What language do these words come from: *ouch-cay, appy-hay,* and *ender-tay?*

If you guessed <u>Pig Latin</u>, you're correct.

What is Pig Latin?

Pig Latin is not actually a language but a language game that children (and some adults) use to speak "in code." Pig Latin words are formed by altering words in English.

Here's how it works: First, pick any English word. We'll use *dictionary.* Next, move the first consonant or consonant cluster to the end of the word: "ictionary-d." Now add "ay" to the end of the word: "ictionary-day." If a word starts with a vowell sound, simple add 'hay' to the end of it e.g. I becomes I-hay and are becomes are-hay. That's all there is to it; you've formed words in Pig Latin.

Here is a conversation written in Pig Latin. Can you work out what is being said? Answers on the next page.

Speaker 1: Are-hay ou-yay ee-fray or-fay unch-lay ext-nay eek-way?

Speaker 2: Ure-say!

Speaker 1: Ich-whay ay-day o-day ou-yay ant-way o-tay o-gay?

Speaker 2: I-hay an-cay ind-fay ome-say ime-tay on-hay onday-may.

Speaker 1: At-thay ounds-say eat-gray!

Speaker 2: Ere-whay ould-way ou-yay ike-lay o-tay o-gay?

Speaker 1: Ou-yay an-cay ecide-day. I-hay icked-pay ast-lay ime-tay.

Speaker 2: Ow-hay about-hay at-thay ew-nay izza-pay ace-play on-hay ain-may eet-stray?

Speaker 1: Erfect-pay! I-hay eard-hay it's-hay eally-ray ood-gay.

Speaker 2: And-hay e-way an-cay eat-hay outside-hay.

Speaker 1: At-whay ime-tay ould-shay e-way eet-may?

Speaker 2: Oes-day oon-nay ork-way or-fay ou-yay?

Speaker 1: Es-yay! I'll-hay ee-say ou-yay en-thay.

Speaker 2: I'm-hay ooking-lay orward-fay o-tay it-hay.

Answers:

Speaker 1: Are-hay ou-yay ee-fray or-fay unch-lay ext-nay eek-way? (Are you free for lunch next week?)

Speaker 2: Ure-say! (Sure!)

Speaker 1: Ich-whay ay-day o-day ou-yay ant-way o-tay o-gay? (Which day do you want to go?)

Speaker 2: I-hay an-cay ind-fay ome-say ime-tay on-hay onday-may. (I can find some time on Monday.)

Speaker 1: At-thay ounds-say eat-gray! (That sounds great!)

Speaker 2: Ere-whay ould-way ou-yay ike-lay o-tay o-gay? (Where would you like to go?)

Speaker 1: Ou-yay an-cay ecide-day. I-hay icked-pay ast-lay ime-tay. (You can decide. I picked last time.)

Speaker 2: Ow-hay about-hay at-thay ew-nay izza-pay ace-play on-hay ain-may eet-stray? (How about that new pizza place on Main Street?)

Speaker 1: Erfect-pay! I-hay eard-hay it's-hay eally-ray ood-gay. (Perfect! I heard it's really good.)

Speaker 2: And-hay e-way an-cay eat-hay outside-hay. (And we can eat outside.)

Speaker 1: At-whay ime-tay ould-shay e-way eet-may? (What time should we meet?)

Speaker 2: Oes-day oon-nay ork-way or-fay ou-yay? (Does noon work for you?)

Speaker 1: Es-yay! I'll-hay ee-say ou-yay en-thay. (Yes! I'll see you then.)

Speaker 2: I'm-hay ooking-lay orward-fay o-tay it-hay. (I'm looking forward to it.)

Have a go at speaking or writing in Pig Latin.

Can you teach someone else in your family the rules too so that you can have coded conversations together?