

FUMC ESL 12-9-2019 ADVANCED LESSON

Students, take turns reading and discussing. Teachers-let the students run the class unless you are needed to ask a question. They should be doing all the reading and explaining unless you need to correct them or help them.

1. John is a very quiet man. He says, "I am so shy around women. I get tongue-tied when I try to talk to them." What do you think John means?
2. Ben always has a smart aleck answer for people. He's very sure of himself and a little conceited. I think he's a real wise guy. Do you know anyone like this?
3. Julie is very camera shy. I don't know why because she's really pretty. But she doesn't think she is photogenic, so she always hides when someone gets a camera out. You won't see her posting a lot of selfies. Does this describe you or someone you know?
4. I got sideswiped by a police car yesterday. Apparently, he was in hot pursuit of a fleeing car thief and he hit my car a glancing blow as he tried to go around me.
5. John's son finally got offered a job. After he graduated he thought he would have multiple offers and would be able to pick and choose. But the job market in his field isn't great. He only got one offer and he took it immediately. Were you able to pick and choose your first job?
6. We were really happy with the arrest of the narcotics gang. We had video surveillance and audio tapes recording them selling cocaine. We caught them red handed selling to a youth. This case should be a slam dunk for the prosecutor. Have you ever been caught red handed? In some countries, like the UK, there is video surveillance practically everywhere. Does this bother you? What are the advantages and disadvantages of cameras everywhere?
7. Jim hasn't had a lot of success in New York. He hails from rural Georgia and has quite a thick Southern accent. I fear New Yorkers think of him as a country bumpkin. Do you have country bumpkins in your country? Is there a region of your country that is mainly rural and the education level is low?
8. I basically agree with what you are saying, but let me play the devil's advocate. There are lots of people who are not well educated, have low paying jobs and feel like the system has left them behind. (A Devil's advocate provides the other side of an argument, even though they don't necessarily believe it. They are providing an argument to encourage debate.) Do you ever play the Devil's advocate?
9. The owner bumped up the price of the house after he got the appraisal. So we didn't buy the house. It felt like a raw deal. Have you ever gotten a raw deal?
10. My girlfriend and I argued again last night. My roommate said we argue too much and that I should just move on. What is the roommate suggesting? Do you agree with that suggestion? Is it possible to have a good relationship with someone even though you argue a lot?
11. The poker game is on the up and up. The dealer is professional and keeps everything above board. If anyone is caught cheating, they are removed and never asked back. One guy used an

underhanded strategy to try to win, but the manager sent him packing. They have a reputation to maintain. Explain what is going on here.

12. She's a first class employee. Harvard, her alma matter, is recognized as producing top shelf business grads. There is no question that you can't understand a culture unless you've lived there.

How important is it to go to a top academic university in your country? What schools are at the top?

13. Alma lived in east Africa for a year. She didn't have a car and had a long, hot bus ride to get into town. It was no picnic, but she felt it was worth it for the cultural experience. Not a day goes by that she doesn't think back on the wonderful friends she made there.

What sacrifices are you willing to make to experience another culture? Would you be likely to join the Peace Corp or some other group that sent you overseas to do charitable work?

14. There will be a huge fight over immigration. The battle lines have been drawn with those who want to send back illegal immigrants opposing those who would like to see a path to citizenship for them.

15. It hit me like a bolt from the blue. I don't have to get an apartment right away. My parents are traveling in Europe for the next 3 months. I can stay in their house until they return. That will give me a chance to get on my feet before having to spring for an expensive apartment.

16. I think James will make a great manager. He'll have a top notch staff. He'll get rid of the dead wood around here. The boss gave him carte-blanche in hiring, so he is free to make great salary offers to get the people he wants. Have you ever been given carte-blanche by your boss?

17. We live on a quiet cul-de-sac near the school. It's an ideal location for a young family. The kids can ride their trikes in the street without fear of traffic. And my husband works in the office building down the street so he can get to his office in nothing flat. Would you live on a busy street? How important is proximity to work when you choose a place to live?

18. The dealer was originally asking \$6,000 for the car, but I dickered with him and got him to take \$4,000. The car is nothing to write home about. It is 10 years old and kind of a jalopy. Is it customary to bargain with sellers in your country? Would you dicker with someone at the mall or only in small markets?

19. The company faced a double whammy when wages rose and environmental regulation increased. They had to pay more to their employees and spend more on scrubbers for their smokestacks. Have you ever experienced a double whammy (two bad things happening at once.)

20. Some countries still have draconian laws which require the death sentence for petty offenses. Draconian laws are excessively harsh. Are there any draconian laws in your country?