

FUMC ESL 7-9-2015 Advanced Lesson

Read the paragraphs, tell the meaning of the italicized words, answer the questions.

A. Elaine made no money out of the biography she wrote. The book was a *labor of love*. It was her way to *pay her respects* to her mother. Elaine's description of her family was quite *touching*. Even my father was *moved* when he read it.

1. What kind of book or movie really moves you?
2. What do you do for your family that is a labor of love?

B. The critics told Erin her new book would be a *bust*, but it was *wildly* popular. She made a *bundle* on the book and is now leading the *life of Riley*. Personally, I think her writing *leaves a lot to be desired*, but I *wouldn't dream of telling her that*.

1. Have you ever attempted something that was a total bust?

C. Tom is the most *laid back* person I know. Nothing on earth seems to *bother* him. He'd be the last person to complain about any *affront*. Some people say he is too *lackadaisical*.

1. Do you work better with people who are laid back or high energy? Which type of person are you?

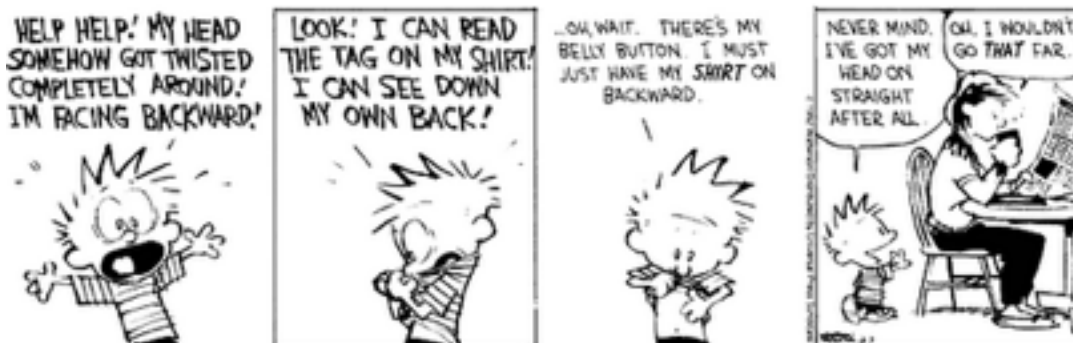
D. Jack is great at hiding emotions. He *plays his cards very close to his chest*, and he has the best *poker face* in the office. If he is *up to no good*, it's going to be *hard to tell*. He's *sly as a fox*.

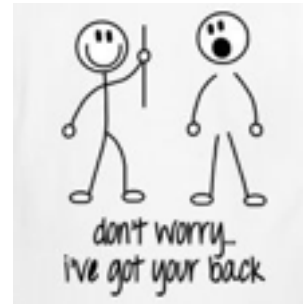
1. Do you enjoy competitive games or cooperative games?

E. John had an awful accident. He was unconscious after the fall and the doctors feared he would *lapse* into a *coma*. Fortunately, he *regained* consciousness, but he was *laid up* for several weeks while he recovered. He's *up and around now*, though. He's *fit as a fiddle*.

1. Have you ever been *laid up* or *laid off*?

Look at these cartoons and explain "having your head on straight", "have your back", "What's the catch?"





Common sayings: Match them with their meanings

1. Don't count your chickens until they hatch.
 2. Make hay while the sun shines.
 3. He is all bark and no bite.
 4. Add fuel to the fire.
 5. She got a taste of her own medicine.
 6. Back to the drawing board.
 7. You are barking up the wrong tree.
 8. I'm stuck between a rock and a hard place.
 9. He bit off more than he could chew.
 10. Bite your tongue.
 11. He can't cut the mustard.
 12. I'll do it come hell or high water.
 13. He is always crying wolf.
 14. Don't cry over spilt milk.
 15. Cut to the chase.
 16. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
 17. Drastic times call for drastic measures.
 18. The contestants are dropping like flies.
 19. Every cloud has a silver lining.
 20. She was foaming at the mouth.
- a) When things are really desperate, you must take desperate actions.
 - b) Blaming the wrong person for something.
 - c) He accepted more work than he was able to do.
 - d) A large number of people are quitting, being injured or dying.
 - e) To be very angry and show it.
 - f) Be optimistic. Things will get better.
 - g) When something is done to make a bad situation worse.
 - h) Don't say that.
 - i) Continue to complain over that is finished.
 - j) Someone who is not able to do the job.
 - k) Do not put all your hopes on one thing. Have some other options.
 - l) An attempt has failed. We must start over.
 - m) Get to the point.
 - n) Take advantage of an opportunity before it is lost.
 - o) Someone is aggressive verbally but not willing to fight.
 - p) Determined to do something despite all obstacles.
 - q) To be mistreated in the same way you mistreated others.
 - r) Intentionally raise a false alarm.
 - s) Don't rely on something until you are sure it is going to happen.
 - t) You only have two options and they are both bad.