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**Neil:** Hi there, Helen. Now, something really funny happened to me on my way here this morning.

**Helen:** Oh, really? Do tell me. I love a funny story!

**Neil:** Right. A man got on my bus wearing his shoes on the wrong feet.

**Helen:** OK. And what happened next?

**Neil:** Then he started speaking to me. He asked if I liked Shakespeare.

**Helen:** Oh, right.

**Neil:** And then he started reading one of Hamlet's famous speeches!

**Helen:** Yeah, Neil?

**Neil:** Yeah?

**Helen:** You told me it was a funny story. But I'm not laughing. It's not funny. It's a bit weird.

**Neil:** Yeah – I meant funny peculiar, not funny ha-ha.

**Helen:** Funny peculiar?

**Neil:** Yes, 'funny' is usually something you laugh about. But sometimes we use 'funny' to mean 'strange' or 'weird'. Because it has these two meanings – sometimes people want to make it clear which one they mean. 'Funny ha-ha' is for things which make you laugh, and 'funny peculiar' describes...

**Helen:** It describes things which are weird! 当我们听到 funny 这个词的时候, 它并不是只代表好笑或有趣, 它也可能是指怪异, 古怪。所以我们应该首先判定到底是哪个意思, 是好笑, 有趣呢 'funny ha-ha', 还是表述一种古怪行为呢 'funny peculiar'.

**Neil:** That's it. These are our phrases in today's Authentic Real English. Let's hear some examples.

### **Examples**

*A: Martin was late every day last week.*

*B: That's funny.*

*A: You mean funny peculiar?*

*B: Yeah, it's strange. He's always on time.*

*A: I went to a funeral last week. Everyone there was in a good mood. It was funny. Funny peculiar, I mean.*

*B: Yeah that does sound a bit odd. But a funeral is a celebration of someone's life.*

**Helen:** Anyway, Neil, thanks for your story about the guy on the bus. Do you know what happened on *my* way to work today?

**Neil:** No?

**Helen:** The bus driver was telling jokes.

**Neil:** That's funny, peculiar. It's odd for bus drivers to tell jokes. But was the joke funny ha-ha?

**Helen:** Sadly, no! A bit like your jokes.

**Neil:** Hey – that's not true! My jokes are funny!

**Helen:** They're funny – peculiar!

**Neil:** Thank you so much, Helen.

**Both:** Bye!