

FUMC ESL 10-12-2017 Advanced Lesson

There are many phrases we say as warnings of danger. Read these below and talk about their meaning.

Watch out! Watch your step! On your left. Make way! Take care.
Beware! Proceed with caution. Be vigilant. Take heed. Flammable

Idioms:

dicey situation	Any situation that is potentially risky or dangerous is called a <i>dicey situation</i> . <i>The politician put himself in a dicey situation by getting involved with an intern.</i>
false move	In a dangerous or risky situation, if you make a <i>false move</i> , you do something which may have unpleasant consequences. <i>He is under close surveillance. If he makes one false move he'll be arrested.</i>
calculated risk	A <i>calculated risk</i> is a risk taken with full knowledge of the dangers involved. <i>The company took a calculated risk when they hired Sean straight out of college.</i>
throw caution to the wind	If you <i>throw caution to the wind</i> , you start taking risks and stop worrying about the danger involved. <i>I decided to throw caution to the wind and invest in my best friend's new company.</i>
close shave	This term describes a situation where an accident or a disaster nearly happened. <i>I almost hit the child who ran out in front of my car. It was a close shave.</i>
coast is clear	To say that <i>the coast is clear</i> means that there is no danger in sight or that nobody can see you. <i>OK. The dog has gone inside. The coast is clear.</i>
cry wolf	To <i>cry wolf</i> is to call for help when you are not really in danger. As a result, nobody believes you when you really need help. <i>There's Mary screaming again! Does she really have a problem or is she just crying wolf again?</i>
hang on for dear life	If you <i>hang (or hold) on for dear life</i> , you are in a dangerous situation and grip something firmly so as not to fall. <i>Andy took his mother on the back of his motorbike where she hung on for dear life!</i>
live to tell the tale	Someone who <i>lives to tell the tale</i> survives a terrible experience. <i>Only two members of the expedition lived to tell the tale.</i>
look before you leap	This is something you say when advising someone to think carefully about the possible dangers before doing something. <i>Don't decide too quickly. Look before you leap!</i>

out of harm's way	If you put something <i>out of harm's way</i> , you put it in a safe place where it won't be damaged. <i>I'm going to put this glass bowl out of harm's way so that it doesn't get broken.</i>
play with fire	People who take unnecessary risks or behave in a dangerous way are <i>playing with fire</i> . <i>Driving alone on isolated roads in this weather is playing with fire.</i>

What would you do if:

1. An unmarked car with a flashing light pulls behind you: Do you stop? Do you call 911? Do you drive to a place where there are lots of people before you stop?
2. If a stranger is following you: Do you keep driving to your home? Do you try to lose them in traffic? Do you drive to a crowded place? Do you call 911?
3. You witness a crime: Do you try to apprehend the perpetrator (catch the person who did the crime) ? Do you call 911? Do you go home and mind your own business?
4. You arrive home to find your door open and you are sure you closed and locked it: Do you go in and look for a burglar? Do you get a neighbor to go in with you to make sure there is no one there? Do you call your husband? Do you call 911?
5. A stranger comes to the door selling magazines: Do you open the door, invite him in for coffee and purchase some new magazines? Do you not answer the door for any stranger? Do you crack the door and tell him you are not interested in magazines.
6. A stranger is overly friendly in the grocery store: Do you act polite, but not encourage further conversation? Do you ignore them and hope they go away? Do you say loudly, "You are bothering me. Please leave me alone."?

Discuss

1. What steps do you take to make you and your family safe? Do you have a plan for a house fire? Are you vigilant while walking alone? Do you keep your wallet or purse in a safe place?
2. Is there a difference between giving advice and giving a warning?
3. What do you warn your kids about? What did your parents warn you about?