

FUMC ESL 3-5-2018 ADVANCED LESSON

TOEFL PREP:

Read the sentences then choose a matching definition for the underlined word.

1. The teachers met to design a new curriculum for the Intensive English Program.
2. I distinctly remember saying we would meet at noon.
3. It was a pleasure to listen to Stella as she was the most erudite of all the scholars.
4. The sports drink was packed with extra minerals and vitamins to fortify the body.
5. By joining the competition, you implicitly agreed to the rules of the game.
6. Sending your child to a parochial school can cost as much as sending them to college.
7. It is hard to get progressive laws passed in this very parochial thinking small town.
8. The rigors of military training toughened the recruits rapidly.
9. Examine the roster of the flight school applicants for anyone whose last name sounds foreign.
10. The number of secular private schools in the U.S. is quite small.
11. The trial was suspended when the judge learned that one of the jury members knew the defense lawyer.
12. The acrobat was suspended in midair.

courses of study	to hang to allow free movement	worldly rather than spiritual	restricted in outlook
relating to the church	to strengthen	clearly	learned, intelligent, well-spoken
a list of names	without being stated	to cause to stop for a period	strictness

Passage 1: In the last three decades, universities across the United States have attempted to adapt their curriculums to meet the changing purposes of higher education. University education was also once considered an exclusive opportunity, with erudite scholars establishing courses based on the goal of training a distinctly academic “elite”. These days, not every undergraduate is destined to become a scholar, and the roster of students represents a more complete cross section of society, including minorities, women and older returning students. These days, most learners attend university to fortify basic skills, primarily learning how to learn and how to express themselves. Far from its earlier religious or elitist image, the university is seen increasingly as a secular center for career development where students know they will graduate into a competitive job market.

Most professors have embraced this evolution in the university’s role, letting go of the traditional, parochial view of higher education. On the other hand, many feel that while they want to accommodate an adaptable curriculum, universities must not suspend their obligation of establishing rigorous requirements for education and graduation. Implicit in their stance is support for the traditional liberal arts curriculum with a core of classes required across the disciplines.

1. According to information in the reading, which one of the following sentences would the author be most likely to agree with?
 - a-Universities are becoming increasingly exclusive.
 - b-A curriculum needs to be completely adaptable to student’s needs.
 - c-The role of higher education is changing, and so is the university curriculum
 - d-The cost of university puts it out of reach of many populations.

2. In this passage, the word “elitist” is closest in meaning to:
a-superior b-academic c-populist d-elegant

Passage 2: Since 1992, the number of cosmetic surgery procedures has risen 175 percent in the United States. Two of the most popular are liposuction and breast augmentation. In liposuction, the doctor inserts a small tube into the skin that sucks fat from the body. And while it may sound easy, it isn't. Liposuction is so painful that people are often given anesthesia. What's more, liposuction is not really a cure for obesity. Rather, it should be used when diet and exercise do not reduce fat in certain “trouble spots.”

Another common cosmetic procedure is breast augmentation. In this procedure, an implant is inserted through the armpit, making the breasts appear larger. Breast augmentation usually leaves only a small scar. Some common complications include the effects of anesthesia, infection, swelling, redness, bleeding, and pain. To reduce these risks, consumers are advised to be sure that their surgeon is board-certified.

3. Which sentence best expresses the essential information of this passage?
a-Cosmetic Surgery is dangerous.
b-Many people do not have cosmetic surgery because of the pain.
c-Cosmetic surgery is increasing in popularity in the U.S.
d-Breast reduction is almost as popular as breast augmentation.

Passage Excerpt 3: Even in the areas that retain a soil cover, the reduction of vegetation typically results in the loss of the soil's ability to absorb substantial quantities of water. The impact of raindrops on the loose soil tends to transfer fine clay particles into the tiniest soil spaces, sealing them and producing a surface that allows very little water penetration. Water absorption is greatly reduced, consequently runoff is increased, resulting in accelerated erosion rates. The gradual drying of the soil caused by its diminished ability to absorb water results in the further loss of vegetation, so that a cycle of progressive surface deterioration is established.

4. According to this paragraph, the loss of natural vegetation has which of the following consequences for the soil?
a-increased stony content
b-reduced water absorption
c-increased numbers of spaces in the soil
d-reduced water runoff

Discussion:

1. Do the elite in your country attend only one or two institutions?
2. Do most universities in your country have a diverse student body with students from all racial and socio-economic levels?
3. Does a college degree guarantee you a good job in your country?
4. Do many students in your country choose to study abroad? Why?
5. Are college tuitions affordable in your country? Are their grants or scholarships available to those who need them?
6. Are there things universities don't teach that they probably should?