

FUMC ESL 7-12-2012 Advanced Lesson

Use these two word combinations to form a sentence. Read your sentence to the class.

1. afternoon off _____
2. bad idea _____
3. rotten luck _____
4. fit in _____
5. ask around _____
6. make sure _____
7. count on _____
8. end up _____
9. theme park _____
10. search party _____
11. blind spot _____
12. cold snap _____

Discussion:

1. Would you rather be in Austin during a cold snap or a heat wave?
2. Which do you need most, a filing cabinet or a medicine cabinet?
3. Which job would you prefer, an orchestra conductor or a train conductor?
4. Would you be more likely to win a beauty contest, an athletic contest or a spelling contest?
5. Which subject causes more problems for society: birth control or gun control?
6. Which types of car have you ridden in: patrol car, race car, side car, sleeping car, streetcar or a rental car?
7. Have you ever taken a correspondence course? Tell about it.
8. Which of the following cards do you have: green card, library card, greeting card, discount card, debit card or a postcard?

Read the paragraph silently, turn the page over and tell the group what you read about. Then read the paragraph aloud to the group. Discuss the meanings of the idioms in italics. Then ask another group member to answer the question below the paragraph.

A. Elaine made no money out of the biography she wrote. The book was a *labor of love*. It was her way to *pay her respects* to her mother. Elaine's description of her family was quite *touching*. Even my father was *moved* when he read it.

1. What kind of book or movie really moves you?
2. What do you do for your family that is a labor of love?

B. The critics told Erin her new book would be a *bust*, but it was *wildly* popular. She made a *bundle* on the book and is now leading the *life of Riley*. Personally, I think her writing *leaves a lot to be desired*, but I *wouldn't dream of telling her* that.

1. Have you ever attempted something that was a total bust?

C. Tom is the most *laid back* person I know. Nothing on earth seems to *bother* him. He'd be the last person to complain about any *affront*. Some people say he is too *lackadaisical*.

1. Do you work better with people who are laid back or high energy? Which type of person are you?

D. Jack is great at hiding emotions. He *plays his cards very close to his chest*, and he has the best *poker face* in the office. If he is *up to no good*, it's going *to be hard to tell*. He's *sly as a fox*.

1. Do you enjoy competitive games or cooperative games?

E. John had an awful accident. He was unconscious after the fall and the doctors feared he would *lapse* into a *coma*. Fortunately, he *regained* consciousness, but he was *laid up* for several weeks while he recovered. He's *up and around now*, though. He's *fit as a fiddle*.

1. Would you rather be laid up or laid off?