

## FUMC ESL 4-8-2019 Advanced Lesson

Read the conversations. Read them once. Discuss the meaning. Then switch roles and read them a second time, paying attention to pronunciation.

**Dawn:** I know it's short notice, but I've decided to take you up on your offer to visit. I'm arriving from Florence by bus at 8 PM. Will you pick me up or should I grab a cab?

**Teresa:** I won't be able to pick you up, but my friend, Maria, will meet you at the bus station. She'll give you a ride to our home.

**Dawn:** I don't know her. How will I recognize Maria.

**Teresa:** Maria loves to wear bright clothes. She stands out in a crowd. You'll have no trouble spotting her. Look for a woman wearing bright orange or pink or even yellow.

**Dawn:** Are you sure it's ok for me to stay at your house. I don't want to be in the way. I hope your husband doesn't resent me staying with you.

**Teresa:** Dawn, you're my kid sister. You have a standing invitation to visit me at any time. I love having you here and my kids are so excited to spend time with their favorite aunt. Melanie, my 17 year old, wants you to share her bedroom. She has an extra bed, so it will work out fine. After all, you're closer in age to Melanie than to your big sister.

**Discuss:** Would your husband be comfortable having your family stay at your home. Are you ok with having guests come on short notice? Do you have a kid sister or kid brother?

**Sandra:** The girls have all bought fancy prom dresses. I have tried to make the boys dress up as well, but they claim boys don't dress up for proms any more. I tried to insist they wear tuxedos, but eighteen year old boys won't stand still for being told what to wear by their mothers. They have a mind of their own.

**Beth:** That stands to reason. After all, they are about to move out of the house and live independently. I can understand that they don't want us telling them what to wear.

**Discuss:** Did you go to a senior prom the spring of the year you graduated from high school?

What are the senior prom traditions? Do kids rent limousines, go to after parties and have catered breakfasts the next morning?

**Joe:** It's time we voters that oppose these ridiculous immigration policies stand up and be counted. We can't hide behind the anonymity of the internet. We have to go to rallies and make some noise so people realize how many of us object.

**Rob:** I agree with you. I have never been the type of person who marched in the street and drew attention to myself. But these are unusual times and I think I can't just stand pat. I need to get out there and march.

**Discuss:** Have you ever marched and chanted in favor of or against something or someone? Do you think this is an effective tactic?

**Dell:** Jim's navigational skills are a standing joke around the office. Everyone tries to make the newest employee ride with him. He has a hard time finding his way around the city so he's liable to get lost several times between the office and the restaurant. His sense of direction is weak.

**Susie:** Jim could stand to spend some time studying a map. Traffic will be at a standstill at 6 PM anyway, so he'll have plenty of time to figure out the route while he sits in traffic.

**Dell:** We can't figure out why he doesn't rely on Googlemaps. That just requires following directions.

**Susie:** Usually that's true, though I've been misdirected by Googlemaps a few times.

**Discuss:** How are your navigational skills? Do you use a map app or an old fashioned paper map? Do you usually have a feel for the direction you need to go?

**Tammy:** James seems a little stand-offish to me. I don't know if he is just shy or if he doesn't like me.

**Belle:** That's just James being James. Don't take it personally. He's very aloof. He has a way about him that makes people uncomfortable. He doesn't like making small talk, so avoids it whenever possible. But if you strike up a conversation with him about something he's interested in, he'll talk forever.

**Tammy:** Thanks for the hint. What is he interested in?

**Belle:** Weather! He is a tornado chaser and loves talking about extreme weather.

**Tammy:** Well that will be easy. There was a tornado in Alabama just a few weeks ago. It was a bad one. Few houses were left standing. I'm interested in weather, too.

**Belle:** Well, there you go. I think you two will hit it off.

**Discuss:** Are you aloof? Is making small talk easy for you? What subject could you "talk forever about"? Would you like to be a tornado chaser? Do you have tornados and tornado chasers in your country? What kinds of extreme weather do you have?

### **Discussion:**

One thing I would never stand for (tolerate)---

I stand in awe of people who---

My father stands for (supports an ideal)---

Tell of a time when you have been stood up or when you have stood someone up.

As a child, I would not stand still for my mother ----

**Carla:** My brother is a stand up comedian. He works the local clubs. He's planning to move to in L.A. where he might be discovered by a talent scout. He wants to be invited on one of the evening talk shows.

**Stella:** He'll have to be a member in good standing of the actor's guild if he wants to work in L.A. And it helps if he is attractive. Hollywood appreciates a pretty face.

**Carla:** My brother is pretty nice looking, though he could stand to drop a few pounds.

**Discuss:** Are you a comedian? Could you do stand up comedy? Do you like to go to the local comedy clubs? Would you like to move to L.A. and become an actor or actress? Is American comedy different than in your country?