

FUMC ESL 10-10-2016 Level 4 Lesson

**PRONUNCIATION:** In each line of words, there is only one word that does not stress the middle syllable. Pronounce each word in the line and circle the one that does NOT stress the middle syllable.

repellent	mosquitoes	medical	binoculars	emergency	advisor
rotation	positive	procedure	electron	opponent	agenda
resistant	banana	repeated	employee	revenue	abundant

**PRACTICAL ENGLISH USAGE**

There are many “meanings” of the word “mean”. We can use it in questions? EX: What does this word mean? OR What do you mean when you say “pardon”.

“What do you mean!” can also express shock or anger. EX: What do you mean telling my wife she isn’t pretty. What do you mean I can’t sing!

Mean can equal intend or plan. EX: Sorry, I didn’t mean to interrupt you. OR The Russians have invaded. This means war! OR Did you mean to mail these letters? If you decide to take the TOEFL, it will mean studying hard.

“I mean” can be used to start a statement. It can also act as a connector with no real meaning. EX: I mean, who else is going to do it if I don’t?

“I mean” is also used to introduce corrections. EX: Turn left, I mean right, at the corner. The game is in Dallas, I mean Houston.

Means is a different word. Means means way. EX: In the last century a new means of communication has become prevalent. There are several means of transport in the city.

“By all means” means “of course”. May I sit at your table? By all means.

Should I get a new coat since this one is worn out? By all means. You deserve a new coat.

Mean can be an adjective referring to cruel. EX: That teacher is mean. She’s the meanest teacher at this school.

**IDIOMS:** Take turns reading the conversations with a partner and tell what the underlined idiom means.

A: Did you know that Ed is very wealthy?

B: I knew from his address that he was a man of means.

A: Billy, get into this house right now and do your homework. I mean business!

B: Yessir, I’m coming.

A: I think Carol still cares for you.

B: Carol means nothing to me. I’ll never forgive her for the way she treated me.

A: I’m sorry to hear that. I always thought the two of you were meant for each other.

B: She used to mean a lot to me. I was sure our love was meant to be. But I’m over those feelings now.

A: Excuse us! Make way for the stretcher! This woman is injured.

B: We need to hurry and get her to the emergency room. The ambulance ride took so long, we need to make up for lost time.

A: Could you make time for me some time tomorrow morning? I need to ask you some questions about this project.

B: I only have fifteen minutes free, so you'll have to make the most of that time.

**GROUP DISCUSSION:** Students take turns picking a topic to discuss with your group. Answer any questions, then ask several members of the group what they think.

1. Plants can provide food, shelter, clothing, or medicine. Name a plant that is very important in your country. What is this plant used for? Do you worry about genetic engineering of plants? Do you buy food that is genetically engineered? Does your country require labels for genetically engineered plants?

2. If you could study a subject that you have never had the opportunity to study, what would you choose? Explain why you made this choice.

3. If you could invent something new, what product would you develop? How would this product be used? Do you think most people would be interested in buying this product?

4. Imagine that you have received some land to use as you wish. How would you use this land? Use specific details to explain your answer.

5. When people move to another country, some of them decide to follow the customs of the new country. Others prefer to keep their own customs. Compare these two choices. Which one do you prefer?