

FUMC ESL 10-11-2012 Advanced Lesson

Idioms: Fill in the blanks in the sentences below. Each sentence has an idiom or colloquial English expression in italics. Tell what that idiom or expression means. Discuss your answers with your group.

It's *hard to believe*, but my favorite thing to eat is _____.

_____ was my hardest subject in school. I just didn't *get it*.

_____ is a very funny person. He/she always *gets the last laugh*.

When _____ comes to town, I really *roll out the red carpet*.

When I was very young, I had a *crush* on _____.

I get *butterflies in my stomach* anytime I have to _____.

I feel *ill at ease* when I have to _____.

Generally, I _____ first thing in the morning.

In America, I'm always *on the alert* for _____.

When my clothes are *out of fashion*, I _____.

I *pride myself* on my ability to _____.

I would never *set foot* in _____.

I'd like to have a *batch of* _____.

I would *part company* with a friend who _____.

Pronunciation: All of the words below rhyme. Practice saying them.

bicker / flicker / clicker/ kicker/ liquor/ picker/ quicker/ slicker/ ticker/ wicker/ nitpicker/ city slicker

Match these definitions to one of the words above:

- a)unsteady movement of a flame
- b)a person's heart
- c)someone who kicks
- d)a person from the city who is unfamiliar with country life
- e)argue about small things
- f)something that clicks, or a remote control keypad
- g)alcoholic drink
- h)a raincoat
- i)person that gathers or collects something
- j)faster
- k)twigs woven to make items like baskets and furniture
- l)someone who criticizes small insignificant details

Discuss these questions with a partner.

1. Do you bicker with your siblings? Do you and your spouse sometimes bicker? What is a small thing that you sometimes bicker about?
2. Do you think eating dinner by flickering candlelight is romantic? Do you ever prepare surprise romantic dinners for your spouse? Who is more romantic, you or your spouse?
3. The stock ticker shows stock prices falling. Do you watch the stock ticker on your iPhone? Do you invest in the stock market? Do you think it is smart to invest in the stock market?
4. Do you own any wicker furniture? Would you like to have some wicker furniture?
5. Do you have any friends that are nitpickers? Was your mom a nitpicker about how you dressed as a teenager. Someone who doesn't care about small details might be called, "laid back". That is they are relaxed about details. Which are you, a nitpicker or laid back?
6. Are you more of a cowboy or city slicker?

Show is a verb with many definitions. It can mean:

- visible, present, display EX: The house's age is showing. Nothing showed on the x-rays. The wine stain doesn't show now that you've treated it. He never lets his feelings show. Her paintings have been shown all over the world. The realtor showed our house today. She shows consideration for her employees.
- lead or guide EX: May I show you to your seat. My assistant will show you to the dressing rooms.
- demonstrate EX: Paul showed himself to be an excellent leader today. The tests showed what we expected. The instruction manual shows how it operates.

Expressions with show:

Show me the money.

This expression is asking someone to tell how much they will be paid or how much a project will gain them financially. EX: Stop talking about what a good deal this will be and show me the money. *In other words, show me how I will benefit from the deal.*

Show off.

Someone who shows off performs so that other people will notice them. EX: Stop showing off, Cal. No one is even watching you. This can be used as a noun phrase. EX: Cal is such a show off. Show off can also mean display. EX: The bride showed off her wedding gown.

Show up.

This means to arrive. Jim showed up ten minutes late for the interview. This can also mean out perform. EX: Jane showed up all the boys when she won the math competition.

Show your face.

This expression means to appear. EX: Todd will never show his face around here again after embarrassing himself at the last gathering.

Show your hand.

If you show your hand, you reveal your intentions. EX: Mr. Jones is a good negotiator. He is able to keep the bargaining going without ever showing his hand.

Show signs.

This means to give an indication of something. EX The economy shows signs of recovery. The patient showed signs of fatigue.

Show someone the ropes.

If you show someone the ropes, you show them how to do something. EX: Please take the new employee to your office and show them the ropes.

Show your true colors.

The meaning is to show what someone is really like. EX: The kids showed their true colors when they refused to shake hands with the opponent at the end of the game.

Of course, SHOW can also be a noun referring to a performance. A couple of idioms with the noun form are: STEAL THE SHOW, GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD and NO SHOW. Tell your group the meanings of these words.

