

**FUMC ESL Lesson 9-26-2011**

**Last week, you learned the phrase “get back at”. The lesson talked about a woman who was fired. To get back at her boss, she reported him for making sexual advances to her. Read this conversation about a boy who tried to get back at his sister. Answer the questions at the end of the conversation.**

Jack: I got back at my sister for telling on me.

Sam: What did you do?

Jack: I took some of my mom’s cosmetics and put them in my sister’s room. When my mom finds them in her room, she’s going to throw a fit. My sister will be in so much trouble.

Sam: I hope your sister doesn’t end up in real trouble with your mom.

Jack: Well, that’s fair if she does. She told on me for sneaking out of the house the other night and I got in trouble for that.

Sam: Yes, but your sister only told your parents because she was worried about you being outside that late at night. She was concerned for your safety. I’m sure she didn’t tell just to get you in trouble.

Jack: Who cares! I got in trouble anyway. So, now it’s her turn.

Sam: Don’t you worry that you could get in more trouble if your mother figures out it was you who took the cosmetics?

Jack: She’ll never know. My sister is always begging to use my mom’s cosmetics. My mother will figure it has to be her. Why would I, her son, want to take cosmetics?

**Questions:**

1. Why did Jack want to get back at his sister?
2. What did Jack do to get back at her?
3. What did Jack do to get in trouble?
4. Why does Jack think his mother will blame his sister for the missing cosmetics?
5. If you were Jack’s sister, would you tell on him when he snuck out late at night?
6. Who seems more mature in this conversation, Jack or Sam?
7. Do you think there is more sibling rivalry between same sex siblings or opposite sex siblings?
8. Did you ever pay any tricks on your siblings?
9. Did you ever tell on your siblings?
10. “Tattling” means telling on someone. Some parents tell their children not to “tattle”. What is the danger in teaching your child not to “tattle”?
11. Did you feel like your sister or brother was always tattling on you?
12. Is it harder to be the younger sister/brother or the older sister/brother?
13. Do you think it’s best to be an only child?

**Match the words in the chart with the definitions below. Then fill in the blanks with the words from the chart.**

back up	back from	double back
back off	back off	back to square one
back to back	cut back	back out

- a) to withdraw a claim or demand you made earlier
- b) to decide not to do something that you had agreed to do
- c) to move backward
- d) to return to a starting place from a different place
- e) move away to avoid problems or a fight
- f) back to the beginning
- g) immediately following

h)decrease

i)to go back in the opposite direction

- 1.I got my black suit \_\_\_\_\_ the cleaners.
- 2.He \_\_\_\_\_ his demand that I pay him the full price for the damaged car.
- 3.\_\_\_\_\_ slowly because the driveway is very curvy.
- 4.The two baseball players scored \_\_\_\_\_ home runs.
- 5.My boss \_\_\_\_\_ the number of hours I can work because business is really bad.
- 6.Why don't we \_\_\_\_\_ by the cabin so you can pick up a jacket.
- 7.The deal fell through, so now we're \_\_\_\_\_.

*We spent all weekend going back and forth between the airport and home. My parents and my brothers were supposed to be on the same flight, but my brothers missed their flight. So each one flew on a different plane. That meant three trips to the airport in one day. I was a little put out with them for missing their plane. They always wait til the last minute to go to the airport. Then if the traffic is bad, they miss their flight. They drive me crazy with their irresponsible behavior.*

**Explain what happened this weekend.**

- 1.Are you a person who gets ready early, or do you wait til the last minute? How about your spouse or your children?
- 2.What is the secret to being on time?

*We went to the concert on Friday. We had a backstage pass, so we got to meet the band. I didn't enjoy the concert that much though. I don't really have any background in country music. I grew up in a big city up north and we just didn't listen to a lot of country music. I prefer rock or jazz. My plan for setting up Olivia and Charlie at the concert backfired, too. I didn't realize Olivia was such a social snob. Charlie does not have the same background as Olivia. He's from a poor family. His parents have no education and his father has a hard time holding a job. But Charlie finished college and has a decent job. And he's very nice looking. I thought Olivia would like him, but she is from a very wealthy family. They didn't share any of the same experiences growing up. Olivia looked down on Charlie because of his poor background. They didn't get along at all.*

**Explain what happened this Friday? Do you get the idea that this person had a good time at the concert? Explain your answer.**

- 1.Have you had experiences with social snobs?
- 2.Is social class very important in your country? Would you date someone from a different social class?
- 3.Would your parents approve of your marrying someone of a different social class?
- 4.When you were in school, did the kids from one social class all hang out together?
- 5.Many immigrants come to the US and end up marrying Americans. This can be hard for the parents back home to accept. Have you had experience with this? Would you be upset if your children married someone from a very different background?