

Stories for Lipreading



THE TALKING CENTIPEDE

[This text is read aloud at the beginning of this video:]

Welcome to Stories for Lipreading. If you haven't used our website before, we suggest you look at our 'How to Use' page before you begin. We hope you enjoy this joke, which is called 'The Talking Centipede'.

The Talking Centipede

A rather lonely young man decided life would be more fun if he had a pet. So he went to the pet shop and told the shop assistant that he wanted an unusual pet but it needed to be small and quiet.

After some discussion, he finally bought a talking centipede, which was certainly unusual, and came with a little white box to use as a house.

He took the box back home and placed it on the work surface in the kitchen. The next day was Sunday. The centipede hadn't spoken yet so the man thought, 'I know; I'll take him to the park with me – that will cheer him up.' So he leant in close to the box and asked quietly, 'Would you like to come to the park with me today? We'll have lots of fun.'

He waited for a moment but there was no answer. So he leant in close again and repeated his question: 'Would you like to come to the park with me today?' Still no answer. So he waited a few minutes more and then decided to try for one last time. He put his face right up against the centipede house and shouted, 'Hey! You in there! Would you like to come to the park with me today and have some fun?'

This time a little voice came out of the box. 'I heard you the first time. I'm just putting my shoes on!'