

How is lightning like a violist's fingers?
Neither one strikes in the same place twice.

How do you keep your violin from getting stolen?
Put it in a viola case.

What's the difference between a violin and a viola?
The viola burns longer.
The viola holds more beer.
You can tune the violin.

We all know that a viola is better than a violin because it burns longer. But why does it burn longer?
It's usually still in the case.

How do you get a viola section to play spiccato?
Write a whole note with "solo" above it.

How do you get a violist to play a passage pianissimo tremolando?
Mark it "solo."

What's the difference between a viola and a coffin?
The coffin has the dead person on the inside.

What do you do with a dead violist?
Move him back a desk.

What's the difference between a viola and a trampoline?
You take your shoes off to jump on a trampoline.

What's the difference between a viola and an onion?
No one cries when you cut up a viola.

What's the definition of a minor second?
Two violists playing in unison.

What's the definition of "perfect pitch?"
Throwing a viola into a dustbin without hitting the rim.

Why do violists stand for long periods outside people's houses?
They can't find the key and they don't know when to come in

What's the difference between a washing machine and a violist?
Vibrato.

Why do so many people take an instant dislike to the viola?
It saves time.

How can you tell when a violist is playing out of tune?
The bow is moving.

How was the canon invented?
Two violists were trying to play the same passage together.

Why is playing the viola like peeing in your pants?
They both give you a nice warm feeling without making any sound.

Why is a viola solo like a bomb?
By the time you hear it, it's too late to do anything about it.

Why do violists leave their instrument cases on the dashboards of their cars?
So they can park in "handicapped" parking places.

Why don't violists play hide and seek?
Because no one will look for them.

Why do violists smile when they play?
Because ignorance is bliss and what they don't know can't hurt them.

Why shouldn't violists take up mountaineering?
Because if they get lost, it takes ages before anyone notices that they're missing.

What's the difference between a dead cat in the road and a crushed viola in the road?
Skid marks before the cat.

How do you get a violin to sound like a viola?
Sit in the back and don't play.

If you throw a violist and a soprano off a cliff, which one would hit the ground first?
The soprano. The violist would have to stop halfway down to ask directions.

A conductor and a violist are standing in the middle of the road. which one do you run over first, and why?
The conductor. Business before pleasure.

What's the most popular recording of the William Walton viola concerto?
Music Minus One

What do a viola and a lawsuit have in common?
Everyone is happy when the case is closed.

What is the range of a Viola?
As far as you can kick it.

Why are violas so large?

It's an optical illusion. It's not that the violas are large; just that the viola players' heads are so small.

If you're lost in the desert, what do you aim for? A good viola player, a bad viola player or an oasis?

The bad viola player. The other two are only figments of your imagination.

Why shouldn't you drive off a cliff in a mini with three violas in it?

You could fit in at least one more.

What's the difference between the first and last desk of a viola section?
a semi-tone

Why can't you hear a viola on a digital recording?

Recording technology has reached such an advanced level of development that all extraneous noise is eliminated.

Why can't a violist play with a knife in his back?

Because he can't lean back in his chair.

What instrument do violists envy most?

The harp. You only ever have to play pizzicato on open strings.

What's another name for viola auditions?

Scratch lottery.

What is the difference between a violist and a prostitute?

A prostitute knows more than two positions.

How do you get a dozen violists to play in tune?

Shoot 11 of them.

How does a violist's brain cell die?

Alone.

How do you call a violist with two brain cells?

Pregnant.

Why do violists have pea-sized brains?

Because alcohol has swelled them.

What's the similarity between the Beatles and the viola section of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra?

Neither has played together since 1970.

What is the longest viola joke?

Harold in Italy

Did you hear about the violist who played in tune?
Neither did I.

What is the main requirement at the "International Viola Competition?"
Hold the viola from memory.

How do you transcribe a violin piece for viola?
Divide the metronome marking by 2.

Why do you always bury a viola player three feet under?
Because deep down they are all very nice people.

How do you keep a violist from drowning?
Take your foot off his head.