

**\*\*\*Listening Practice:** Listen to the teacher read these short paragraphs from *Funny in Farsi* by Firoozeh Dumas, then answer the questions about what you heard. *(Teachers: Read at a normal speed. The point is to get the students used to understand English at a normal conversational pace. Read one paragraph then stop to answer the questions and discuss. Then on to the next paragraph. After they have answered all the questions, hand out the reading script and have them read it aloud, practicing their pronunciation. Make sure they understand all the vocabulary.)*

Paragraph A:

**1. The girl is telling a story about her:**

childhood      adolescence      early twenties      middle age

**2. Her parents had:**

told her to get a job      cut her hair      bought her shoes      cut up their credit cards

**3. The girl was worried that:**

she couldn't afford to go to college      she couldn't afford fashionable clothes      she couldn't shop at Nordstroms      she couldn't get a job

Paragraph B:

**1. Did the girl make a lot of money baby sitting?**

**2. Who told her about a French family that needed a baby sitter?**

**3. Was the girl fluent in French?**

**4. What kind of neighborhood did the Parisians live in?**

**5. What did she bring to their house the first time?**

Paragraph C:

**1. What was in the living room?**

**2. How much did they offer to pay her?**

**3. Did the girl tell them that was too much money?**

**\*\*\*Discussion Questions:**

1-This girl was worried about paying for her college. Many college students in the U.S. have to pay for their own college costs. They take out loans which are expensive and take years to pay back. Is this true in your country? Did you have to pay for your own college? Are you saving to pay for your child's college?

2-How important is it to dress fashionably? Do you worry about it more here than you did in your own country? Do people dress the same here as in your country? Have you bought American style clothes in order to blend in better? Do your friends and relatives back home ask you to bring back American brands for them?

3-Did you work while in high school? What kinds of jobs did you have? Were your wages low?

4-Do you think it was wrong of the girl to accept so much above the going rate for baby-sitters?

**\*\*\*Choose one of these phrasal verbs.** With a partner, work out a skit that demonstrates the phrasal verb. Perform for the group and ask them to guess which phrasal verb you chose. (Teachers: ask for volunteers to demonstrate any of the phrasal verbs that were not chosen.)

1. hand it over
2. knock out
3. look up the number
4. hang it up

- 5.put it on
- 6.pay back
- 7.think over
- 8.wrap up
- 9.tear down
- 10.help out
- 11.chew out
- 12.fill up
- 13.check out
- 14.brush off