

FUMC ESL 7-2-2020 High Intermediate/ Advanced Online Lesson

Introduce yourself and tell what kind of stories you like to read or watch. Do you like dramas, comedies, documentaries, mysteries, biographies?

Read the beginning chapter of this mystery below.

It was midnight. I was looking for the guy I was supposed to meet on the docks. But it was pitch black out. I could hardly see my hand in front of my face. I heard a shout from my left and turned quickly. Suddenly someone grabbed me from behind. They held me by my shoulders and hustled me forward and onto a boat. They put a hood over my head and thrust me into a room below deck. I fell onto a hard floor and heard the door slam loudly. It was a heavy door, not one I could easily kick down. I jerked the hood off and looked around, but found I was in total blackness. A room with no windows in the bowels of a large boat. I couldn't see a thing. Then slowly, my eyes became accustomed to the dark. There was a very faint light coming from underneath the door.

For hours, I slept and woke without knowing what time it was. Once someone quickly opened the door and threw in a loaf of bread and a jug of water. That was my only sustenance. I thought I would go crazy at first, but over time I became accustomed to my imprisonment. I was resigned to my situation. Whoever captured me obviously cared that I stay alive or they wouldn't have given me food.

I was so disoriented in the dark. I couldn't tell how long I had been down there. But eventually, I heard a diesel engine start up. I could feel movement. We were headed somewhere. That was interesting. Whoever had grabbed me wanted me taken away from here. Why?

After a while, the motor slowed, then stopped. I could hear the anchor chain going out. So we had arrived. What would happen next? Would this be where they throw me overboard? No, if they had wanted me dead they would have thrown me overboard while at sea.

Everything was quiet for a while. In the silence, I dropped off to sleep again. But I was jerked alert by the sound of the door opening. Sunshine pierced the darkness. I was temporarily blinded by the bright light. I stumbled forward. A couple of masked thugs grabbed me under my arms and helped me out. I was on a sailboat. We were anchored in a deserted cove perhaps one hundred yards from a wooded shoreline. They handcuffed me to the mast. I was still captive, but it felt so good to be out of the dark, that I began to feel hopeful. I questioned my guards, but got no response. They were obviously just following instructions. But whose?

1. What was he doing on the docks?
2. Describe his capture.
3. Where was he being held?
4. What sustenance did his captors provide?
5. Why was he disoriented?
6. How did he know he was being moved to another place?

7. What time of day did he get taken from below deck?
8. Who helped him out?
9. Where were they anchored?
10. How did they keep him from escaping?
11. How did he feel?
12. What did the guards tell him?

Grammar: The prefix "dis" means "not" or "the opposite of." Take the words in the table, add a "dis" in front and place them in the correct sentence.

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|--------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| appear | agree | approve | appoint | cover | courage | connect |
|--------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|

1. We are moving tomorrow, so please _____ the electricity and gas.
2. They often fight. He says one thing and she says another. They always _____.
3. I set my purse down on this table and now it's gone. I don't understand how it could just _____.
4. My daughter is struggling to learn her multiplication tables. Please don't fuss at her. I don't want you to _____ her. I want her to know she can succeed.
5. I talked to several people at American Express, but no one could _____ why they cancelled my credit card.
6. My parents _____ of my brother's new girlfriend. She dresses in really weird clothes and she doesn't have very good manners.
7. My brother often _____ my parents in his choice of girlfriends. They are so hopeful he will find some nice girl to like, but he always chooses the wild ones.

VERBS: GROW, GREW, HAS GROWN

Carol: Your dog is so big! I remember seeing him last year. He looked so small.

Dell: Yes, our puppy has grown by leaps and bounds.

Leslie: My older brother and I have grown apart over the years. We don't have much in common. He's single with no kids. I'm married with three children. We have taken different paths.

Lulu: That happened with my sister. Growing up we were close. But once we were grown, she moved to a different state. And we just drifted apart.

Are you still close with your siblings? Have you grown apart with any of them?

Jan: My stylist cut my hair way too short. I don't like it.

Sara: The good thing is hair grows back fast.

Rosie: Your daughter is so pretty!

Cal: Thank you. Yes, she has grown into a beautiful young lady.

Rosie: I brought some clothes my kids have outgrown. I thought you're young sons might be able to wear them.

Cal: Thanks. They might be a little big right now, but they will grow into them before long.

Cam: I would really like to have a new cell phone.

Tanya: Why don't you get one?

Cam: I asked my parents for a new phone. Do you know what they said? "Money doesn't grow on trees."

Tanya: That's funny. My parents have the same expression. And when I buy things, Mom always says, "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Cam: My Dad always tells me that when he and Mom were first married they were, "poor as church mice." He loves to talk about how poor they were growing up. It's almost like he's proud to have been poor.

Tanya: Oh yeah. My parents too. They love to tell me how lucky I am because Dad makes really good money now. They tell me that I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth. They act like it's a bad thing to be born to parents who are wealthy.

1. Does this conversation sound like something you and your friends would say?
2. Have your parents ever told you about growing up poor?
3. Did your parents teach you any sayings about money?

Sandra: Bill is kind of strange isn't he. He rarely talks and seems to avoid people.

Suzy: Bill can seem strange at first. But I grew to like Bill over the years we worked together.

Have you ever met someone who you didn't care for at first, but grew to like?

Tam: I worry about the economy. A growing number of businesses are laying off workers.

Deb: The politicians think cutting taxes will grow the economy, but I'm not so sure.

Tara: How's your new business doing?

Liz: We did well at first. But suddenly we have a lot of new customers.

Tara: That's a good thing, isn't it?

Liz: It should be. But we're experiencing some growing pains as we get more customers. It's hard to keep up with the orders without hiring new employees. But until the orders are filled, we don't get paid and I don't have the money to hire new workers. It's a real dilemma.

What is the dilemma Liz has?

Lisa: I love these homegrown tomatoes. There is nothing better. You grow a lot of vegetables here.

Bev: The growing season is much longer here because of the climate, so we grow a lot more food than states in colder areas.

Is your home area known for growing lots of fruit and vegetables? What kinds of things are grown in your home area?

Beth: The concert tonight raises money for the food bank. It's a good cause.

Tony: Plus, the main artists performing are homegrown jazz musicians. They all grew up near here. I like supporting our local entertainers.

Tina: I'm worried about my daughter. She's five years old and still sucks her thumb.

Doctor: I wouldn't worry about it. She'll grow out of it before long.

Mom: Tim, stop talking and eat. Your food is growing cold.

Tim: Sorry Mom, but I had an ice cream sundae at Lacy's house. I'm afraid it spoiled my appetite.