

Talk for 2 or 3 minutes on one of these subjects.

1-In what ways have the choices of others affected you?

2-When is it acceptable to show anger? Is that different in your culture than here in the U.S.?

3-Are you susceptible to clever advertising? Do you buy things because you see them advertised on TV? What kinds of things have you bought this way? Do food advertisements make you hungry? Should alcohol companies be allowed to advertise on TV?

Assign parts and read these discussions. Talk about the difference in meaning in the underlined words and phrases. Then turn your paper over and summarize the conversation.

TAD: A tornado tore through the town yesterday.

SARA: What's the extent of the damage?

TAD: Many houses were destroyed. There were several injuries.

SARA: I think we should have a better tornado warning system.

TAD: I agree with you to some extent. But those warning systems are very expensive. We're a small town. Do you think we could afford it?

SARA: The repairs to homes will be very expensive. Some of the homes are damaged to such an extent that they will have to be demolished. I'd rather spend money for a tornado warning system than spend money re-building homes that have been destroyed.

STU: Mother's failing eyesight is beginning to be a problem. She really shouldn't be driving anymore. I had hoped that the surgery would correct her vision, but the doctor says the procedure was a failure, probably due to her advanced age. I feel like I've failed her because I promised her she would see better after the surgery. Now I have to face telling her she can't continue to drive. She's going to be very upset about that.

SHANA: I understand. I tried to convince Dad to stop driving after his last heart attack, but my courage failed me and I gave in. Dad can be very stubborn at times, but I love him with all his failings.

STU: I know you love your dad. You go over to check on him every week without fail.

Any ideas on how to tell Mom she can't drive?

SHANA: You'll just have to explain to your mom that driving is no longer safe for her. Hopefully, she'll understand and agree. Failing that, the only thing left is to take the car keys away.

SAM: I searched high and low for my bifocals, but they seem to have disappeared into thin air. I'm getting so darned forgetful.

TERRY: It's your high-powered job. I'm sure you're under lots of stress and that can make you forgetful.

SAM: That might be part of it. I do have a lot of stress. I've taken on a very high-profile case. There will be lots of media attention and lots of pressure to succeed. My client is very high-strung and I'm not sure if I want her to take the stand and testify. Her voice is very high-pitched, too. It kind of grates on you when you have to listen to it for very long.

TERRY: Are you talking about the Murray case? Her husband is a big high-roller. He made a lot of money loan sharking and now they live high on the hog. They bought a mansion when prices were depressed. Now prices in that neighborhood have gone sky high. So they'll make a killing when they sell.

SAM: Yes, and Mr. Murray has friends in high places. I'm getting lots of pressure from the governor to get his wife off. I've got to get in high gear and prepare for the trial.

TERRY: Well, I hate to root against you, but I hope she gets convicted. It's high time the Murrays discover that they have to obey the laws just like everyone else. She used to show up for school meetings as high as a kite. She should have been asked to leave, but Mr. Murray is so high and mighty that no one dared tell her off. Mr. Murray might get on his high horse and make a lot of trouble.

Choose the correct answer to fill in the blank

Hurry up! We're waiting for you. What's taking you so long?

I _____ for an important phone call. Go ahead and leave without me.

1. wait 2. have waited 3. will have waited 4. am waiting

Robert is going to be famous someday. He _____ in three movies already.

1. has been appearing 2. has appeared 3. had appeared 4. appeared

Where's Polly? She _____.

1. is in her room studying 2. in her room is studying 3. studies in her room 4. has studied in her room

What _____ of the new simplified tax law? It's more confusing than the old one.

1. are you thinking 2. do you think 3. have you thought 4. have you been thinking

When is Mr. Fields planning to retire? Soon, I think. He _____ for a long time. He'll probably retire either next year or the year after that.

1. worked 2. had been working 3. has been working 4. is working

Why did you buy all this sugar and chocolate? I _____ a delicious chocolate cake for dinner tonight.

1. make 2. will make 3. am going to make 4. will have made

Paul, could you please turn off the stove. The potatoes _____ for at least 30 minutes.

1. are boiling 2. boiling 3. have been boiling 4. were boiling