

FUMC ESL 10-9-2014 Advanced Lesson

Group Talk: Take turns talking about one of these questions. Then ask the group their opinion.

In your country:

1-Do people frequently get divorced? Do married couples go to counselors for help with their marriage? -Is it common for someone to have been married more than once? -Do people marry young or wait until they are older? Do women usually work after marriage?

2-Would you ever:

-go to a marriage counselor?

-marry someone much older or younger than you?

-marry someone your parents disapproved of?

-marry someone who did not have a job?

-consider staying single?

-marry someone you only knew for a few weeks?

-marry someone of a different nationality?

-marry someone your parents had chosen for you?

3-What is your opinion of online dating? Is it something you would ever consider?

4-How has marriage changed you?

Work with a partner: practice these conversations, then discuss in the group.

Conversation:

Sara: My husband and I are having trouble getting along.

Debra: I'm sorry. I am here for you if you need someone to listen.

Sara: Thanks. I know you will be discreet. I don't want my troubles to be talked about in the office.

Debra: Have you seen a marriage counselor?

Sara: Joe wants to see a counselor, but I'm skeptical.

Debra: It wouldn't hurt to try.

Sara: I guess you are right. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

1. If you are discreet, you are careful to avoid attracting attention or revealing private information. You can do something discreetly (quietly without drawing attention to yourself) or you can be discreet (not give up information that is private). Which meaning of this word is Sara using?
2. Give an example of a time you were discreet.
3. Sara is skeptical. If you are skeptical about something, you have doubts about it. Ex: James said he got an A in the course, but I'm skeptical. He made B's on all the quizzes.
4. Are you skeptical of politician's claims?
5. What other things are you skeptical about?
6. Nothing ventured, nothing gained means you have to take risks to achieve something. Why did Sara use this expression?

Conversation:

Joe: I don't get it. Why won't you go with me to a marriage counselor.

Sara: Because you have a short fuse. I know if I complain about you in front of the counselor, you'll get mad.

Joe: I know I get on your nerves sometimes, but we can work things out.

Sara: I'm skeptical that we can work things out.

Joe: Sara, ours was a marriage made in heaven. Please don't give up on it. Don't throw in the towel yet.

1. Someone with a short fuse is easily angered. Do you have a short fuse? Does anyone you know have a short fuse?

2.A marriage made in heaven is a marriage between two people that love each other and are well matched. Ex: Tim and Cindy have been friends since they were 17. They share the same interests and they have fallen deeply in love. Theirs will be a marriage made in heaven.

3.Do you think Sara is right to be skeptical about counseling?

Conversation:

Jane: Laura is head over heels in love with Eric.

Kathy: I don't understand why. He's vain and inconsiderate. And he isn't even good-looking.

Jane: Love is blind.

1.head over heels in love means very much in love

2.Love is blind: If you love someone, you can't see their faults. 3.Do you think love is blind?

4.Have you known people that were blind to their partners faults?

Here are some funny definitions:

Mother-in-Law: A woman who destroys her son-in-law's peace of mind by giving him a piece of hers.

Housework: What the wife does that nobody notices until she doesn't do it.

Bachelor: A guy who has avoided the opportunity to make some woman miserable.