

# Broca's area

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## Correspondence

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*Bienvenue*, one and all, to my neighborhood—my area, as it were  
 Or perchance best understood  
 As my district, zone, locality, or quarter  
 Though I do apologize, there is no porter  
*Mais oui!* A porter, garçon, a carrier—  
 Someone to assist with your paraphernalia  
 But fear not, for I am your host, Monsieur Broca! and if I may say,  
*Enchanté*, pleased to make your acquaintance, here in my oasis  
 I shall embody, as always, a manner most gregarious and gracious,  
 But please forgive my unrestrained proclivity—that is, my speech, my parlance—  
 For I am eternally and reflexively loquacious

And what brings you here to my operculate park, the left frontal lobe,  
 The premier learned lexicon within the lobe of lobes?  
 Ah, the pressure is too high, you say?  
 The cerebrum has a growth, and you intend to operate?

Indeed, real estate, as it were, is extraordinarily tight  
 Contained within a cranium of immutable calcite—  
 Scream and shout to your heart's content,  
 The indifference of the skull,  
 That boney crab, that concavely unwavering tent,  
 Will merely reflect the sound  
 Back to your own incisive ears  
 It is not, take my *word*, worth a drop of your tears  
 A structure rises, the skull budes not,  
 And thus, a structure must fall  
 The first law of thermodynamics, in a way, if you will, as it were—

Now, my scalpel sporting friend, doth time waste me,  
 But let it not waste you—carry on, carry on  
 Bearing in mind, yours not mine, that the borders you find  
 May cast a sesquipedalian disposition into dull but defiant light

Defiant, *mais oui*, aphasia be damned!  
 I will hide my words in unexpected places  
 Underneath concealed plastic cases,  
 The very same plastic potentiation and cortical reorganization  
 That will k-k-keep ma-ma-ma-my sp-spa-spi-spirit a-a-a-a  
 Alive!

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