDb](#) [Io e Annie](#)

- **grammar points:** can, could, must, have got to, should, will, would, going to, used to, present perfect simple & continuous, superlative, passive, double negative, future continuous, past perfect, 1st conditional, imperative
- **phrasal verbs:** go through, get, break up, get your mind around s.t., sift through, figure out, screw up, be brought up, break apart, got to, jump around, get s.t. out through, step up, wind up, get along with, walk off, pick up on
- **idioms:** all over, like, turn 40, still, in love, funny, guess, all of a sudden, Well, What has that got to do with it?, underneath, run s.t., all the time, jerks, for God sakes, can't help it, folks, wonder, talliths, be into s.t., lose track of, out of step with, mutter under his breath

ALVY:

There's an old joke:

Two elderly women are at a Catskill mountain resort.

One says, "The food at this place is really terrible."

The other one says, "I know, and such small portions."

Well, that's essentially how I feel about life:

Full of loneliness, and misery, and suffering and unhappiness...

and it's **all over** much too quickly.

The other important joke for me...

is one that's usually attributed to Groucho Marx...but I think it appears originally in Freud's "Wit and Its Relation to the Unconscious".

And it goes like this, I'm paraphrasing: "I **would** never want to belong to any club that **would** have someone **like** me for a member".

That's the key joke of my adult life in terms of my relationships with women.

You know, lately the strangest things **have been going** through my mind

because I **turned 40**, and I guess I'm **going through** a life crisis,

or something, I don't know...And I'm not worried about aging.

I'm not one of those characters. Although I'm balding slightly on top.

That's about **the worst** you **can** say about me.

I think I'm **going to get** better as I **get** older.

You know, I think I'm **going to** be the balding, virile type...

you know, as opposed to the distinguished gray, for instance...you know,

Unless I'm neither of those two.

Unless I'm one of those guys with saliva dribbling out of his mouth...

who wanders into a cafeteria with a shopping bag, screaming about socialism.

Annie and I **broke up**, and I still **can't get my mind around** that, you know,

I keep **sifting** the pieces of the relationship **through** my mind...

and examining my life and trying to **figure out** where did the **screw up** come,

you know, A year ago we were **in love**, you know, and it's **funny**,

I'm not a morose type. I'm not a depressive character.

I, you know, I was a reasonably happy kid, I **guess**,

I **was brought up** in Brooklyn during World War II.

MOTHER:

He's **been** depressed. **All of a sudden** he **can't** do **anything**.

DOCTOR:

Why are you depressed, Alvy?

MOTHER:

Tell Dr. Flicker. - It's something he read.

DOCTOR:

Something he read, huh?

ALVY:

The universe is expanding.

DOCTOR:

The universe is expanding?

ALVY:

Well, the universe is everything, and if it's expanding someday it will break apart, and that will be the end of everything.

What is that your business?

He stopped doing his homework!

ALVY:

What is the point?

What has the universe got to do with it?

You're here in Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is not expanding!

DOCTOR:

It won't be expanding for billions of years yet, Alvy!

We've got to try and enjoy ourselves while we're here! Huh?

ALVY:

My analyst says I exaggerate my childhood memories, but I swear I was brought up underneath the roller coaster in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn.

Maybe that accounts for my personality, which is a little nervous, I think.

You know, I have a hyperactive imagination.

My mind tends to jump around a little, and I have some trouble between fantasy and reality.

My father ran the bumper-car concession.

There he is, and there I am.

I used to get my aggression out through those cars all the time.

I remember the staff at our public school.

We had a saying, "Those who **can't** do, teach, and those who **can't** teach, teach gym." And of course, those who **couldn't do anything**, I think, **were assigned** to our school.

I **must** say, I always thought my schoolmates were idiots. Melvyn Greenglass, you know, and his fat little face. And Henrietta Farrell, just "Miss Perfect" **all the time**. And Ivan Ackerman, always the wrong answer. Always!

IVAN:

Seven and three is nine.

ALVY:

Even then I knew they were just **jerks**.  
In 1942 I **had already discovered** women.

GIRL:

He kissed me! He kissed me! Yuk!

TEACHER:

That's the second time this month!  
**Step up** here.

ALVY:

What did I do?

TEACHER:

**Step up** here.

ALVY:

What did I do?

TEACHER:

You **should** be ashamed of yourself.

ALVY:

Why? I was just expressing a healthy sexual curiosity.

TEACHER:

Six-year-old boys don't have girls on their minds.

ALVY:

I did.

GIRL:

**For God sakes**, Alvy, even Freud speaks of a latency period!

ALVY:

**Well**, I never had a latency period.  
**I can't help it**.

TEACHER:

Why **couldn't** you **have been** more **like** Donald?  
Now, there was a model boy.

ALVY:

Tell the **folks** where you are today, Donald.

DONALD:

I **run** a profitable dress company.

ALVY:

Sometimes I **wonder** where my classmates are today.

CLASSMATE:

I'm president of the Pinkus Plumbing Company.

CLASSMATE:

I sell **talliths**.

CLASSMATE:

I **used to be** a heroin addict,

CLASSMATE:

now I'm a methadone addict.

CLASSMATE:

I'm **into** leather.

ALVY:

I **lost track of most of** my old schoolmates, but I **wound up** a comedian.  
They did not take me in the army.  
I was, interestingly enough, I was 4-P.  
Yes, In the event of war, I'm a hostage.

MOTHER:

You always only saw **the worst** in people.  
You never **could get along with** anyone in school.  
You were always **out of step with** the world.  
Even when you **got** famous, you still distrusted the world.

ALVY:

I distinctly heard it. He **muttered under his breath**, "Jew."

FRIEND:

You're crazy.

ALVY:

No, I'm not. We were **walking off** the tennis court.  
And you know, he was there and me and his wife.

He looked at her, then they both looked at me and **under his breath** he said,  
"Jew."

FRIEND:

You're a total paranoid.

ALVY:

How am I a paranoid? I **pick up on** those kind of things...