

**Introduce yourself.** Talk about your name. Do you like it? Would you like to change it? Why did your parents choose this name for you? What would you like to change your name to?

**Read the stories. Define the words in bold. Ask questions about things you don't understand. Put the lesson down and tell, in your own words, what happened. Discuss the questions at the end of the article.**

**Story 1:** The city made lots of money from taxes. Some money went to pay bills for city services like fire and police protection. But other city money was **invested** for the future. The city planned to build some new schools and buy more parkland. The city needed someone to manage their money. They hired Derick Frances. They felt he would invest their money so that it would grow.

Unfortunately, the city did not know that Derick Frances had been in prison for **embezzling** from his employer twenty years before. Embezzling means stealing money that belongs to your employer. A **journalist** discovered that Derick Frances was an **embezzler**. The journalist wrote an article for the paper. The headline said, "City Hires Fox to Guard the Henhouse."

This headline is an old saying. Foxes love to be in henhouses because they love to eat chickens. So putting a fox in the henhouse is inviting him to eat all the chickens.

1. What does it mean to "make money grow"?
2. Do you think the journalist used a good headline? Who was the fox?
3. Should Derick have been fired? Do you think Derick should have been given a second chance since his earlier crime was 20 years ago?

**Story 2:** Jack **squirmed** in his seat. He was taking an exam with hundreds of students. The students were seated at long tables. There were many chairs at the tables. Jack felt like he had no **elbow room**. Jack was left handed and his arm kept **bumping** into the person next to him. He could not erase his math mistakes without shaking the whole table. Jack was so uncomfortable that he couldn't **focus** on the exam. He made a poor score.

Jack complained to the person giving the exam. He said it wasn't fair to give a test in such crowded conditions. The test manager told Jack to stop **whining**. He said all the students had the same conditions and many of them made high scores.

1. Is Jack a whiner or does he have a legitimate gripe? Something that is legitimate is legal or just. A gripe is a complaint. A whiner is a complainer.
2. Do you think Jack should have been given a chance to take the test again?
3. Have you taken exams with hundreds of people? Was the situation like this one? Do you do well on exams?

**Story 3:** Ellie arrived at her new college dorm room. She was surprised to find that her roommate had moved one of the small single beds out of the room and **installed** a double bed on her side of the room. This meant that Ellie had very little room for her belongings. Ellie's single bed was pushed up against the wall and she had only a small space to walk beside the bed. She couldn't make room for a **bedside** table with a lamp. This made Ellie angry because she loved to read and study in bed. If she didn't have a lamp, she couldn't read or study in bed at night. Ellie didn't think it was fair for her roommate to take up all the room with a double bed. She decided to tell the dorm manager and insist on a new room.

1. Was Ellie right to be upset?

2. Should she have talked to her roommate before going to the dorm manager? What would you have done in her situation?
3. In most American colleges, you can register for a dorm with a roommate choice. If you don't have a roommate choice, you get pot luck. That is whoever is available. How does this system work in your country? Have you ever had a bad roommate?

**Story 3:** Susan is worried. She is going to Atlanta in a couple of weeks to babysit her grandkids. Susan's daughter, Abby, is a single mom. When Abby has to travel for her job, Susan has to babysit. Susan loves her grandkids, and doesn't mind babysitting. The problem is that the children stay up late at night. In the morning it is hard for them to wake up. Susan tells them to, "**Rise and shine!**", but they are very **groggy**. Susan tries to hurry them, but seldom succeeds. The kids don't worry about being tardy to school. But Susan thinks being late is a bad thing. She wants them to get to school on time. She doesn't like to **nag**, but feels the children must learn to be on time.

1. What should Susan do? Should she try to change her grandkids habits or just ignore it.
2. Should Susan talk to her daughter about the situation?
3. Did your grandparents babysit you? Did they have different rules than your parents.
4. People say all grandparents spoil their grandchildren. Do you think this is true?

**Put these words into the sentence in the correct order**

1. to work every day walks Lisa.
2. didn't go yesterday Paul to work.
3. I a beautiful bird this morning in the garden saw.
4. my umbrella last night in the restaurant I left.
5. many times have been my parents to Tokyo.
6. I in bed this morning my breakfast had.
7. didn't go yesterday to work Paul.
8. too quickly your dinner eat don't.
9. the party very much enjoyed we
10. fifty dollars borrowed from my brother I.