

800 Penguins

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800 Penguins

"911. What's your emergency?"

"I don't know that it's an emergency exactly, but there are, like, 800 _____ *Adjective* _____ penguins running around in Central Park. Just thought someone should know."

Jared, the phone operator, stared at his computer screen. "What."

"I'm just _____ *Verb Present ends in ING* _____ to help these penguins. There are, like, _____ *Adjective* _____ 800 penguins here ."

"You said that already. And...I mean," Jared stuttered, "No one else has _____ *Verb Past Tense* _____ to say the same thing."

"I mean, I see people _____ *Verb Present ends in ING* _____ with penguins," the caller replied. "I don't know one else has called. Come to think of it, I would love _____ *Verb Base Form* _____ with them, too. Can I hang up now?"

"What? No." Jared said. "So, like, no one else is there _____ *Verb Present ends in ING* _____ to get the penguins?"

"I saw a _____ *Adjective* _____ _____ *Noun* _____. I've been meaning to get his attention, but I decided just to call you."

"Why?" Jared asked.

"The _____ *Adjective* _____ _____ *Noun* _____ went to _____ *Verb Base Form* _____ with the penguins, too."

"Are you kidding me?"

"No, so I decided to _____ *Verb Base Form* _____ you."

"I don't believe you," Jared decided.

"What?" the caller _____ *Verb Past Tense* _____. "That's so insulting! I'm telling the truth! Want me to put a penguin on the

phone?"

Jared squinted, as though the caller were in front of him, "...Sure."

There was the _____ Adjective sound of the caller moving the phone and then...

EEE-HAW!

"There, do you believe me now?" the caller said, rather _____ Adverb.

"That was a _____ Adjective donkey," Jared replied.

"_____ Adjective Penguins tend to sound like donkeys!"

"Why would a _____ Adjective penguin sound like a donkey?" Jared asked.

"I'm sure I do not know," the caller said.

"Okay, _____ Verb Base Form not to be a _____ Adjective about it," Jared said. "So...800 _____ Adjective

penguins. Fine, I'll send a car out."

"Thank you, that's all I wanted."

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"Officer, are there really 800 _____ Adjective penguins?" Jared asked later.

"Well, I have good news and bad news," the officer said.

"Okay?"

"There are not 800 _____ Adjective penguins here," the officer said.

"I thought so."

"There are 800 _____ Adjective donkeys here."

"What?" Jared asked. "Are you kidding me right now?"

"No," the officer replied. "Turns out the person who called before was blind."