

When the English tongue we speak  
 Why is break not rhymed with freak?  
 Will you tell me why it's true  
 We say sew but likewise few?  
 And the maker of the verse,  
 Cannot rhyme his horse with worse?  
 Beard is not the same as heard  
 Cord is different from word.  
 Cow is cow but low is low  
 Shoe is never rhymed with foe.  
 Think of hose, dose, and lose  
 And think of goose and yet with choose.  
 Think of comb, tomb and bomb,  
 Doll and roll or home and some.  
 Since pay is rhymed with say  
 Why not paid with said I pray?  
 Think of blood, food and good.  
 Would is not pronounced like could.  
 Wherefore done, but gone and lone --  
 Is there any reason known?  
 To sum up all, it seems to me  
 Sound and letters don't agree.

— Written by Lord Cromer and originally  
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**How do you learn a language in which things like these are possible?**

- The bandage was wound around the wound.
- The farm was used to produce produce.
- The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- We must polish the Polish furniture.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- I did not object to the object.
- The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- They were too close to the door to close it.
- The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.
- I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

— of unknown provenance