

Read the conversation with a partner. Switch roles and read it again. Talk in the large group about the meaning of the underlined phrases and idioms. Summarize the conversation in your own words.

James: Rob's been gunning for a fight since he found out I am close friends with his girlfriend. He chewed me out for calling her all the time. He needs to understand that Carol and I will always be friends, but he will not always be her boyfriend.

Sara: Rob called me the other night to complain about you calling Carol. I got an earful. According to Rob, you are going behind his back and trying to horn in on his relationship with Carol.

James: He has the wrong idea about me. But I'll just let it slide. Rob's the jealous type. I'm not going to be able to convince him that we are just friends. But my mind's at ease. I know I haven't done anything wrong by calling Carol.

Sara: Just watch yourself, James. Rob is known for having a bad temper. You need to be on your guard and try not to provoke him.

Sheila: I was a little disappointed in the dinner. It wasn't what I anticipated. My mouth was watering when we walked in and I smelled the garlic and butter. Generally, I love those combinations in food. But I didn't care for what I ordered at all.

Cory: Yes. This food leaves a lot to be desired. I feel like we've been gypped. With these high prices I expect a gourmet meal. This tastes like dorm cafeteria food. The chicken is rubbery and the mashed potatoes are lumpy.

Jane: My daughter is bringing her two kids and three of her friend's kids over this evening. I'm supposed to babysit while she and her friend go to the movies. I offered to baby sit my grandkids, but I got more than I bargained for when they showed up with three more kids.

Megan: It sounds like you got the short end of the stick in that deal. I think your daughter took advantage of you.

Jane: The situation certainly leaves a lot to be desired. But the kids are pretty well-behaved and I'll put them to bed early. On the face of it, you might think my daughter was thoughtless. But, actually, she knows I love kids and enjoy playing with them. Five is a bit much, but we'll manage.

Megan: You're a good sport about it. I'd be chewing nails if my daughter dumped five kids on me.

Discuss in the large group:

1. Would you volunteer to babysit for someone else's kids? How often do you ask people to babysit for you?
2. Have you ever been gunning for a fight with your spouse? EX: When you discover he bought a thousand dollar bicycle without consulting you.
3. Do you ever go behind your spouse's back?
4. Do you feel like you have to watch yourself all the time when you are in a foreign country?
5. Have you ever felt you were gypped in a restaurant?
6. Describe a time when you got the short end of the stick.
7. What ethnic food do you "not care for"?

8. Talk about something that wasn't what you had anticipated.
9. Are you the jealous type?
10. Are you a gourmet cook?