

FUMC ESL 10-6-2011 Advanced Class

There is a saying, "One man's trash is another man's treasure".

- Have you ever had an experience with this? For example, have you ever found something you really liked in someone's trash. Or have you wish you had something that a friend intended to throw away?
- Have you ever been to a garage sale or a yard sale and found something really special?
- Has anyone ever wanted something of yours that you were happy to part with?

Another saying is, "garbage in, garbage out". This expression means the output depends on the input. In other words, if you give instructions to people or a computer that don't make sense, you will end up with poor results.

- I once bought a cheap blender, but found that it did not have a strong enough motor to chop up all the fruit in my smoothies. It was an example of garbage in, garbage out. The machine was poorly made and it turned out a poor product.
- Have you ever gotten something for a cheap price that turned out to be bad quality?
- Give an example of garbage in, garbage out.

Using "Top"

If you are at the top, you are at the highest level. If you are at the top of your game, you are at the highest level you can achieve. There are many expressions and sayings with top. Discuss these in your group.

In your groups discuss the meanings of these sayings and idioms:

- 1.make toast
- 2.make **a** toast
- 3.be warm as toast
- 4.be toast (as in, "My mom found out I borrowed her car without permission. I'm toast!")
- 5.thin on top
- 6.off the top of one's head
- 7.top off
- 8.from top to bottom
- 9.over the top
- 10.in top form
- 11.blow one's top
- 12.top of the morning to you
- 13.on top of everything else

Choose the right idiom for these conversations:

- 1.It is so cold out there. Thank goodness, I remembered my coat. I was as _____ with my new coat on.
- 2.Hello, James. _____.
- 3._____, I can't remember where the nearest library is located.
- 4._____ everything else that went wrong today, I left my sunglasses in the restroom at the museum.
- 5.I washed my car _____.
- 6.I forgot to attend a meeting with my boss this morning. He was so mad. He really _____.
- 7.I had a good night's sleep and ate a healthy breakfast. I really feel _____ this morning.
- 8.Ellen's dress was pretty and I liked her jewelry, but her make-up was a little excessive. It was a little _____.
- 9.The groom's father stood to _____ to the new couple.
- 10.My husband is losing his hair. He is really getting _____.
- 11.James, _____ my beer, will you buddy.

Take turns reading these conversations. Discuss the meaning of the underlined phrases.

1-Joe: Where did you grow up, Jane?

Jane: I grew up on a farm in east Texas. I wouldn't give anything for that experience.

Joe: I envy you. Growing up without a mother and father was tough. I was shuttled between my aunts and uncles for years. Finally, my dad's brother took me in and I lived with him all through high school. My uncle was a great guy.

2-Jane: Her daughter is only 9, but she acts very grown-up.

Kayla: Yes, she even reads grown-up books. No kiddie books for her.

Jane: She is one of the most precocious children I know.

3-Jenny: Tim acted so immature at the party. He was behaving very childishly.

Lila: I know. I wish he would just grow up!

4-Beth: I didn't think I would ever like this orange kitchen wallpaper, but it grows on you. I don't mind it so much now.

Will: Yes, I've grown used to it myself.

5-I used to have allergies when I was a kid, but I grew out of it. I'm hardly ever sick now.

6-My son has outgrown all his clothes.

7-I grew to respect Val after working on a project with him for three months. He really knows his business and he is most conscientious.

Discussion:

1. Do you think kids grow up too fast these days?

2. Describe something you enjoyed as a child, but grew out of.

3. Is there something in your apartment or house that has grown on you?

4. Do kids these days have less respect for elders and rules. If so, is there a solution?

5. Do you think culture in your country is influenced by American television and movies? What negative effects does this have? Are there any positive effects?

6. Did you think American kids grow up faster than kids in your country?