

Correct these preposition errors. (Hint: Not all the sentences have an error.)

1. I'm taking a trip on November.
2. Tim starts his new job in September 1st.
3. We don't usually go out in night.
4. Meet me on noon tomorrow.
5. Emma was born on 1980.
6. After you turn the corner, the bank is in the left.
7. She's disappointed with me for canceling on the last minute.
8. The reception is after the wedding.
9. We sailed against the wind for hours.
10. She lives at Travis County.
11. She lives at 491 Main Street.
12. She is at the middle.

Conversations:

Sara: My husband and I are having trouble getting along.

Debra: I'm sorry. I am here for you if you need someone to listen.

Sara: Thanks. I know you will be discreet. I don't want my troubles to be talked about in the office.

Debra: Have you seen a marriage counselor?

Sara: Joe wants to see a counselor, but I'm skeptical.

Debra: It wouldn't hurt to try.

Sara: I guess you are right. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

1. If you are discreet, you are careful to avoid attracting attention or revealing private information. You can do something discreetly (quietly without drawing attention to yourself) or you can be discreet (not give up information that is private). Which meaning of this word is Sara using?
2. Give an example of a time you were discreet.
3. Sara is skeptical. If you are skeptical about something, you have doubts about it. Ex: James said he got an A in the course, but I'm skeptical. He made B's on all the quizzes.
4. Are you skeptical of politician's claims?
5. What else are you skeptical of?
6. Nothing ventured, nothing gained means you have to take risks to achieve something. Why did Sara use this expression?

In your country:

-do people frequently get divorced?

-do married couples go to counselors for help with their marriage?

-is it common for someone to have been married more than once?

-do people marry young?

Would you ever:

-go to a marriage counselor?

-marry someone much older or younger than you?

-marry someone your parents disapproved of?

-marry someone who did not have a job?

-consider staying single?

-marry someone you only knew for a few weeks?

-marry someone of a different nationality?

Joe: I don't get it. Why won't you go with me to a marriage counselor.

Sara: Because you have a short fuse. I know if I complain about you in front of the counselor, you'll get mad.

Joe: I know I get on your nerves sometimes, but we can work things out.

Sara: I'm skeptical that we can work things out.

Joe: Sara, ours was a marriage made in heaven. Please don't give up on it. Don't throw in the towel yet.

1. Someone with a short fuse is easily angered. Do you have a short fuse? Does anyone you know have a short fuse?

2. A marriage made in heaven is a marriage between two people that love each other and are well matched. Ex: Tim and Cindy have been friends since they were 17. They share the same interests and they have fallen deeply in love. Theirs will be a marriage made in heaven.

3. Do you think Sara is right to be skeptical about counseling?

Jane: Laura is head over heels in love with Eric.

Kathy: I don't understand why. He's vain and inconsiderate. And he isn't even good-looking.

Jane: Love is blind.

1. head over heels in love means very much in love

2. Love is blind: If you love someone, you can't see their faults.

3. Do you think love is blind?

4. Have you known people that were blind to their partners faults?

Here are some funny definitions:

Mother-in-Law: A woman who destroys her son-in-law's peace of mind by giving him a piece of hers.

Housework: What the wife does that nobody notices until she doesn't do it.

Bachelor: A guy who has avoided the opportunity to make some woman miserable.

TOEFL Listening Exercise:

1. What is the main topic of this conversation?

- a-the man's graduation
- b-the couple's engagement
- c-the man's smoking
- d-the man's stress

2. What does the woman suggest?

- a-that the man rethink their plans
- b-that the man see a family doctor
- c-that the man see a psychiatrist
- d-that the man concentrate on his studies

3. What does the man promise to do?

- a-get a patch to help him stop smoking
- b-stop smoking immediately on his own
- c-smoke less than usual for the next week
- d-think about the woman's suggestions

4. How does the man feel about the woman's decision?

- a-patient
- b-surprised
- c-worried
- d-irritated

5. What can we infer about the woman?

- a-she has stopped smoking
- b-she does not want to get married to the man
- c-she has asked the man to quit smoking many times
- d-she is not in love with the man