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adultery The result of husbands and wives following the advice of parents, teachers and career advisors. ('Stop dreaming, start doing.')

advertising An art form designed to sell a product or service, by making people identify a hole inside themselves that can be filled by spending money on said product or service. If you are selling a beauty product, make them feel ugly. If you are selling insurance, make them feel unsafe. If you are selling a dream, remind them they are stuck inside a nightmare.

alien You.

ambition A state of eternal *wanting* which arises from a lack of parental love/peer-group acceptance.

animal Among humans this word generally means any Earth-based animal except one.

ants The most technologically adept species on Earth. They don't need computers. They have twigs and leaves.

anxiety An inevitable result of thinking.

app Boredom avoidance tool with opposite long-term effect.

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appearance The thing you will be judged on.

architecture On Earth, buildings are all *static* and *stuck to the ground*. This is the predominant architectural style. Furthermore, the human geometric imagination is largely limited to simple forms – squares, rectangles, triangles. This species has yet to discover the link between right angles and psychosis, and hence have a lot of anger issues they can't quite explain.

artist A human who notices the ridiculousness of being a human and paints, writes, builds, sculpts, films, acts, plays, sings, cries about it.

astrology Some humans believe that the time of year they are born indicates their personality and fate. This has to do with constellations of stars, which ancient humans decided looked like certain animals and utensils. A human might say 'I am feeling crabby today because I am a Cancerian,' or 'I'm so indecisive because I am a Libran.' They know there is no scientific basis for this, but both the human partition of time (calendars) and the human partition of space (star patterns) are going to appeal to a species that has no mystery over time or space. Moreover, by believing in astrology, humans can not only pretend to tame the chaos of the sky, but also imagine they can tame the anarchy of existence itself.

b

beauty A human can find beauty in a sunset, a piece of music, a human face, a canyon, a wind farm, or just about anywhere. Beauty is simply any prompt that reminds them of the short-lived wonder of existence. See *miracle*.

bed A place of sleep, and dreams, and sex, and truth.

bible A religious book, which has caused more arguments than any other book on Earth owing to a dispute regarding its genre. See *Catholic, Christianity, Protestant, church*.

binary For a human, love is a binary system. Three is a crowd.

black hole There are lots of black holes on Earth, but they are metaphorical ones, forming in people when love dies.

blush When a human feels awkward in a social situation they will very often blush, meaning their cheeks become suddenly pink or red. In human anatomy blood rushes towards vital organs either for purposes of procreation or survival. In most circumstances blushing is not due to procreation and so, with a degree of sadness, we have to conclude that at some level this is a species for which shame can prove fatal. See *shame, suicide*.

bomb An explosive device, often used in wars and revolutions. See *book*.

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a **book** Humans *read* books by sitting down and looking at
b each word consecutively. A long book – something like
c *War and Peace* or *The History of Western Philosophy* or *Don*
d *Quixote* – would take a human over a day to read.

e Also, on Earth, books are *categorised*. There are love
f stories. And murder stories. There are books humans read
g to feel clever, and those they will pretend never to have
h read in order to stay *looking* clever. They also – and this
i is particularly interesting – like to distinguish between
j *fiction* and *non-fiction*. Of course, such a distinction will
k always be a false one, as the existence of an infinite number
l of parallel universes proves that everything that can be
m imagined is happening *somewhere*. Yet still the humans
n persist with their Books About Things That Actually
o Happened and Books About Things That Definitely
p Didn't. Such distinctions help to comfort them, as they
q help to reinforce the prevalent human idea that imagina-
r tion and dreams have nothing to do with reality.

s Anyway, given the slow way in which books are
t consumed, it is quite terrifying to realise the quantity
u involved.

v Humans in their typical human way have written far
w too many to get through, and reading is added to that
x great pile of things – work, sexual prowess, love, status,
y televisual habits, online profile, exercise, parenting, holi-
z days, road travel, food shopping, the words they didn't say
when they really needed to say them – that they are bound
to feel a bit dissatisfied about.

Boolean algebra Branch of human mathematics which serves no purpose except to win money in card games.

boredom A condition that rises in line with the development of the entertainment industry.

branding The process of adding an abstract concept onto a product in order to sell it. For instance, the concept of youth is used to sell facial cleanser, the concept of male friendship is used to sell beer, the concept of intelligent sophistication is used to sell literary fiction, and the concept of outgoing confidence to sell a human in an interview situation.

breathing A continuous activity. See *How to breathe on planet Earth*.

bridge A structure built to span physical obstacles such as rivers, valleys or roads with the purpose of providing passage over the obstacle. The most popular human metaphor. See *love*.

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cannibal A human who eats another human. See *critic*.

capitalism A failure of love. See *economics*.

career An out-dated concept of employment.

cars On Earth, cars are generally confined to the ground and are reliant on fossil fuel. As a result they make more noise than it takes to launch a spacecraft. In human cities, cars are pointless, as the problems of congestion mean that the average speed in the urban areas is the same as a brisk walk. Yet traffic congestion gives humans a valuable opportunity to moan, and so they take that opportunity wherever they can. Remarkably, cars are non-sentient devices, and have no thoughts or dreams for themselves.

Catholic The type of Christianity for humans who like warm weather, gold leaf, Latin and guilt. See *Protestant*.

cats Like a dog, but smaller, and without the self-esteem issues. See *dog*.

cell If you are arrested by the police you are likely to be placed inside a small room known as a cell. A cell is the epitome of human architecture and interior design. All squares and sharp angles, and yet on Earth these rooms are considered much worse than other rooms because a human can't escape them very easily. Of course, humans

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a can't escape their planet very easily, and yet that never
b stops them from worshipping it, so there is a clear contra-
c diction here. See *architecture*, *police*.

d
e **change** Something humans believe is everywhere, and in
f their power. 'I can change the world! I can change my life!'
g Ultimately, everything stays the same, but don't tell a
h human that.

i **charity** A useful by-product of guilt.

j
k **Christianity** The human's most popular religion, partly
l because it gave its followers stories about people who had
m babies without sex, and who died without dying. It also
n made sure, via the bible, that there were enough possible
o interpretations to satisfy every human belief and prejudice.
p See *bible*.

q **church** God is everywhere on Earth, but apparently he is
r especially in churches so humans go there to talk to him.
s See *Christianity*, *Protestant*, *Catholic*.

t
u **cigarette** A popular but notorious delivery system for
v getting a plant-derived substance called nicotine into the
w blood-stream. They are addictive, with a high fatality rate,
x so you would think you would experience an incredible
y kind of über-orgasm by inhaling it, as compensation for
z a shortened life. Sadly, this is not the case. Yet they remain
attractive in some circles because of their iconic association

with long-dead glamorous movie stars and existential philosophers.

cinema A place where worship takes place in the dark. See *church*.

civilisation The result of humans grouping together and suppressing their instincts.

class Humans not only need to feel superior to other animals, but also to other humans, which is why they invented the class system. The human class system used to be quite easy to understand. A human was working class if he had to work in a factory, middle class if he didn't have to work in a factory and upper class if he didn't have to work at all. Since nowadays no one except robots and people from Indonesia work in factories, a new system has developed based around various intricate things such as what humans like to see at the theatre, where they go on holiday, the kind of flooring they have in their kitchen and their opinion on Chardonnay wine.

clean Even before they knew about bacteria, humans have been obsessed with cleanliness. In the olden days, it just meant keeping their house and body so tidy that if God came around for dinner He would be quite impressed. Now, cleaning involves using a variety of household hygiene products as a way of killing germs and relieving bodily shame.

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