

FUMC ESL 4-4-2019 Advanced Lesson

Today we'll talk about the word "stand". "Stand" is one of those English words with many definitions and even more idioms. Let's start with a song.

Stand By Your Man:

*Sometimes it's hard to be a woman
Giving all your love to just one man
You'll have bad times, and he'll have good times
Doing things that you don't understand*

*But if you love him, then you'll forgive him
Even though he's hard to understand
And if you love him, oh, be proud of him
'Cause after all he's just a man*

*Stand by your man
Give him two arms to cling to
And something warm to come to
When nights are cold and lonely*

*Stand by your man
And show the world you love him
Keep giving all the love you can
Stand by your man*

QUESTIONS:

1-To "stand by" someone is to support them, even when things are bad. Example: I'll stand by my brother even though I know he made a bad mistake. This song encourages a woman to stand by her man. Would you stand by your man no matter what he did?

2-This song implies that men and women often don't understand each other's actions. Do you think this is true?

3-The song is addressed to women. It says that women will sometimes have bad times because men are having good times and doing things the woman doesn't understand. This song implies that men are the ones doing all the bad things. Do you think men are more likely to cheat on their wives than the other way around?

4-The song says if you love a man, you have to forgive him. Do you agree?

5-Does this song seem sexist to you? In other words, does it apply different standards of behavior to men and to women? It seems to say that a woman's role is to stay home while the husband is out having a good time. Then she should forgive him and wrap her arms around him when he comes home. Is this the way it really works? Do you agree with this idea? Is it OK if a man has an affair, but bad if a woman does? This is an old song. It was released in 1969. Do you think this song would be popular if it came out today? Do you consider these ideas out-dated? Would people in your country think they were out-dated?

There are many idioms that use “stand”. Read the definition and the example, then make a sentence of your own using the idiom.

stand a chance: to have a chance

EX: Do you think I stand a chance of winning the lottery?

stand behind: to endorse or guarantee something or the actions of a person

EX: Our company stands behind all our products.

stand by: to wait and remain ready OR to support someone even when things are bad

EX: The telecast will begin in one minute. Everyone stand by.

EX: I'll stand by Don because I believe he is innocent.

stand corrected: to admit that you have made a mistake

EX: We printed a story that proved to be wrong. We stand corrected.

stand for: to tolerate something OR to signify something

EX: The teacher will not stand for any more of your bad behavior in class.

EX: The red light stands for “stop”.

stand in: to substitute for someone or something

EX: The opera singer has laryngitis, so a less experienced singer will stand in for her.

stand in someone's way: to be a barrier to someone's intentions

EX: If you want a divorce, I won't stand in your way.

stand on ceremony: to hold rigidly to protocol or formal manners

EX: Please, have a seat. We don't stand on ceremony here.

stand one's ground: resist an attack, hold your position

EX: The mob tried to break into the jail, but the deputies stood their ground

stand on one's own two feet: be independent and self sufficient

EX: We supported our daughter after she graduated from college until she got a job and was able to stand on her own two feet.

stand out: be uniquely visible or conspicuous

EX: John is so tall, he really stands out in a crowd

stand up: to fail to meet someone (usually used in past tense form-stood up)

EX: Jan was supposed to meet us at the movie theatre, but she stood us up.