



# The Importance of Laughter

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# Why should you listen?

- You want to be funny
- You are interested in why people laugh and at what
- You want to hear the funniest joke in the world



# Scientifically-proven funniest joke in the world

British researcher Richard Wiseman set out to find the funniest joke in the world, over 40,000 jokes and 1.5 million ratings.

Two hunters are out in the woods when one of them collapses. He's not breathing and his eyes are glazed, so his friend calls 999. "My friend is dead! What should I do?" The operator replies, "Calm down, sir. I can help. First make sure that he's dead." There's a silence, then a loud bang.

Back on the phone, the guy says, "Ok, now what?"



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# This is my story...

- Childhood
- Presenting
- Facilitating



**But..**

Livet skal leves forlæns, men forstås baglæns...

---*Søren Kierkegaard*

Das Leben muss vorwärts gelebt, aber rückwärts  
verstanden werden



# This is my story...

- Facilitating
- Presenting
- Childhood



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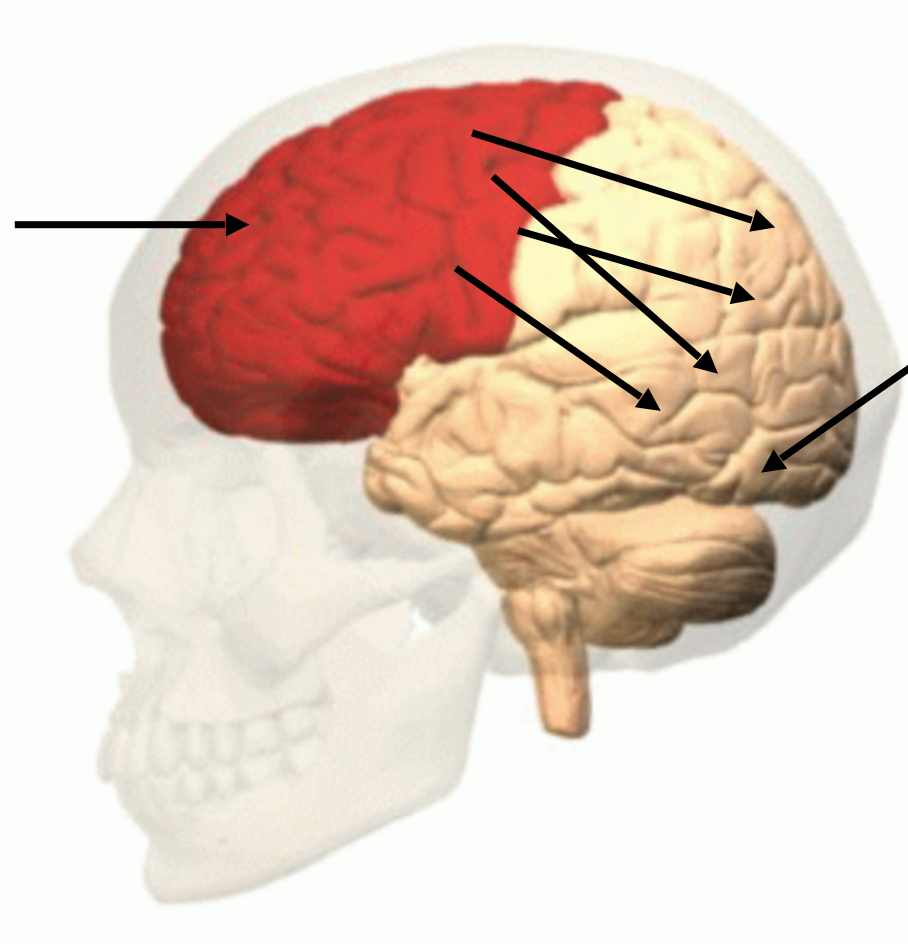


# Retrospectives



# Humour in the brain

Frontal lobe



Cerebral cortex





# The physical importance of laughter

Muscle workout

Decreased stress and anxiety

Improved mood and resilience

Serotonin, Endorphin, Dopamine







# Presenting



LOGOS  
PATHOS  
ETHOS



Logos – what you are saying

Pathos – how excited you are

Ethos – who (they think) you are







# Not just for British people

George Bush, in a commencement address at Southern Methodist University:

“For those of you graduating with high honours and distinctions, I say well done. And as I like to tell the “C” students, you too can be president.”



# **We laugh to show that we understand**

The father of SOA vs. the nice uncle of SOA - Steve Vinoski

Yes, he helped develop XML, but he was young and he needed the money

...but it can grow costly and time consuming to constantly rebuild and redeploy client applications - especially through app stores. (and you know which app store we talk about..)



# **We laugh to show that we belong**

Humour in the maths department in the 90-ties

Jokes about C++ programming

Jokes about a common enemy



# Jokes about nationalities and yourself

Which nationality was Ötzi the Iceman?

- He wasn't Italian, as he carried tools
- He wasn't Austrian, since he had brains
- He might have been Swiss, since he was overtaken by a glacier
- but most probably he was a North German, because nobody else walks in sandals in the mountains



# Childhood



# Pushing people apart

Bullying someone

Men exposed to sexist humour are more likely to  
endorse sexist beliefs,  
withhold donations from women's organisations  
have higher endorsements of rape myths





# Pulling people together

Humour also serves the role of **locksmith** in both platonic and romantic social interactions, as it helps us break the ice, gain social acceptance, and initiate romantic overtures.

We **perceive** funny people as smarter, more attractive, and more personable.

Mental fitness indicators such as humour ability may reveal **deleterious mutation load**



## Humour in relationships

Both men and women seem to prefer someone with a good sense of humour

Men highlighted the importance of their partners' ***receptivity*** to their own humour, whereas women valued humour ***production and receptivity*** equally.



## Two types of laughter

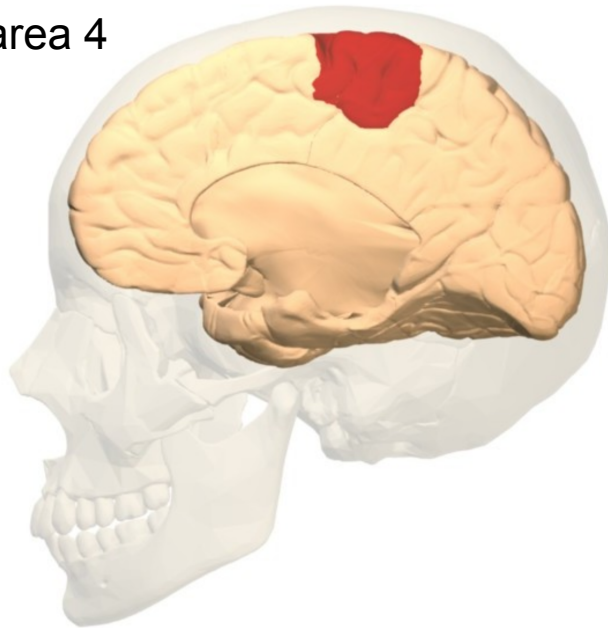
1. The natural laughter, that comes from being (mentally) tickled or surprised
2. The posed laughter, the social laughter, that you do to show you belong

Only when you are in your late 30-ties can you tell the difference with statistical soundness.



# Fake smiles and the real thing

Brodmanns area 4  
Real smile



Brodmanns area 24  
Fake smile



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/mind/surveys/smiles/>







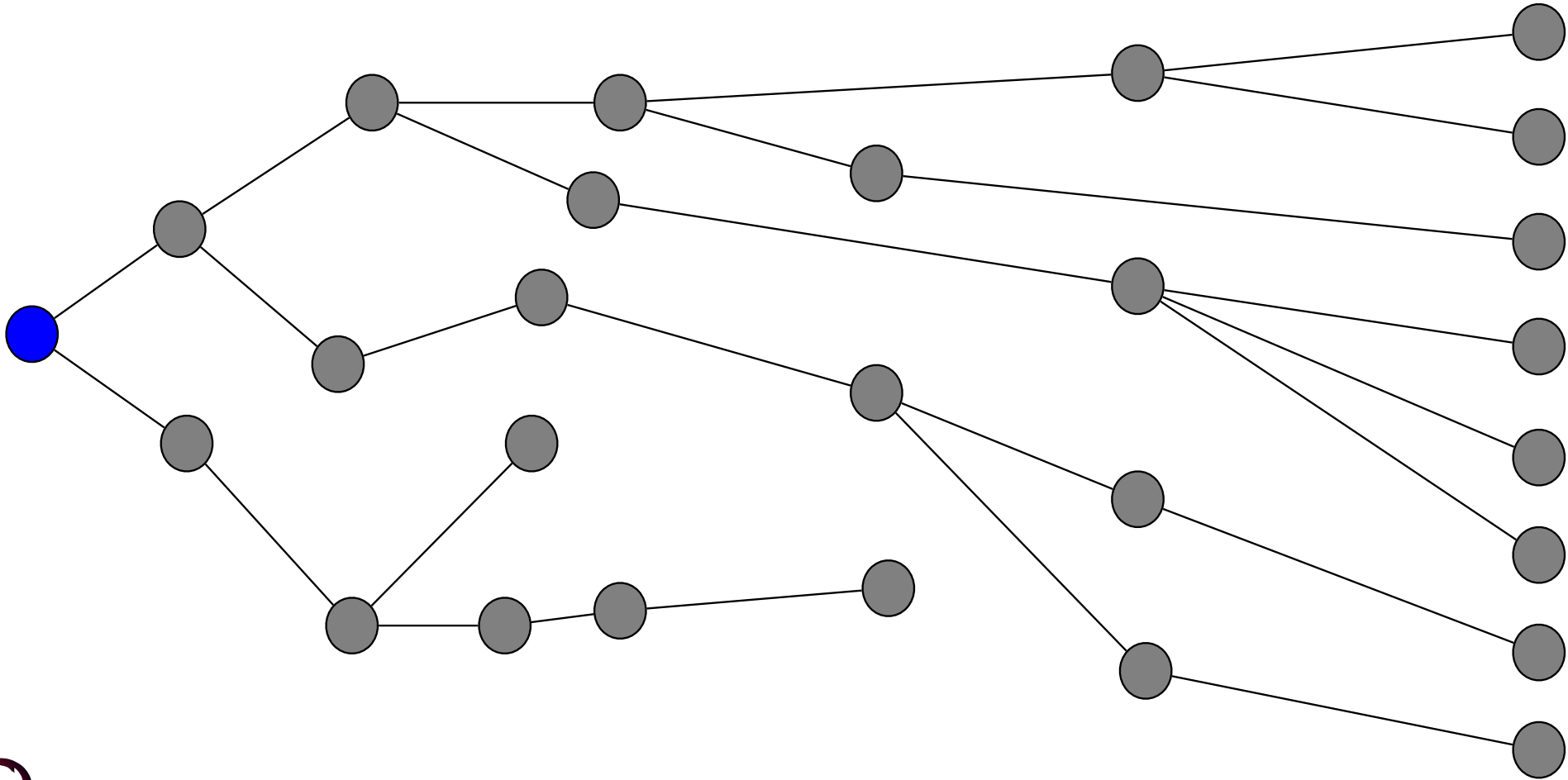
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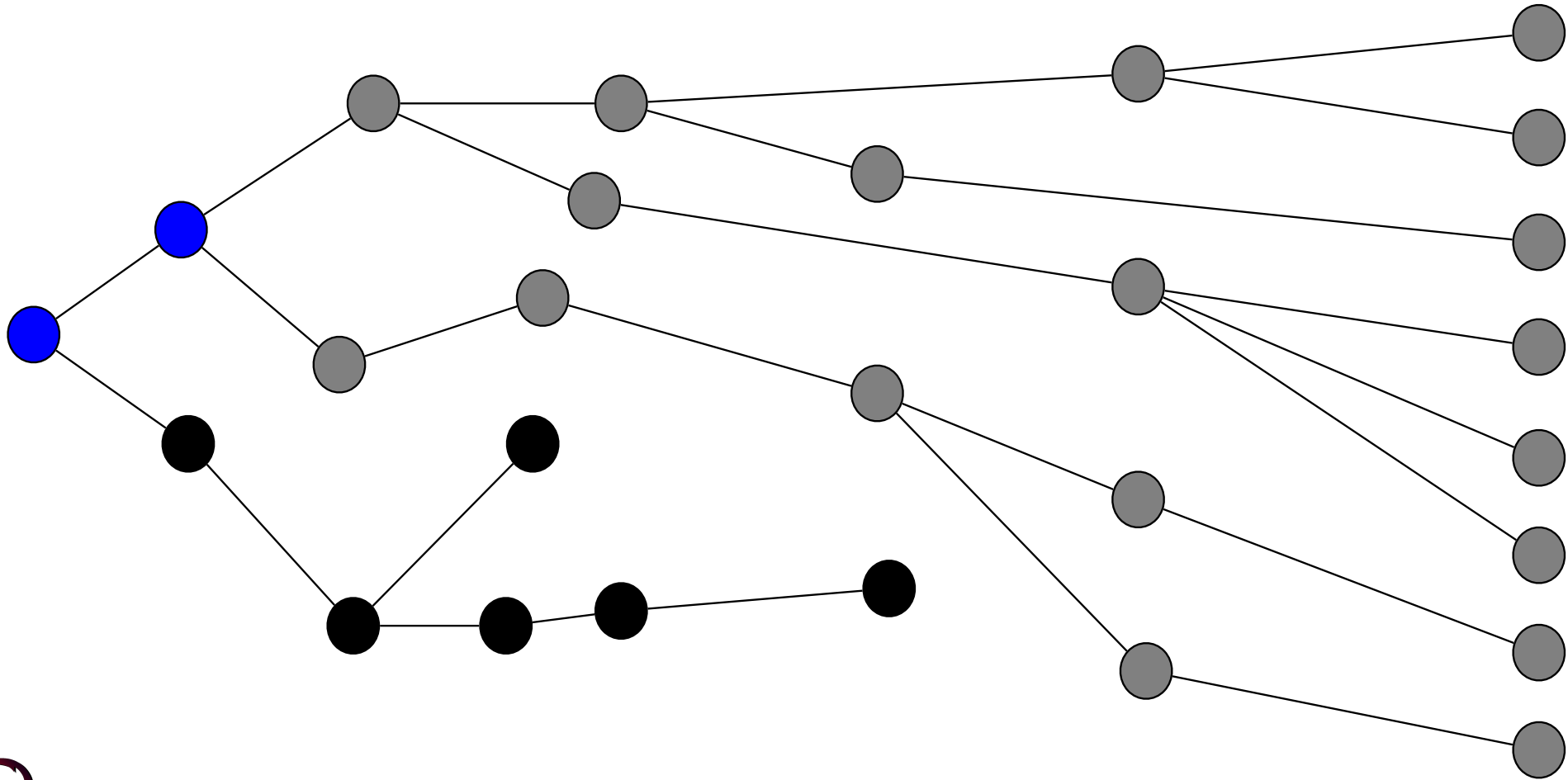




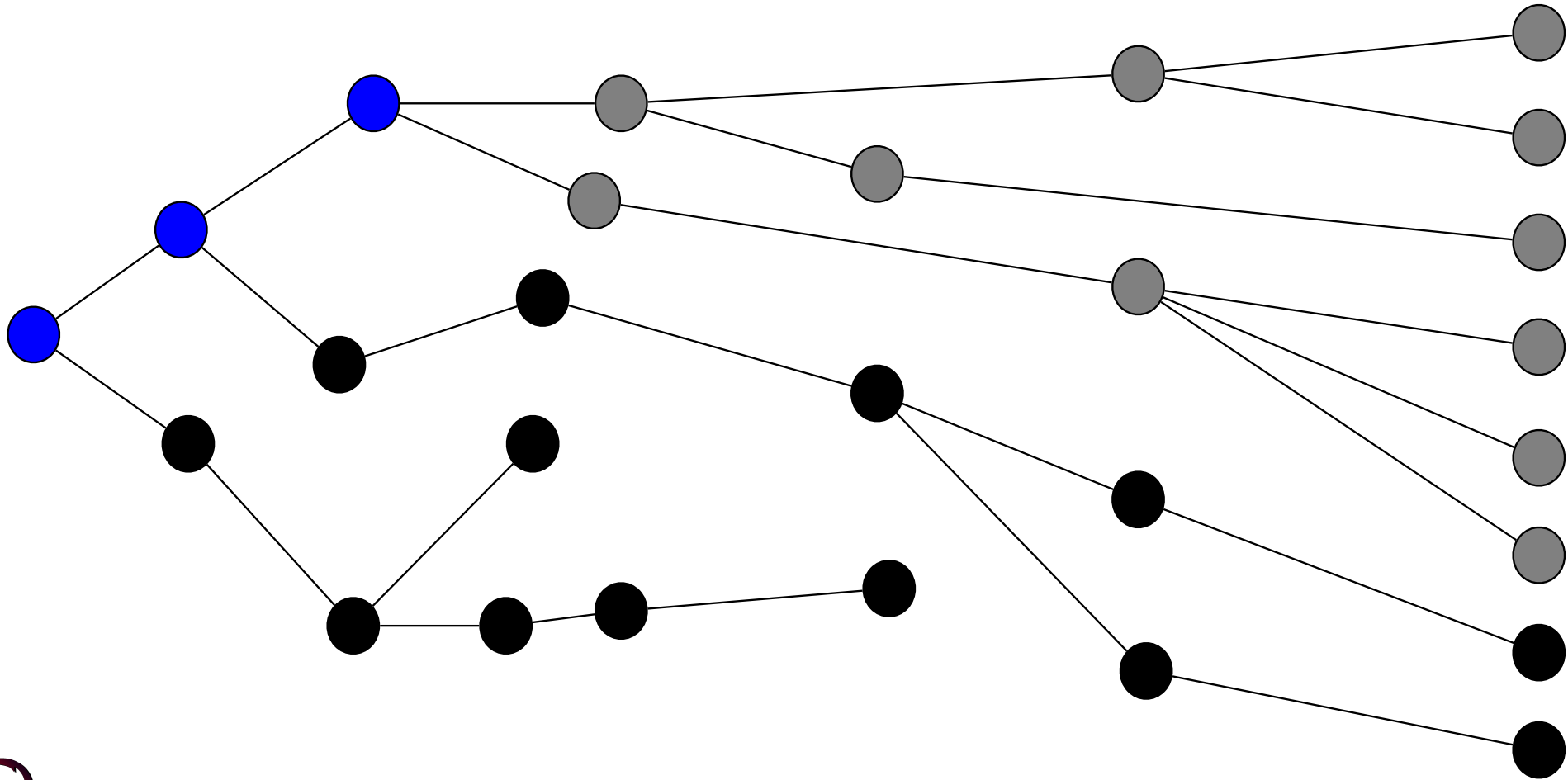
# Kick of the discovery - Richard Feynman



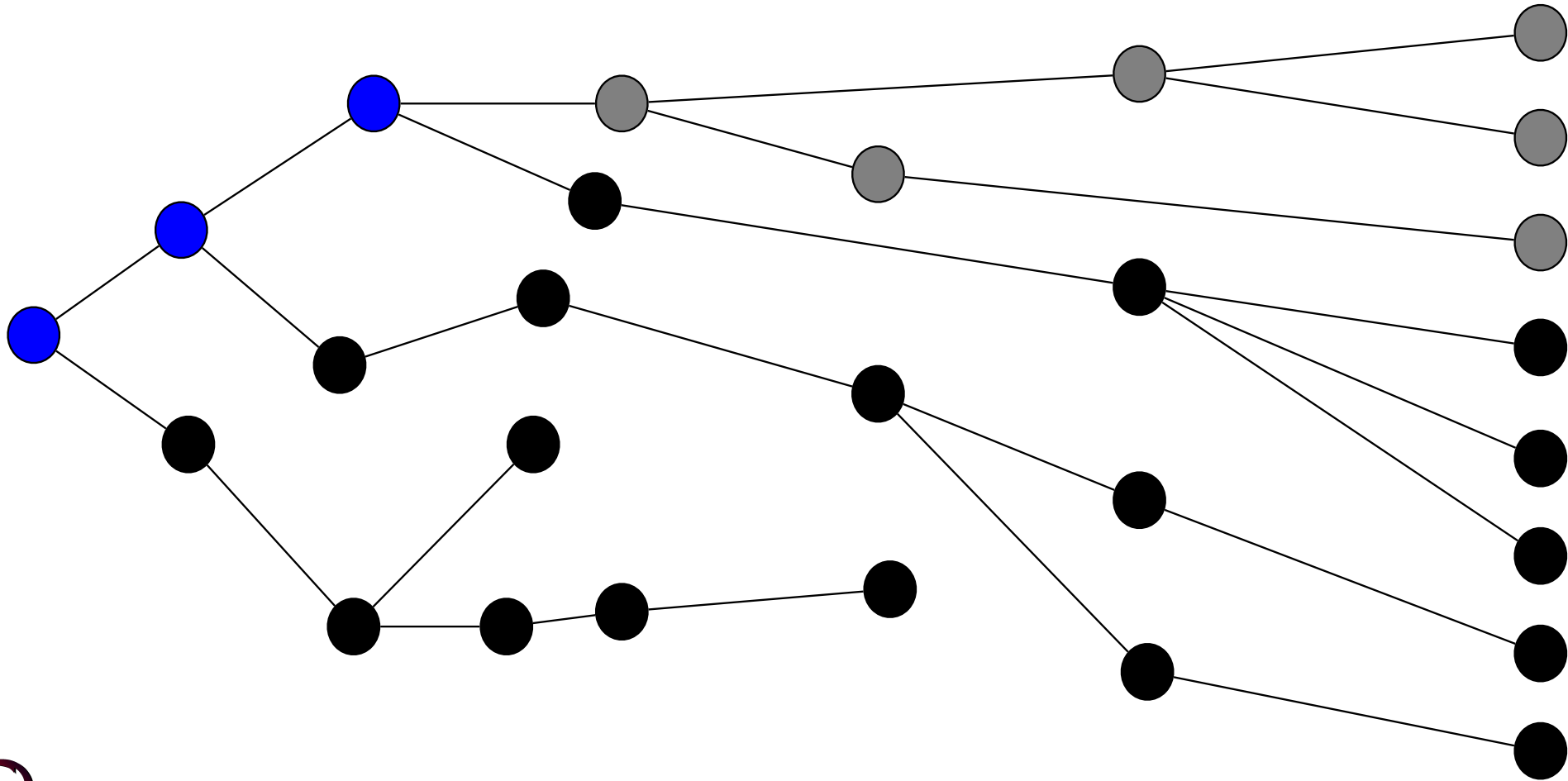
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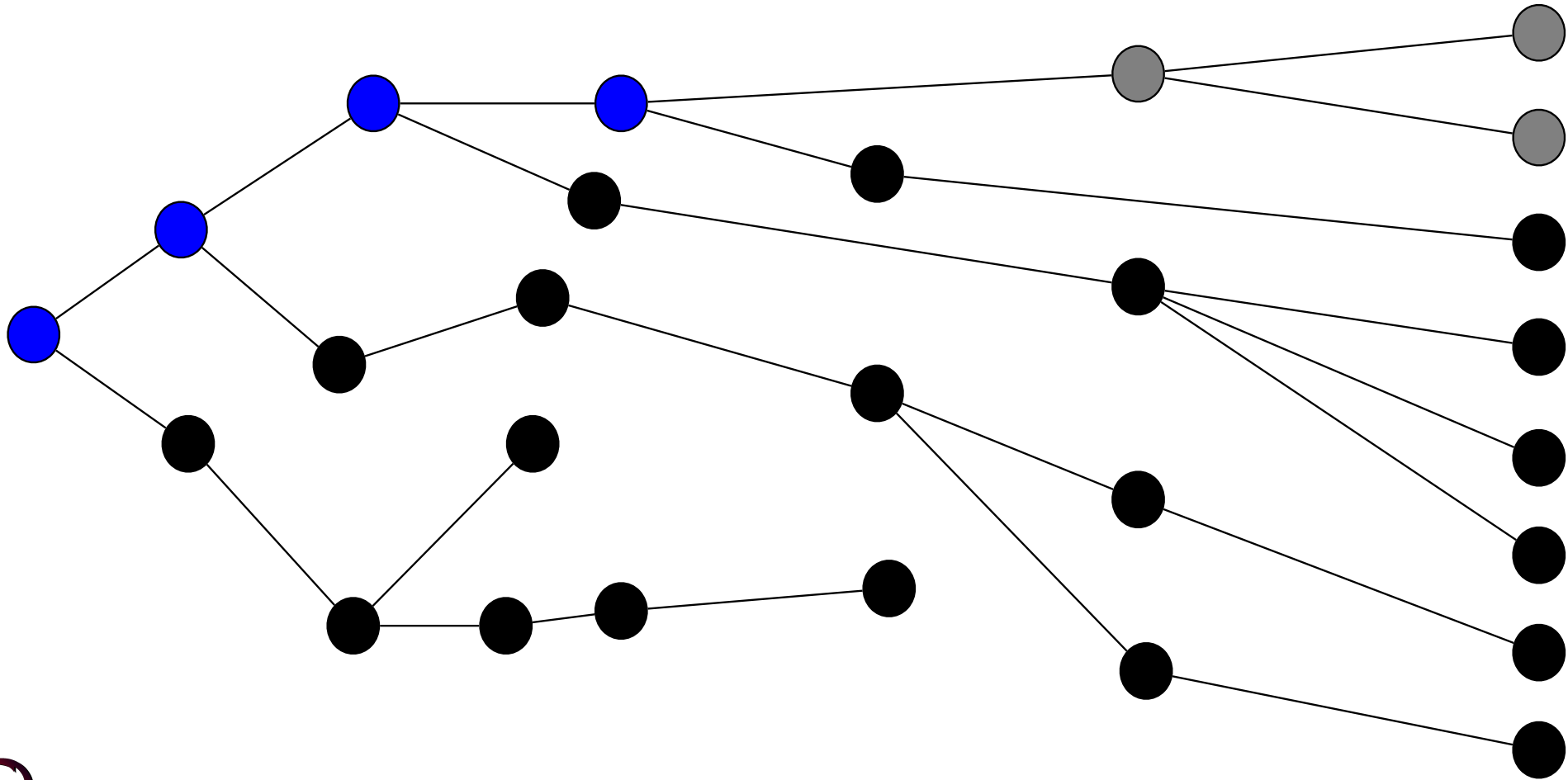
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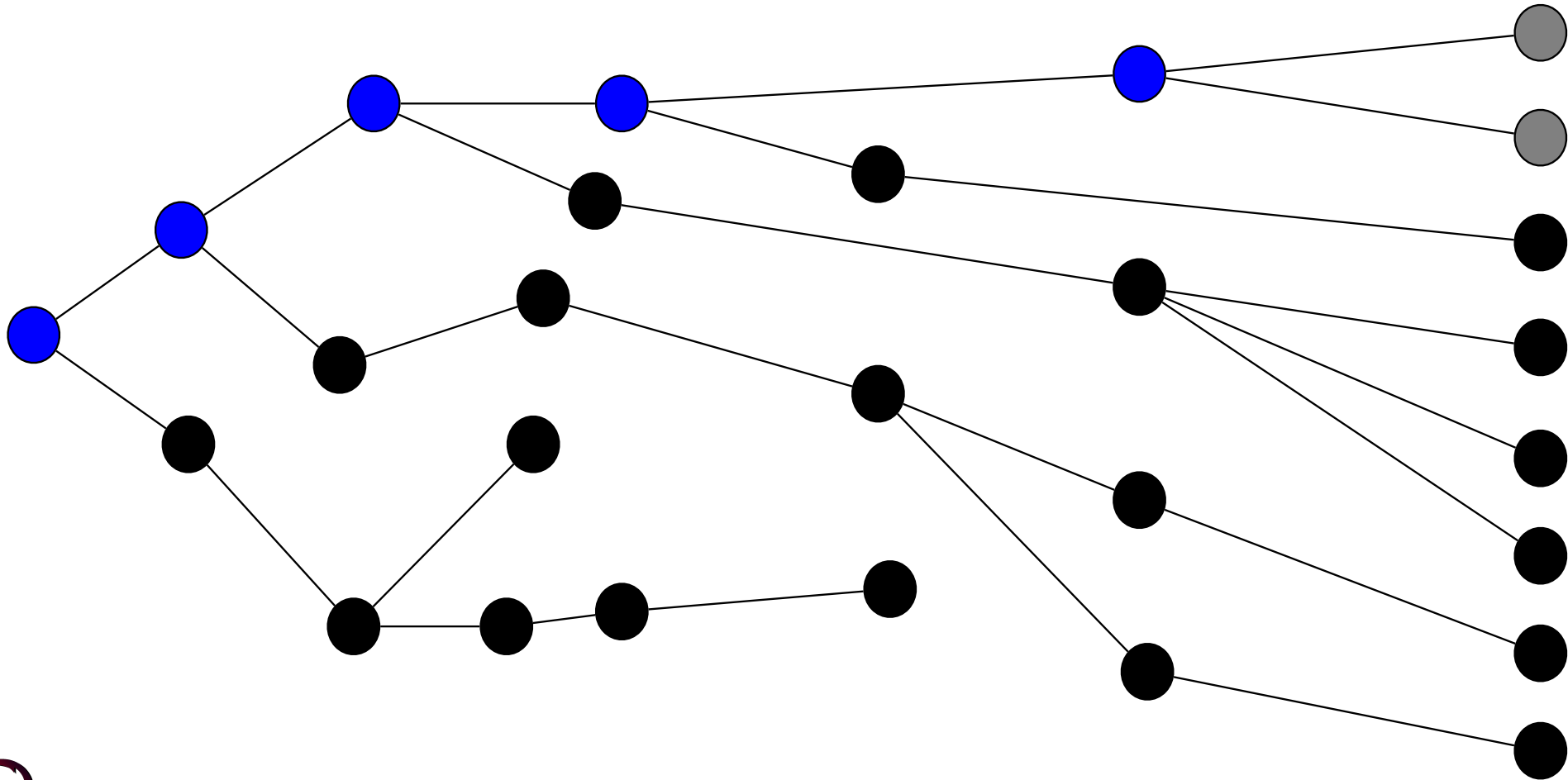


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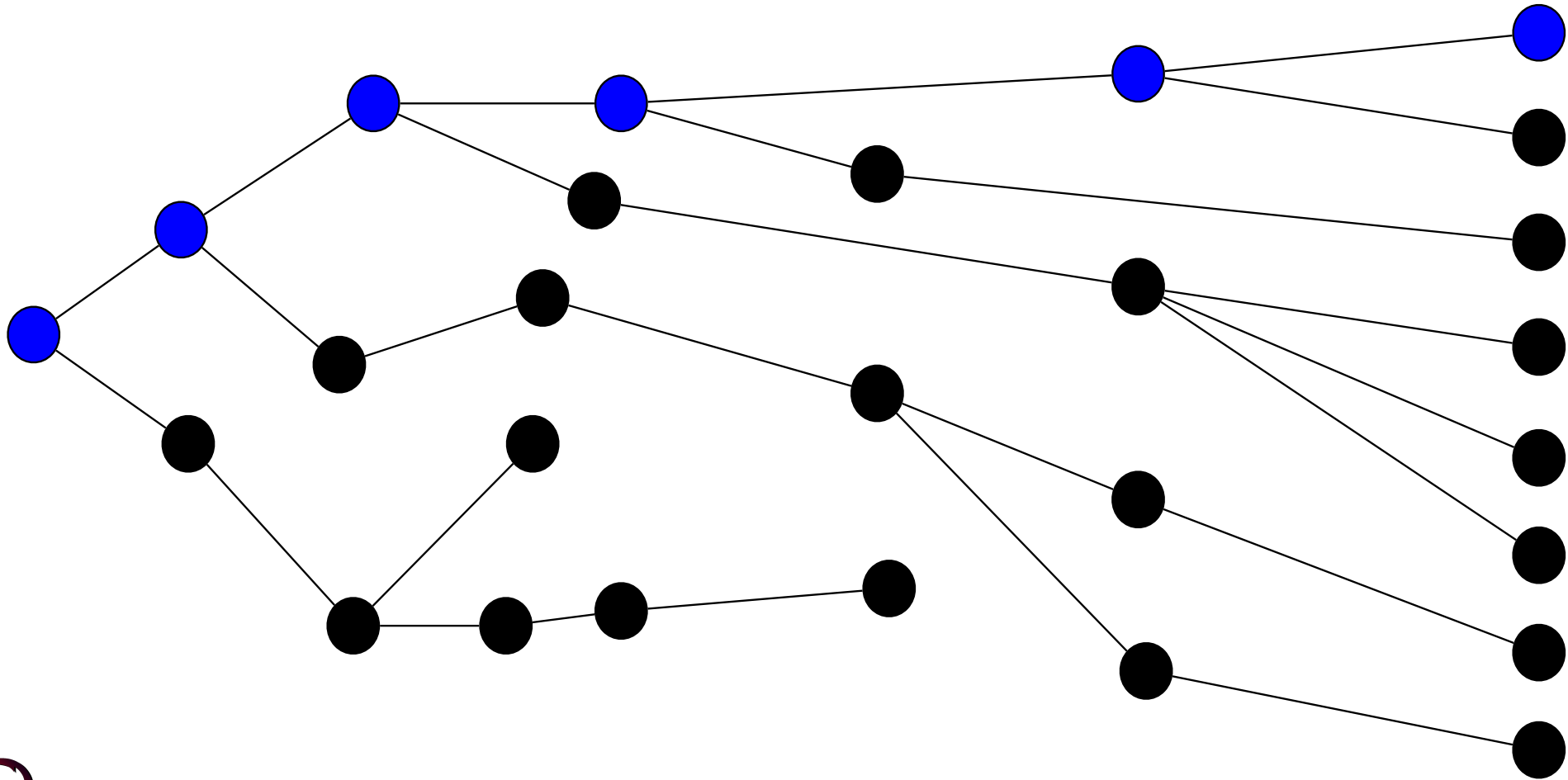




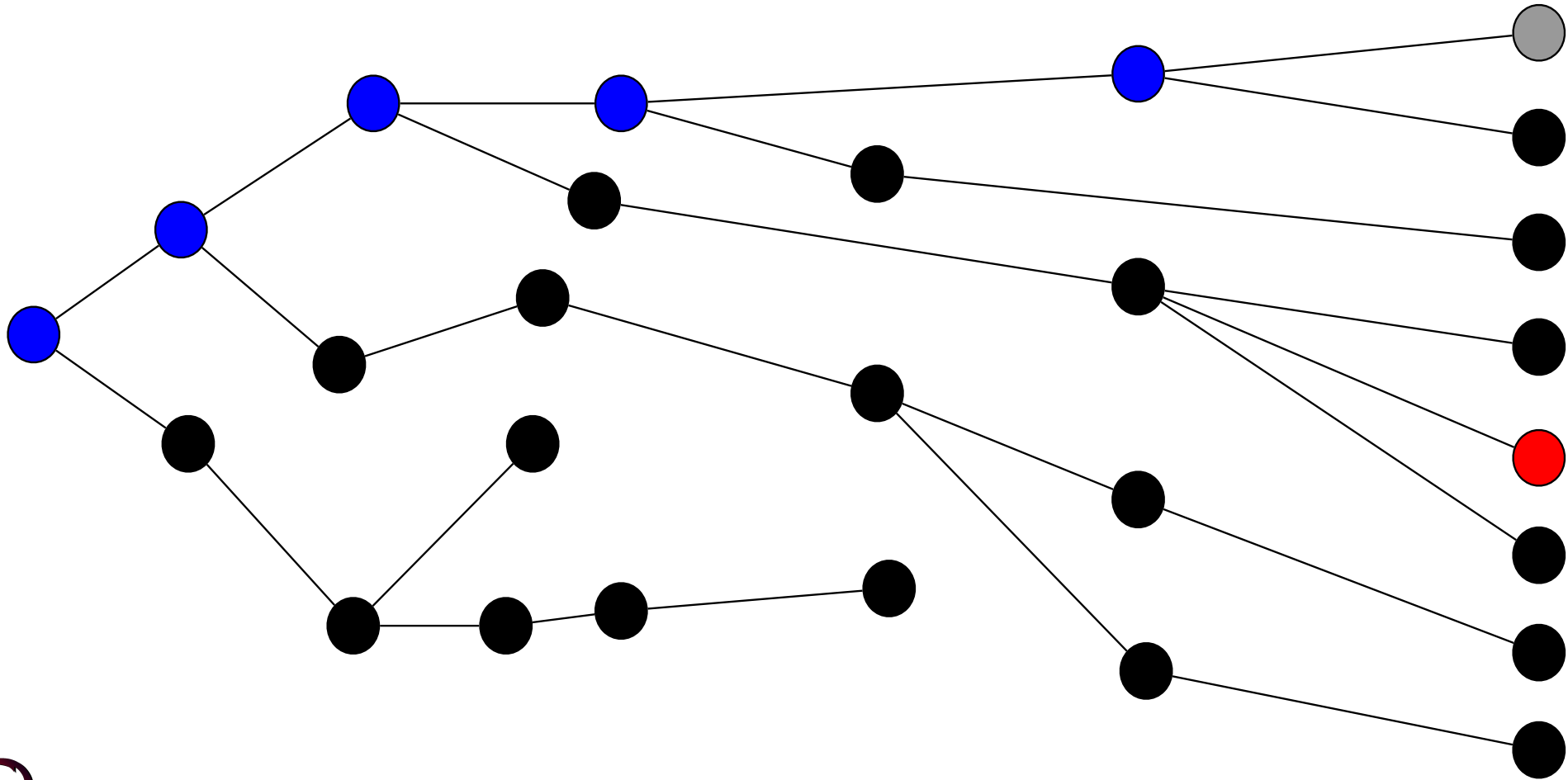
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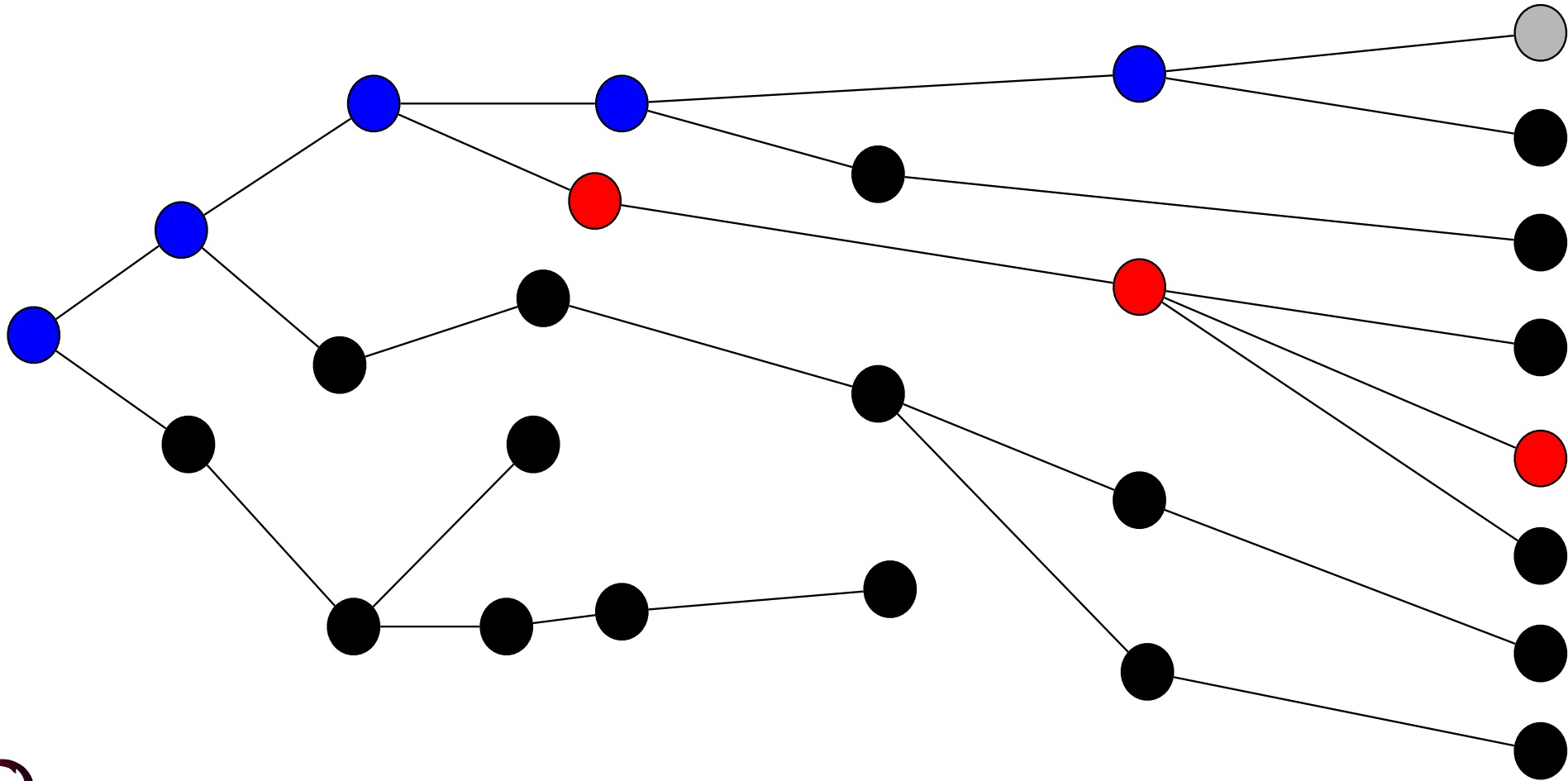
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How



**how to put on a triangular armband**

[Remove](#)

**how to make image files smaller**

[Remove](#)

**how i met your mother**

**how to tie a tie**

**how to train your dragon**

**how many countries in the world**

**how old am i**

**how to cook rice**

**howard stern**

**however synonym**

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

How can|



how can **she slap**

how can **you mend a broken heart lyrics**

how can **we be lovers lyrics**

how can **i help you**

how can **i tell you**

how can **cancel twitch prime**

how can **i love when i'm afraid**

how can **mirrors be real**

how can **school shootings be prevented**

how can **he slap**

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky



How can I



how can i **help you**

how can i **tell you**

how can i **love when i'm afraid**

how can i **learn english**

how can i **improve my english**

how can i **make money**

how can i **say lyrics**

how can i **learn danish language**

how can i

how can **investors receive compounding returns**

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

How can I kill



how can i kill **bed bugs**

how can i kill **a tree**

how can i kill **ivy**

how can i kill **rats**

how can i kill **ants**

how can i kill **lice**

how can i kill **a tree stump**

how can i kill **termites**

how can i kill **fleas**

how can i kill **my fear**

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

How can I kill the|



how can i kill the **roots of a tree**

how can i kill the **herpes virus**

how can i kill the **nerve in my tooth**

how can i kill the **sperm in me**

how can i kill the **president**

how can i kill the **ants in my house**

how can i kill the **president and get away with it**

how can i kill the **weeds in my lawn**

how can i kill the **president of united states**

how can i kill the **roots of a bush**

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

## Jokes I like...

Blackadder

Seinfeld

xkcd

Dilbert

Anti-jokes\*

Sarcasm

Irony

Satire

\*Don't tell the one about Finnish roulette...



# Blackadder quotes

Am I jumping the gun, Baldrick, or are the words  
'I have a cunning plan'  
marching with ill-deserved confidence in the direction of this  
conversation?



# Blackadder quotes

Worst idea since someone said  
'yeah let's take this suspiciously large wooden horse into  
Troy, statues are all the rage this season'





# Blackadder quotes

Baldrick, does it have to be this way?  
Our valued friendship ending with me cutting you up into strips and telling the prince that you walked over a very sharp cattle grid in an extremely heavy hat?



# Blackadder vs. Mr. Bean



BBC





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## How to be funny..

Humour requires mastery of sophisticated functions like self-awareness, empathy, spontaneity, and linguistic subtlety...

Also, crucial for getting a partner

And do good talks

No pressure...



# Timing is everything

Some jokes are only funny the first time

Some people use slides to make sure the timing is right



# How to be funny..

Surprise

Belonging

Clever

Common animosity

Use AI...



# AI and humour

What do you call a cat does it take to screw in a light bulb? They could worry the banana.

Why did the cowboy buy a frog? Because he didn't have any brains.

What do you get when you cross a frog with a street? A main toad.

What do you get when you cross an optic with a mental object?  
An eye-dea.



## German jokes from youtube...

Wird ein Vampir von der Polizei angehalten: “Hören Sie mal, Sie haben doch getrunken!?”

Sagt der Vampir: “Och, nur zwei Radler”



**One more...**

Was macht ein Clown im Büro?

Faxen...



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