

FUMC ESL 6-20-2016 Level 3 Lesson

— Introduce yourself to your group. Say your **name**, your **country of origin** and **tell what you think you will be doing in 5 years**.

1. *In the English tongue we speak, why is break not rhymed with freak?
When a poet makes a verse, why can't he rhyme horse with worse?
Beard sounds not the same as heard. And cord is not the same as word.
Cow is cow, but low is low. Shoe is never rhymed with foe.
Think of hose and dose and lose. And don't forget goose and choose.
Think of comb and tomb and bomb, doll and roll and home and some.
And since pay is rhymed with say, why not paid with said, I pray?
We have blood and food and good, and mould is not pronounced like could.
Why is there done but gone and lone? Is there any reason known?
And in short, it seems to me sounds and letters disagree.*

2. The poem points out the many inconsistencies of English pronunciation. In addition there are many consistent, but odd rules of pronunciation. For example, when we use the same word as different parts of speech (noun, adjective, verb), we change the syllable that is stressed, resulting in different pronunciation.

Examples:

record (noun)-a disk with music on it

content (noun)-what is inside something

produce (noun)-farm crops

insult (noun)- something bad that is said

contract (noun) -a legal agreement

record (verb)-to make a recording

content (adjective)- comfortable and happy

produce (verb)-make, grow or manufacture

insult (verb) - to say something bad to a person

contract (verb)- to become smaller

3. This same stress change effects other words as well. Mark the stressed syllable in each word.

Example: photograph photographer photographic

4. We also change the stress of a word in a phrase depending on its meaning.

Example:

I live in a white house. The president lives in the White house.

Then, of course, changing the stress in a sentence completely changes the meaning. Read these sentences stressing the underlined word. Explain the differences in meaning in these three sentences.

That is John's book.

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That is John's book.

5. Quantifiers— — English uses words that have indefinite qualities. These can be called determiners, quantifiers or indefinite pronouns. Examples: a little, a lot, many, several, others, something, someone, somewhere, either, one, this, that, few, this, that, these, those, etc.

It doesn't matter what you call them. It matters how you use them. Test yourself in the sentences below. Work with a partner: Read the sentence and circle the correct choice.

1. This/These sugar comes in little cubes.
2. Does this/these bread have added sugar?
3. They were bored. There was nothing/none to do.
4. There aren't many/much students in the cafeteria now.
5. I always keep every/some money in my wallet.
6. My parents don't drink much/many coffee.
7. I've got to solve any/some math problems before I go to bed.
8. How much/many stars do you see in the sky tonight?
9. How much/many water should I add to the cake mix?
10. They have had few/little homework lately.
11. Have you visited much/many foreign countries?
12. We don't go downtown for dinner anymore. There is way too much/many traffic.

13. I like my new job. I have about the same number/amount of work as in my old job, but the work is easier.
14. There/It was a lot of traffic downtown.
15. Will it/there be a lot of people at the party?
16. She went out without some/any money. I hope she doesn't need some/any.
17. I'm hungry. I want something/anything to eat.
18. Why are you looking under the bed? Have you lost something/anything?
19. This weekend I'm going out with some/any friends of mine.
20. You may sit in some/any seat you choose.
21. We had to walk home because there was no/any bus.
22. Sue won't have any/some difficulty finding our house.
23. I didn't say nothing/anything.
24. The exam was so difficult that anybody/nobody passed.
25. Many/Much people like to drive fast on the highways.
26. I only know a little/few words of Spanish.
27. There is lots of violence in that town, so any/few tourists go there.
28. She's a lucky girl. She has much/many friends.
29. Did it cost much/many to repair your car?
30. There is no need to worry. We've got plenty/much of time.

Practice saying these sentences.

Don't hit it, heat it!	Cease hitting your sis.	His little eel is ill.	We eat it with ease.	Put an X where it aches.
Eat it in the kitchen.	The fur was far from here.	The hut was hot.	Don is done.	Don't mash the mesh.
Each one has an itch.	Ollie is in the alley.	Ed knows how to add.	We have a bad bed.	Etch an H in that place.
Pay your debt on that date.	Sail it or sell it.	That mass is a mess.	Sol and Sal are pals.	The hat got too hot.
Sit in the shade behind the shed.	Don and Dan are here.	The sock is in the sack.	Oz was as I thought.	Add the odd number.
Abe saw it ebb.	Ed will aid her.	I'll bet it's your bat.	Did Sal sell it?	Beth is in the bath.
That doll is dull.	But we bought it.	The bug swam in the bog.	My boss rides the bus.	It was done at dawn.

