

FUMC ESL 9-22-2016 LEVEL 4 LESSON

PRONUNCIATION: For a fun pronunciation exercise, take a stab (means make an attempt) at pronouncing this poem properly.

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough
Others may stumble, but not you
On hiccough, thorough, laugh, and through.

And cork and work and card and ward
And font and front and word and sword
Well done! And now if you wish, perhaps
To learn of less familiar traps.

Watch out for meat and great and threat,
They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.
A moth is not a moth in mother,
Nor both in bother, broth in brother.

And here is not a match for there,
And dear and fear for bear and pear.
And then there's dose and rose and lose—
Just look them up—and goose and choose,

And do and go, then thwart and cart.
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive!
I'd mastered it when I was five.

VOCABULARY and IDIOMS:

Students: Take turns reading these short paragraphs. Explain to the group what the underlined words mean. Then tell the group **in your own words**, what the paragraph said. Try not to look at the printed paragraph as you tell what it is about.

1. I enjoyed being chairman of the committee. It was really rewarding, but it was so time-consuming that I gave it up. My photography work is becoming more lucrative now and I feel like I need to devote myself to it. And I find taking pictures very therapeutic. It's almost like painting. I have dabbled in photography in the past, but in the past year I've taken it much more seriously. And it seems, it's starting to pay off. In a few months, I may actually be able to support myself with my photography.

2. I've never really been into photography. But I love painting. I lock myself away on weekends to paint. I'm really hooked on watercolors now. The way the paint moves around on the paper and takes on a life of its own really captivates me. I find it very calming. I feel very mellow after a day of painting.

3. Now that I have a real job I need a change of wardrobe. After years of college where I dressed in scruffy jeans and t-shirts, it will be hard to wear dressy clothes every day. I've never been a slave to fashion, but I need a power suit to show I belong on Wall Street. No cheesy suits or garish ties will work. I've got to wear something subtle and stylish. I will try to avoid fads and dress in a classic style. Unfortunately, I think these purchases will leave a hole in my wallet. But that's the price I'll have to pay to fit in at the investment firm. I'm sure if I show up every day dressed elegantly, it will be a feather in my cap.

4. I'm looking for new digs. My agent showed me an apartment in a high-rise today, but it wasn't much to write home about and it was very pricey. When he showed it to me, it really hit home that if I want to live close to downtown, I'm going to have to be prepared to fork over big bucks. My agent explained that there was very little in my price range close in. I want to live in an upscale neighborhood with lots of shops and restaurants. So far, the only apartments I've seen that I can afford are pretty run down. I guess I might have to settle for a fixer-upper. But I'm not really much of a handyman.

DISCUSS WITH YOUR GROUP

1. What kind of building materials do you prefer in a house? brick, stone or wood? granite countertops or laminate? wood floors, tile floors or carpet?
2. Do you prefer modern architecture or more traditional design? Is it OK to mix these two styles in the same house? In your country, are most new buildings built in a modern style? How do you feel about that?
3. Do you think the style of architecture affects peoples moods? Do you like homes that are warm and cozy or more cool and clean?
4. Smart homes now include lots of technology. What types of technology would you like to see built into a home you buy?