

FUMC ESL 2-20-20 Advanced Lesson

Read the sayings below and match them with the definitions below. Give an example from your experience or something you have heard about that proves the saying true or untrue.

1. You can't teach old dogs new tricks.
 2. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.
 3. Opportunity only knocks once.
 4. A leopard can't change his spots.
 5. An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure.
 6. Barking dogs seldom bite.
 7. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
 8. Every cloud has a silver lining.
 9. Every man has his price.
 10. Familiarity breeds contempt.
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- A. What may seem beautiful to one person may not seem so to another.
 - B. A little precaution before the crisis makes the situation better than a lot of correction afterwards.
 - C. A person can't change his character, especially if it's bad.
 - D. Every negative situation can result in something positive.
 - E. If you know a person or situation well, you stop respecting them.
 - F. Anyone can be convinced to do something if the reward is high enough.
 - G. People who appear threatening rarely do harm.
 - H. One weak part will ruin the whole thing.
 - I. You will only get chance at a great opportunity, so you should take it.
 - J. It's hard to teach someone a new way of doing something if they have been doing the old way for a long time.

Fill in the blank with **in**, **at** or **to**. Explain the meaning of the sentence.

1. He's a credit _____ his family.
2. Take it one step _____ a time.
3. We acted _____ deference to his wife's wishes.
4. She responded _____ my letter right away.
5. The happy couple walked arm _____ arm through the garden.
6. We adhere _____ a strict non-smoking policy here.
7. He didn't come out and say Charles was a thief, but we knew what he was getting _____.
8. Her work is certainly comparable _____ his.
9. She put the clothes _____ piles on the floor.
10. This class bores me _____ death.
11. My little sister is a pain _____ the neck.
12. We were moved _____ tears by his performance.
13. They are still _____ the dark about what happened.
14. The child ran up the steps three _____ a time.
15. From time _____ time, he turns up at my apartment wanting to talk.
16. The language in the play was awful, and we left _____ disgust.
17. We were sick _____ heart to hear the dog had died.

18. These oysters are not _____ my taste.
19. _____ my chagrin, she accepted my invitation.
20. I'm afraid you have caught me _____ a disadvantage. I wasn't expecting you until tomorrow.
21. I hope you don't object _____ my sitting here.
22. He's _____ for a shock when he shows up at work tomorrow and finds out he's been fired.
23. It was a long drive, but _____ last, we are home.
24. I shudder _____ the prospect of another ten hour drive.
25. The average man _____ the street has little knowledge of or concern for the science of climate change.

Read this story and discuss the questions below.

Mother was very affectionate to me after I was injured. She wasn't always the most attentive parent. In fact, when we kids were young she seemed quite cold. We thought that she might not love us, but now that I'm older, I'm sure she did. My mother was British upper class. And she was not used to the touchy feely American society. She was always quite reserved. In her culture, it was bad manners to show your feelings.

But after my accident, I was forced to move home as I couldn't get around in my apartment with a wheelchair. I saw a side of my mother I had never seen before. She still wasn't gushing over me and slathering me with kisses, but she always gave my shoulder a squeeze when she brought me my breakfast and sat attentively as I told her about my injuries. In the evenings she would sit with me and pat my hand absent-mindedly while we watched TV. I think in some ways Mother missed the affection she observed between American parents and their children. Perhaps at long last, American culture had won her over.

1. Explain what was happening in this story.
2. Describe the feelings this man is discovering in his mother.
3. What evidence shows this mother loves her child?
4. Do you think the accident thawed his mother?
5. Is there a difference in the amount of affection between parents and children from one culture to another?
6. Do your adult children feel comfortable hugging and kissing you?
7. Do you find too much affection embarrassing?
8. Do you find it awkward to greet Americans? Do you know when they'll probably shake your hand and when they'll try to hug you?
9. One thing Americans won't do, but Europeans might, is kiss you on the cheek. When this happens, do you kiss them back? Americans feel really awkward in this situation. We don't know if we should kiss them back? How many times? On one cheek or both?
10. Americans also have awkward moments with Asian cultures that bow. Should we bow back? Obama got in big trouble for bowing to the Saudi Arabian leader. Americans felt he was being subservient. But is it rude not to bow?
11. And Muslim men are also tricky. Americans tend to stick out their hand for a handshake, but some Muslim men don't like to touch women. How do we know? So awkward!