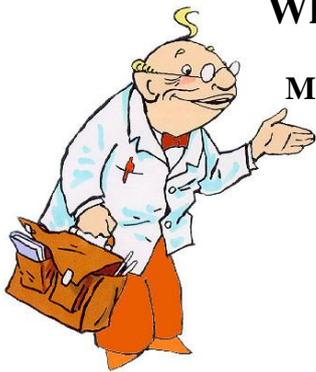
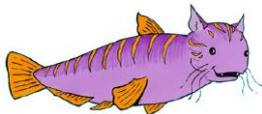


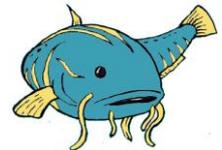
What is new in the laboratory? : *Mr Haddock relates*



**Mr Haddock:** Ah! Hello, Professor Fish! It is better than the best gift to have you here after you conference. **Greater** things than you can imagine have been happening. The **greatest** is yet to come. The monkfish made **more** noise caused by the electric eel. And the **most** surprising red herring was when the catfish turned on his back.



That same catfish is **happier** since the surprise arrival of his companion. The **happiest** I have seen a fish. A miracle!



The swordfish was **more** dangerous. He gave the goldfish the **most** awful wound when he attacked. It was **more** dangerous than I had ever known. Nearly everything was damaged in the aquarium. And the sawfish became **angrier** and fought with the hammer headed shark to try to defend the aquarium!

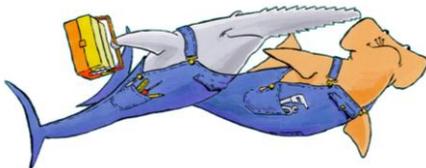


**Mr Haddock:** I say, Professor Fish, it is the **greatest** sight to see your swordfish carrying the goldfish to assistance.

*(Swordfish: True! I carried him to safety with the **greatest** of pride!)*

**Mr Haddock:** And the monkfish is upset by the **loudest** fight he has ever heard.

*(Monkfish: Indeed it was the **loudest** and I am upset....)*



**Mr Haddock:** And you sawfish, **angrier** and more dangerous, always fighting with the hammer headed shark.

*(Sawfish: He is right! But it is the **best** joke. We are **better** friends after that!! We are just playing!!)*

**Mr Haddock:** And the 'red herring', what is she doing, making fun of the **strangest** fish, the catfish?

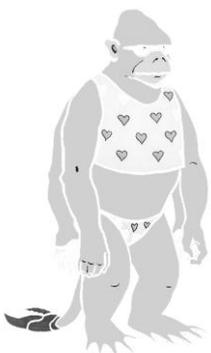
*(The 'red herring': But no, I am not mocking the catfish! He is the **most** sensitive, **more** than any of the other fish!)*



**Mr Haddock:** The **strangest** things, the **most** odd events, have taken place at the university while you were away... **Most** of the staff of the Department of Genetics have attacked Dr. Franken. They say that Dr. Franken has behaved in a **most** strange way.

An anonymous letter from a colleague has caused **greater** concern and the **greatest** worry! It says the **strangest** of things. Dr. Franken has been staying overnight in the university laboratory.

And even **worse** he has had a stranger with him! He was seen by the night porter and moved quickly towards the canteen with the **worse** of companions. Is that no **most** worrying, **more** than the fight in the aquarium?





## What is new in the laboratory? A strange encounter...

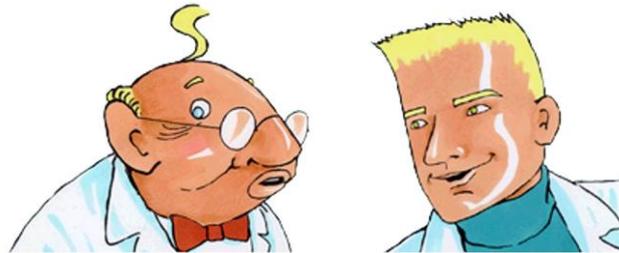
**Pr Heritage** : Well, my dear Haddock, it took me the **greater** part of the evening to prepare my account of events for the radio. I am not the **best** at keeping an eye on the time! When I decided to stop work, I discovered that it was **later**, nearly midnight. I gathered up **most** of my things and opened the door of my office to leave.



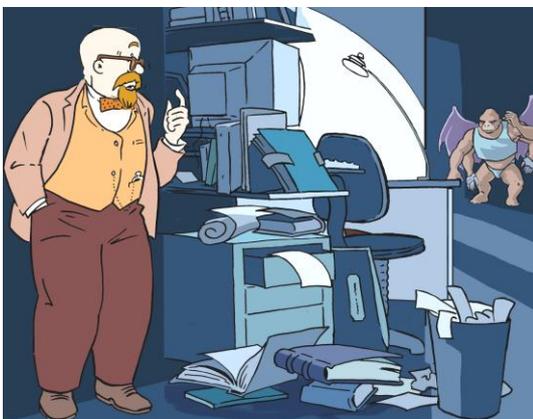
Just then I saw the **strangest** thing, perhaps a person, down the hall, near the stairs. As you would expect at that **darkest** hour, it was difficult to see. I had first thought it might be someone I knew who was looking for me... but at that late hour, Haddock!

Then I put on a **better** pair of glasses and switched on the light in the hall. Immediately, this creature ran away up the stairs. I say “creature” because this thing, **stranger** than anything I had ever seen, looked like a large monkey. You are going to think me the **maddest** crank, **madder** than anything you have met before, Haddock!

**Mr Haddock** : But certainly not, Professor! Why should you think that?



**Mr Haddock** : I am going to tell you the **oddest** story told to me by Professor Heritage. This is what he said. He had not noticed, as he was finishing his account for the radio, that it had got **later** and **later**. When he finished it was nearly midnight, the **latest** he had worked for some time. He gathered up **most** of his things and opened the door of his office to leave.



He felt the **strangest** suspicion that there was someone there. It was the **darkest** hour of the night. There was something down the hall near the stairs. He thought it might be someone looking for him.

Then he put on a **better** pair of glasses and turned on the light in the hall. Immediately, he saw the **strangest** creature, **stranger** than anything he had seen before, run away up the stairs. This creature, he said, was the **biggest** monkey he had ever seen. Yes, a monkey. He thought I would think him the **biggest** crank, the poor man. I think he is just getting **older**.

**Pr Fish** : Come on, my dear assistant, Heritage is two years **younger** than me. He is the **youngest**.

**Mr Haddock** : Really. Professor? Well, he does not look it.

**Pr Fish** : Thank you, my little Haddock.... To work now!