

FUMC ESL 2-6-2020 Advanced Lesson

Pronunciation: Circle the word that doesn't rhyme

should	mould	would
fury	jury	bury
toll	doll	roll
haunt	aunt	flaunt
mint	lint	pint
lose	rose	hose

These words are spelled differently. Do they sound the same? What is the difference in meaning? Words like these that sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings are called HOMOPHONES

nose - knows	pair - pear	feat - feet	flea - flee	side - sighed
martial - marshall	maze - maize	finned - find	muscle - mussel	time - thyme

Match the words above with the meanings below:

another word for corn	a bivalve mollusk like a clam
make someone pay money as a punishment	an herb
warlike	network of interconnecting paths, labyrinth

Read the conversations below one at a time. Then discuss them using the questions at the bottom. After you have discussed, go back and read the conversation a second time.

Conversation 1

Jean: Young people are so selfish these days. My grandchildren don't think of anyone but themselves. When I visit them they spend all their time talking on the phone or texting their friends. They hardly know I am there.

Vera: Some young people are selfish. I'll give you that. But I think you are painting with a broad brush. I know many young people who are very thoughtful. My neighbor's daughter frequently picks up my paper and brings it to my door so I don't have to walk out in the snow. And she comes by often just to check on me and see if I need something. I just adore her.

Jean: I think your young friend is an exception. I bet there aren't one in ten young people who would give an older person the time of day.

Vera: I disagree, Jean. I go out of my way to be friendly with the young people in my neighborhood. Sometimes I wait at the school bus stop with a plate of cookies for them. Many of them have working parents and they go home to an empty house every day. I feel like offering them a warm cookie and some casual conversation makes them feel less lonely. I want them to know someone cares about them. There's a young boy who often comes up to my porch and sits for a while. I make him lemonade and he

tells me about his day. He gets picked on a lot at school and just needs to get his troubles off his chest. I find that very few of the youngsters are selfish.

Explain this conversation. Tell how Jean and Vera feel about young people. Why do you think Vera has a different view of young people than Jean?

Conversation 2

Brenda: Ralph and I had a long conversation with our son Jimmy last night about drugs and alcohol. It worries me that kids are exposed to so much of that. Jimmy went to a party last week and he said most of the kids were drinking alcohol from the parent's bar. These are 13 year old kids. Way too young to drink! Jimmy knows we don't approve of underage drinking. But it's hard for him to turn it down when he sees the popular kids doing it.

Sam: Oh I wouldn't worry too much about that, Brenda. Kids are going to experiment with drugs and alcohol. After all, I did when I was young. They'll figure it out. I think it's better for kids to learn for themselves. I feel like if I'm always on them about drinking and doing drugs, that will just make them want to do it more.

Explain this conversation. How different are Brenda and Sam's views? Which one do you agree more with? Why does Sam feel he shouldn't nag the kids about alcohol and drugs?

Conversation 3

Nora: How is your job? Are you continuing to move up in the company?

Sara: In a word, no. I am so frustrated that I haven't gotten a promotion. My boss tells me I'm doing a fantastic job and said he would promote me if he could. The problem is there are lots of older people working there. They have a few years left before retirement. Until they leave, there are just no job openings.

Nora: That's too bad. I hate it when older people take all the good jobs. I think companies should just fire all the older people to make room for younger people who need those jobs.

Sara: Good idea. It would make sense because they are all making bigger salaries than me. And why should they get big salaries just because they've worked for the company longer. Older people don't need as much money. Most of them already own their homes and their kids are adults and living on their own. What do they have to spend money on? We young people need more money. We have more expenses. Tim and I are stuck in an apartment. We don't make enough to buy a house. And with the baby coming, we really be stretching to pay all our bills.

Nora: People say the older employees do a better job because they have more experience. What a joke! Most of them are hopelessly out of touch with today's technology. The other day one of the guys I work with asked me to show him how to set up a database. Can you imagine?

Sara: Same with me. The woman in the next **cubicle** asked me to help her figure out her new phone. She couldn't figure out how to add a contact. Ridiculous!

Explain this conversation. What is the problem? What is Nora's idea? Explain Sara's viewpoint. What would you say to Nora and Sara if you were an older person working there. Do you agree with any of the points they make? Do you agree with their solution to the problem? Do you have problems like this in your country?