

## FUMC ESL 6-29-2015 Intermediate Lesson

### Idioms with “break”

If you break something, it separates into pieces. EX: The glass breaks when you drop it. Break the window and go inside. Break means many other things. Here are a few of the ways it is used.

1. You can **break a rule**. That means you do not follow the rules. EX: Jane did not come home by 9 PM. She broke the rules. Please don't break the rules again.
2. You can **break the law**. This means the same as break a rule. EX: Break the law and go to jail.
3. You can **take a break**. That means stop what you are doing for a minute. EX: Jan, take a break and have some coffee. I took a break earlier.
4. You can **break the news** to someone. That means to be the first to tell them. EX: I must break the news to my wife. All the tickets are sold out. She broke the news to her father that she got a job.
5. You can **get a lucky break** if something good happens. EX: She got a break and was hired as an actress.
6. You can **break a record**. That means to beat the record for something. EX: Did Lisa break the record in the race. The runner broke the record for the mile race.
7. If a machine **breaks down**, it stops working. EX: My machine broke down last night. My car breaks down every week.
8. **Breaking news** is the most recent news.
9. A **broken home** means a home where the parents have divorced or separated.
10. If you are **dead broke**, you have no money.
11. If you make a **clean break**, you leave someone quickly and completely and don't get involved with them again.
12. When your income equals expenses, you **break even**. If you buy something for \$100 and sell it later for \$100, you have broken even.

### Questions: Fill in the blank with the correct idiom

1. The truck slowed down and stopped. The driver said the engine stopped working. The truck \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The record in the high jump event is 10 feet. Bev jumped 10 ft 1 inch. She \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Anna sings in a small club. One night a famous band leader came to the club. He heard her sing. He asked her to sing with his band. Anna \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The rule says you cannot talk on your cell phone at work. Bill talked to his girlfriend on his cell phone at work. Bill \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The speed limit was 35 mph. Dani drove 50 mph. Dani \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Mary got accepted to the university. She was excited. She wanted to tell her mother. She wanted to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Jane worked all night on her machine. She was very tired. She needed rest. She decided to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. We turned on the TV to hear the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Did you make money when you sold your car? No, but I didn't lose any money, either. I \_\_\_\_\_.
10. I feel sorry for Tim. He comes from a \_\_\_\_\_. He hasn't seen his father in years and his mother works every day to support Tim and his brother.

### Choose the correct word for the blanks.

#### sleep/sleeping/sleepy/slept

I am so \_\_\_\_\_ today. I did not \_\_\_\_\_ well last night. I need more \_\_\_\_\_. I am not \_\_\_\_\_ well these days. I hope I \_\_\_\_\_ better tonight. I \_\_\_\_\_ better last week. I have \_\_\_\_\_ poorly for many days.

#### alive/lively/living/livable

I am \_\_\_\_\_ in America now. Soon I will move to Mexico.  
That was a bad accident. I am lucky to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
The children were \_\_\_\_\_ today. They ran and played all day.  
This house is too dirty. I can't live here. This house isn't \_\_\_\_\_.

**dead/died/dying/deadly**

My flowers are \_\_\_\_\_ because of the heat. The last of my flowers \_\_\_\_\_ last week. The Memorial Day storm was a deadly storm, killing 15 people. All my flowers are \_\_\_\_\_.

**clean/cleanest/cleaner/cleanser**

This apartment is dirty. It is not \_\_\_\_\_. My daughter's apartment is \_\_\_\_\_ than this one. That new apartment was the \_\_\_\_\_ of them all. I will buy some \_\_\_\_\_ at the market and we will scrub the floors.

**break/broke/broken**

The door is locked and I forgot my key. I will \_\_\_\_\_ the window and go inside. A \_\_\_\_\_ window is not easy to fix. Tom threw a baseball through the window. The window \_\_\_\_\_.

**hide/hidden/hid/**

The children like to \_\_\_\_\_ in the closet. We had \_\_\_\_\_ our jewelry under the bed. The boys \_\_\_\_\_ from the girls.

The noun form of "hide" is the skin of an animal. We covered the chairs in cow hide.

**act/action/active**

There was not much \_\_\_\_\_ at the carnival because of the rainstorm. Most of the rides were shut down. The boys \_\_\_\_\_ silly when the girls are around. He's a very \_\_\_\_\_ person, even though he is quite old.

**add/addition/additional**

I made \_\_\_\_\_ money this week because I worked overtime. Please \_\_\_\_\_ another row of chairs. With the \_\_\_\_\_ of the new nurses, we have ten on our staff now.