

FUMC ESL 11-5-2018 High Intermediate Lesson

Pronunciation: These words have one vowel sound that is different. Practice these word pairs.

and - end	axe - X	bag - beg	had - head	ham - hem	jam - gem
pat - pet	said - sad	flash - flesh	band - bend	gas - guess	land - lend
spanned - spend	track - trek	cattle - kettle	rabble - rebel	tamper - temper	vat - vet

Which of the words above:

- A. can be used to chop down a tree?
- B. is a doctor for animals?
- C. do you put in your car to make it run?
- D. means to let someone borrow something?
- E. is at the bottom of your dress?
- F. includes rubies and emeralds?
- G. is a piece of meat from a pig?
- H. is a person who fights the government?
- I. is made from fruit?
- J. is a pot to boil water for tea?
- K. means to change something in order to damage it?
- L. is a brief bright light?

STUDENTS read these conversations between a homeowner and a plumber. STUDENTS tell the meaning of the underlined words and explain what is happening in the conversation.

Homeowner: Can you help me? My kitchen sink is clogged. It won't drain.

Plumber: It looks like it's your garbage disposal that is the problem. It is clogged with food. Did you run the garbage disposal with a lot of food in it the sink?

Homeowner: Yes, I peeled carrots and potatoes and put the peels in the sink. Then I turned on the garbage disposal and ran the water on high. It stopped up.

Plumber: I can fix it. But you shouldn't put a lot of food through the garbage disposal at one time. Just push small amounts down, wait and let them go through, then push a little more through. You do need to run water while your disposal is running, but a small amount is fine. I wouldn't turn the water on full force.

Question:

What wouldn't drain?

What did the plumber say the problem was?

What advice did the plumber give the homeowner?

Homeowner: While you're here, can you look at my toilet in the bathroom.

Plumber: What's the problem with your toilet?

Homeowner: After I flush it, the toilet keeps running. I have to jiggle the handle to make it stop.

Plumber: I probably just need to adjust the float. That should fix it. If it doesn't, you can get a new toilet kit at the hardware store. Home Depot or Lowe's will have one. It will be much cheaper for you to install than to pay me to do it.

Homeowner: I don't know how to install a new toilet kit. Can't I just pay you to do it?

Plumber: I can't do it today. I have another call to go to after this. My manager only allowed enough time for me to fix your kitchen sink. And I don't carry toilet kits with me. If you want me to install a new toilet kit, I'll have to come back. You can buy a new kit and have it here for me, or I can bring one with me.

Homeowner: OK. Please come back soon to fix it.

Plumber: I have to warn you. My company has a minimum service charge of \$60. It probably won't take but five minutes to install that toilet kit, but you'll have to pay the minimum service charge anyway. You should think twice before having me install it. The toilet kits are easy to install and they come with directions.

Question:

Do you think the homeowner likes to do simple home repairs himself?

Do you prefer to do simple home repairs yourself?

What is a minimum service charge?

Homeowner: I have one more question. In the morning, my wife and I and both my kids take showers before work and school. We always run out of hot water. The last person to shower has only cold water. Why is that?

Plumber: You probably have a small hot water heater. When all four of you shower, it uses all the water in the tank. It takes a while for the water in the tank to heat again. I suggest some of you shower at night and some in the morning. Then everyone can have hot water.

Homeowner: Maybe I should buy a bigger hot water heater. Would that help?

Plumber: I'm not sure a bigger hot water heater will fit in your house. There isn't much room in the closet where your hot water heater is. You could try a tankless hot water heater. They are quite small. And they're very efficient. You won't be paying to heat water in your hot water heater when you aren't using it. They are quite expensive, but you will be saving in energy costs over the long term.

Question:

What suggestion does the plumber have about showering?

Why did the plumber think the homeowner should not buy a bigger water heater?

What did the plumber suggest the homeowner buy?