

## FUMC ESL 10-8-2020 High Intermediate and Advanced Online Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from, where you live now and answer this question: Who did you **look up to** and **want to be like** when you were young?

### VOCABULARY

**role:** a) a character acting a part EX: In the movie, she played the role of the villain. He played the role of Alexander Hamilton in the play.  
b) the part that a person plays in society or family EX: Each of us has a role in helping him recover from addiction. After her husband left her, she played the **dual role** of mother and father. She challenged the traditional roles assigned to women.

**role model:** someone who you admire or try to be like EX: Professional athletes need to be aware that they are role models for youth.

**pricey:** expensive EX: Those cars are nice, but pricey. We love going to that restaurant, though it is a little pricey.

**partial:** a) not complete EX: Her latest book was judged a partial success. It did not attract the attention of her earlier works. These plants grow best in partial shade. The run down autos were partially exposed from the road.  
b) favoring on person or thing over another EX: Mother was always partial to my younger brother. I have always been partial to fried chicken. It's one of my favorite foods.

**impartial:** treating all groups equally EX: A referee must be impartial. In the country's first democratic election, the U.N. appointed impartial observers to guarantee there was no cheating.

**ban:** to forbid people from doing something EX: The city imposed a smoking ban in all public buildings. Certain pain killers have been banned as they are extremely addictive. After her conviction, she was banned from being around children. I wish restaurants would ban cell phones.

### Discuss:

1. What would you like to see a ban on?
2. What role do you play in your family? chef, breadwinner, teacher, cleaner, caregiver, disciplinarian, manager
3. Do you agree that smoking should be banned in all public places?
4. Do you agree that women should be banned in serving in combat positions in the military?
5. Do you feel like your parents were partial to you or one of your siblings?
6. Do you enjoy going to pricey restaurants or does it make you feel guilty to spend a lot of money on food?

### Students read the conversations with a partner.

**Jan:** My son idolizes all of these professional football players. I really worry about that because so many of them do not lead lives that I want my son to follow. Many of them drink and party too much. And several have been arrested for using drugs or carrying guns.

**Linda:** Yes, helping your children choose good role models is difficult. My daughter admires many female singers. Though I admire their singing talent, I don't approve of their bad language and the skimpy clothes they wear on stage. They sometimes dress like porn stars. Of course, my daughter thinks that is the way she should dress. It causes many arguments between us. I wish these singing stars would be more aware that they are role models for thirteen and fourteen year old girls. They should take their role as stars more seriously.

1. What are Jan and Linda worried about? Is this a worry you share?
2. Do athletes and stars have a responsibility to be good role models?
3. Are there any athletes or stars that you think DO serve as good role models?

**Tom:** Though steroids are banned in sports, my son really wants to use them. He is very coordinated and good at sports, but he is smaller than most kids his age. He wants to use steroids so he can get bigger muscles. He feels he can't compete because he is so small.

**Sara:** That's really sad. I know a young woman who feels the same way. She is very coordinated and as a young teenager was a good volleyball player. But the other girls have grown faster and developed stronger bodies. This young woman is looking for a way to be competitive. It's sad that our children feel the need to use drugs to enhance their abilities.

**Tom:** I sympathize with my son. I matured late. In high school I was too small to play football. I hated it that my friends were all on the team and playing a game I loved. But I was on the sidelines. By the time I was twenty, I was over six feet tall and could have been a star on my high school team. I've always felt it wasn't fair.

**Sara:** I know what you mean. But life isn't fair, is it. Some of us are born prettier than others or smarter than others. We just have to use the talents we have. I felt like I was not as smart as some of my friends. It made me work harder. In the end, I've been more successful than most of my friends because things didn't come easy for me. I always worked twice as hard to keep up.

1. Why does Tom's son want to use steroids?
2. Why does Tom sympathize with his son?
3. Do Tom or Sara approve of kids using steroids?
4. What point does Sara make?
5. As a teenager, did you ever feel life had not been fair to you?
6. At my kids high school there was a lot of pressure to be athletic or smart. Every kid wanted to fit into one of those groups. That was where the most popular kids were. But fortunately, the high school worked hard to provide other opportunities for the kids who were neither great athletes or brilliant. There was a very good choir, band and orchestra program. The art programs won awards and there were clubs for kids who liked robotics or theatre tech. Still, there were kids who **fell through the cracks** and didn't fit in anywhere. These were the kids who often turned to drugs. The "drug crowd" was the last resort for those who didn't fit in. Did you feel a lot of pressure when you were a teen? Do you think kids feel more pressure now than you did when you were in school? What should we do about those kids who fall through the cracks?

