

## Shel Silverstein "Modern Talk"

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(There was a time when people talked said with their  
mouth  
How they talk and it doesn't mean a thing it's called the  
modern talk)

Now picture the scene the day is sunny  
A man meets a friend and asks him for some money  
He says I need five to keep me alive  
And the friend gives him this kinda jive  
He says zaa za voo za za voo I can't make it  
Va za va za voo za va see ya later so long see you later  
Vome zoo za vome a viddle o till then  
And he's right back out on the street again

And then a girl gets on the phone and talks to her lover  
She says we got troubles that we can't keep covered  
I just got the news I'm knittin' baby shoes  
Now call up the preacher and pay your dues  
He says zaa za voo za za voo see you later so long  
huhuh  
I can't stand baby vome zoo za vome till then  
And she's right back out on the street again

And then a guy gets grabbed by an army recruiter  
He says we're gonna put you in the khaki suiter  
So do not cry and don't you lie but take this test to  
qualify  
The guy says blblblblblbl huhuh till then  
And he's right back out on the street again

And then a lady goes down to see her psychiatrist  
And lies on a couch to give her little head a twist  
Now is it a psychosis or is it a neurosis the doctor gives  
her this diagnosis  
Sayin' huhuh listen huhuh twenty dollars  
Huhh next Wednesday baby then we'll huhuh then  
She's right back out on the street again

And then the preachers in the church they're blessin'  
and damnin'  
Presidents standin' there just Vietnamin'  
While the animals sing and politicians swing

And everybody's sayin' the same damned thing  
They're sayin' zaa za voo za za voo you know that's  
modern talk

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