

This lesson has vocabulary for things we don't like. Start the group by telling something you do that you really enjoy? For example, my husband and I went for a long hike in a state park this weekend. What did you do? Or what would you have liked to do?

NEGATIVE FEELINGS

Antipathy is a feeling of strong dislike or opposition to something or someone. EX: Antipathy towards the government has increased as a result of the current crisis.

Do people in your country feel antipathy towards the government or are they generally supportive?

The adjective with this meaning is not antipathetic, but hostile or unsympathetic. EX: a hostile crowd of protesters, an unsympathetic remark

Aversion is a feeling of intense dislike. It can be towards a person or thing. EX: I felt an instant aversion to the new manager.

Have you ever felt an "instant aversion" to someone? For example, you might feel an instant aversion to people who are arrogant or to someone who looks creepy.

If you are averse to something, you are opposed to it. We frequently use this word with "not". EX: I am not averse to living in a foreign country for a few years.

In this case, it means the opposite. It means you are not opposed to living in a foreign country.

Here are some more words for intense negative feelings:

loathing (noun) I feel loathing for the murderers. loathe (verb) I loathe that man. loathsome (adjective) I watched the most loathsome program on television.

abhorrence (noun) abhor (verb) I abhor housework. abhorrent (adj.) The idea of living in a strange country where I don't speak the language is abhorrent to me.

scorn-show a lack of respect (noun or verb) There was scorn and hatred for the terrorists. Her family scorned her because she married outside of their faith. (This expression "outside of their faith" means from a different religion.)

revulsion (noun) I feel revulsion when I think about the way we were treated there. revolting (adj) That food was revolting. revolt (verb) Eating octopus revolts me.

Discuss:

- 3 foods you find revolting
- 3 things you loathe doing
- someone you feel scorn for
- ideas you find abhorrent

Read these short paragraphs and tell what the idioms mean.

Randy was down in the dumps because he expected to be let go from his job. The economy was in a downturn and his boss had already laid off several of his fellow employees. Randy had a sinking feeling that he would be the next to go. Randy was really on edge when his boss asked him to step into his office. But, to Randy's surprise, his boss told him he would be one of the few kept on. Randy was pleased as punch to be staying with the company.

Have you ever been in Randy's situation?

The lay-offs caused a lot of hard feelings in the company. Those who had been let go resented those who stayed. The bosses weren't always sensitive to feelings and there were many hurt feelings as people were told to pack up their personal possessions and leave. The personnel director bore the brunt of the complaints because he was the one tasked with firing many of the lower level employees. Some of the people he fired were reduced to tears.

Have you ever been in the personnel director's position of having to lay off or fire several employees?