

A. These sentences all use the word “charge”. Read the sentence and tell what “charge” means in that sentence.

1. The restaurant charged me for that glass of wine even though I sent it back because it was undrinkable.
2. Many people charge everything to their credit card so they have a record of their expenses.
3. The woman was charged with assault after pushing the policeman.
4. The committee was charged with choosing the approved text books for the Texas school districts.
5. I keep my electric razor charged because I never know when I might have to go out of town for a couple of days.
6. The air was charged with excitement as the horses moved into the chutes.
7. In World War I, the men rose out of the trenches and charged headlong into the enemy’s machine guns.
8. Don’t come charging in here like you own the place. Knock on the door and ask politely to come in.
9. The babysitter watched over her charges as they played in the park.
10. He set off a charge before the area had been cleared, but luckily no one was hurt.

B. These sentences contain words that are synonyms for one of the definitions of charge. Underline the word that is the synonym and tell whether it means exactly the same as charge. Will the sentence still make sense if you substitute the word “charge”?

1. They levied a tax on polluting industries to pay for an environmental clean-up program.
2. The teachers were saddled with caring for the children whose parents were not able to get to the day care center before closing time.
3. Should I pay you for this visit? No, we’ll bill you later.
4. We stormed the battlements, but weren’t able to prevail over the heavily armed enemy.

C. Idioms: Read and guess the meaning from the context. Discuss with your group.

1. It’s good to be back in the saddle again after missing two weeks with a broken leg.
2. Who’s calling the shots here? It seems like no one is really in charge. You’re right. Someone needs to take charge.
3. The repair shop on South Congress overcharges you for simple repairs.
4. She asked me a dozen questions. I think she was just fishing for information about you.
5. Jan is the light of my life. I can’t imagine what I’d do without her. And she has such a bubbly personality that people love to be around her.
6. He blows hot and cold with the idea of attending graduate school.
7. Personally, I feel the idea to go to graduate school before you have worked in your field is a half baked idea.
8. His new book throws fresh light on an old controversy.

D. These words are said to have moved from English into a number of other languages. Which of them exist in your language? Is the meaning exactly the same in your language?

bacon	jam	pudding	sandwich	bulldog
mustang	skunk	blazer	cardigan	pullover
sweater	patio	boycott	budget	inflation
strike	ferry	freight	cable	ace

E. Make a list of words that are the same or very similar in your language and English.

F. There are many verbs that are commonly followed by an infinitive (to+verb). Complete these sentences by adding an infinitive. You may add additional words but don't make the sentence too long and complicated. The first three are finished for you. Read your sentences to the group and decide if it makes sense.

Teachers: Go over the examples. Then let the students try. After they read their sentence to the group, explain usage issues in their sentences. For example, We would say I dread to think about cooking dinner. OR I dread cooking dinner. We probably would NOT say, I dread to cook dinner. If a sentence sounds awkward to you, tell them the way Americans would usually say it. A sentence can be grammatically correct, but sound awkward to American ears. So explain how we say things.

1. I can't bear **to think** what will happen to these children when I have to return to work.

2. I hesitate **to awaken** him since he worked all night long.

3. The wrecker driver managed **to winch** the car out of the ditch and haul it off.

4. Can you please arrange _____

5. The government ceased _____

6. He claimed _____

7. I dread _____

8. We decided _____

9. Tomorrow, I get _____

10. I hesitated _____

11. They neglected _____

12. The company plans _____