

Who's On First
By Abbott and Costello

ABBOTT: Well Costello, I'm going to New York with you. You know, Bucky Harris, the Yank's manager gave me a job as coach for as long as you're on the team.

COSTELLO: Look Abbott, if you're the coach, you must know all the players.

ABBOTT: Right, certainly do.

COSTELLO: Well, I never met the guys, so you'll have to tell me their names, and then I'll know who's playing on the team.

ABBOTT: Oh, I'll tell you their names, but you know strange as it may seem, they give these ball players now a days, very peculiar names.

COSTELLO: You mean funny names?

ABBOTT: Strange names, pet names. Like, Dizzy Dean, and...

COSTELLO: His brother Daffy?

ABBOTT: Daffy Dean.

COSTELLO: And their French cousin.

ABBOTT: French?

COSTELLO: Goofe'.

ABBOTT: Goofe' Dean, oh I see! Well let's see, we have on the bags, we have Who's on first, What's on second, and I Don't Know is on third.

COSTELLO: That's what I want to find out.

ABBOTT: I say, Who's on first, What's on second, and I Don't Know's on third.

COSTELLO: Are you the manager?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: You going to be the coach too?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: And you don't know the fellow's names?

ABBOTT: Well I should.

COSTELLO: Well then who is on first?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: I mean the fellow's name.

ABBOTT: Who.

COSTELLO: The guy on first.

ABBOTT: Who.

COSTELLO: The first baseman.

ABBOTT: Who!

COSTELLO: The guy playing first base.

ABBOTT: Who is on first.

COSTELLO: I'm asking you who's on first!

ABBOTT: That's the man's name.

COSTELLO: That's whose name?

ABBOTT: Yeah.

COSTELLO: Well go ahead and tell me.

ABBOTT: That's it.

COSTELLO: That's who?

ABBOTT: Yeah. *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: Look, you got a first baseman?

ABBOTT: Certainly.

COSTELLO: Who's playing first?

ABBOTT: That's right.

COSTELLO: When you pay off the first baseman every month, who gets the money?

ABBOTT: Every dollar of it.

COSTELLO: All I'm trying to find out is the fellow's name on first base.

ABBOTT: Who.

COSTELLO: The guy that gets the money.

ABBOTT: That's it.

COSTELLO: Who gets the money on first base?

ABBOTT: He does, every dollar! Sometimes his wife comes down and collects it.

COSTELLO: Whose wife?

ABBOTT: Yes. *(Pause)* What's wrong with that?

COSTELLO: Look, all I want to know is when you sign up the first baseman, how does he sign his name to the contract?

ABBOTT: Who.

COSTELLO: The guy.

ABBOTT: Who.

COSTELLO: How does he sign it?

ABBOTT: That's how he signs it!

COSTELLO: Who?

ABBOTT: Yes. *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: All I'm trying to find out is what's the guy's name on first base?

ABBOTT: No, what's on second base.

COSTELLO: I'm not asking who's on second.

ABBOTT: Who is on first!

COSTELLO: One base at a time!

ABBOTT: Well don't change the players around!

COSTELLO: I'm not changing nobody!

ABBOTT: Take it easy, buddy.

COSTELLO: All I'm asking you, who's the guy on first base?!

ABBOTT: That's right.

COSTELLO: Okay.

ABBOTT: Alright. *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: What's the guy's name on first base?!

ABBOTT: No, What is on second!

COSTELLO: I'm not asking you who's on second!

ABBOTT: Who's on first.

COSTELLO: I don't know.

ABBOTT: Oh, he's on third. We're not talking about him. Now let's get back to first.

COSTELLO: Now how did I get on third base?

ABBOTT: Well you mentioned his name.

COSTELLO: If I mentioned the third baseman's name, who did I say's playing third?

ABBOTT: No, Who's playing first.

COSTELLO: What's on first?

ABBOTT: What's on second.

COSTELLO: I don't know.

ABBOTT: He's on third.

COSTELLO: There I go, back on third again! Will you stay on third base and don't go off it?

ABBOTT: Alright, what do you want to know?

COSTELLO: Now who's playing third base?!

ABBOTT: Why do you insist on putting Who on third base?

COSTELLO: What am I putting on third?!

ABBOTT: No, What is on second.

COSTELLO: You don't want who on second?!

ABBOTT: No, Who is on first.

COSTELLO: I don't know!

Both: Third base! *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: Look, you got outfield?

ABBOTT: Sure.

COSTELLO: The left fielder's name?

ABBOTT: Why.

COSTELLO: I just thought I'd ask you.

ABBOTT: Well I just thought I'd tell you.

COSTELLO: Then tell me who is playing left field.

ABBOTT: Who is playing first.

COSTELLO: I'm not...Stay out of the infield! I want to know, what's the guy's name in left field?

ABBOTT: No, What is on second.

COSTELLO: I'm not asking who's on second.

ABBOTT: No, Who is on first.

COSTELLO: I don't know.

Both: Third base! *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: And left fielder's name?

ABBOTT: Why!

COSTELLO: Because.

ABBOTT: No, he's center field.

COSTELLO: *(Fumbles words loudly)*

ABBOTT: Well that's the fellow's name.

COSTELLO: Look, look, look, you got a pitcher?

ABBOTT: Sure.

COSTELLO: The pitcher's name?

ABBOTT: Tomorrow.

COSTELLO: You don't want to tell me today?

ABBOTT: I'm telling you then.

COSTELLO: Well go ahead.

ABBOTT: Tomorrow.

COSTELLO: What time?

ABBOTT: What time what?

COSTELLO: At what time tomorrow are you going to tell me who's pitching?

ABBOTT: Now listen, Who is not pitching. Who is on...

COSTELLO: I'll break your arm you say who's on first! I want to know, what's the pitcher's name?

ABBOTT: What's on second!

COSTELLO: I don't know!

Both: Third base! *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: Got a catcher?

ABBOTT: Certainly.

COSTELLO: The catcher's name.

ABBOTT: Today.

COSTELLO: Today? And tomorrow's pitching?

ABBOTT: Now you've got it.

COSTELLO: All we got is a couple of days on the team. You know, I'm a catcher too.

ABBOTT: So they tell me.

COSTELLO: I get behind the plate, do some fancy catching. Tomorrow's pitching on my team and a heavy hitter gets up.

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: Now, the heavy hitter bunts the ball. When he bunts the ball, me being a good catcher, I want to throw the guy out at first base. So I pick up the ball, and throw it to who?

ABBOTT: Now that's the first thing that you've said right.

COSTELLO: I don't even know what I'm talking about!

ABBOTT: Well that's all you have to do!

COSTELLO: Is throw the ball to first base?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: Now who's got it?

ABBOTT: Naturally. *(Pause)*

COSTELLO: Look, if I throw the ball to first base, somebody's got to get it. Now who has it?

ABBOTT: Naturally.

COSTELLO: Who?

ABBOTT: Naturally.

COSTELLO: Naturally?

ABBOTT: Naturally.

COSTELLO: So I pick up the ball and throw it to Naturally?

ABBOTT: No you don't! You throw the ball to Who!

COSTELLO: Naturally.

ABBOTT: That's different.

COSTELLO: That's what I said.

ABBOTT: You're not saying that.

COSTELLO: I throw the ball to Naturally?

ABBOTT: You throw it to Who.

COSTELLO: Naturally.

ABBOTT: That's it.

COSTELLO: That's what I said!

ABBOTT: Listen, you ask me.

COSTELLO: I throw the ball to who?

ABBOTT: Naturally.

COSTELLO: Now you ask me.

ABBOTT: You throw the ball to Who?

COSTELLO: Naturally.

ABBOTT: That's it.

COSTELLO: Same as you!

ABBOTT: You just changed them around.

COSTELLO: Same as you! I throw the ball to who. Whoever it is drops the ball, the guy runs to second, who picks up the ball, throw's it to what, what throw's it to I don't know, I don't know throw's it back to tomorrow, triple play!

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: Another guy gets up, and it's a long fly ball to because. Why? I don't know, he's on third, and I don't give a darn!

ABBOTT: Oh...What?

COSTELLO: I said, I don't give a darn!

ABBOTT: Oh, that's our short stop.

COSTELLO: *(Fumbles words loudly)*