

FUMC ESL 11-5-2020 High Intermediate and Advanced Online Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Tell something about your home town.

Pronunciation Practice: We'll work on some of the hardest sounds for ESL students.

1--Th: **At the beginning of the word** - this, that, these, those, they, them, think, thing
In the middle of the word - father, together, brother, breathe, athlete, birthday, anything
At the end of the word - bath, wealth, cloth, fourth, birth, width, length, mouth, growth

2--Short I: Practice these word pairs

live - leave	sit - seat	fit - feet	hit - heat	fill - feel	crick - creek	skim - scheme
hip - heap	fist - feast	tin - teen	sick - seek	risen - reason	pitch - peach	knit - neat

3--L and R: Practice these word pairs

arrive - alive	fly - fry	light - right	collect - correct	glamour - grammar	lane - rain	leader - reader
locker - rocker	lot - rot	play - pray	clash - crash	clown - crown	flee - free	belly - berry

4--L and V: Practice these word pairs

vest - west	wet - vet	verse - worse	wary - vary	vow - wow	vile - wily	whale - veil
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5--WH: whale, whether, who, why, what, while, whisper, whistle, whirl, whiskey, whip

Phrases Used in Conversation: Read each entry. Ask questions about the meaning.

1. **As a matter of fact:** This is a common expression used as a confirmation. EX: I heard you were looking for a job. **As a matter of fact** I am. EX: Your friend is very handsome. Is he single? **As a matter of fact**, he is.
2. You can express the same meaning with **actually**. I heard you were looking for a job. i am actually.
3. **Tell me about yourself:** This is a common way to ask people about themselves without asking specific questions. EX: Tell me about yourself. Well, I was born in India and immigrated to the U.S. in my twenties. I've lived here for ten years now. i speak three languages besides English. I have a master's degree in educational technology. I am the educational technology specialist for our school district.
4. **Thanks so much:** A common way to express thanks. EX: Thanks so much for the help with my resume. It really made a difference.
5. **To have in store for:** This phrase indicates an unknown situation . It can be good or bad. EX: I'm having a professional designer come up with a plan to update my kitchen. It will be interesting to see what she has in store for me. EX: My school principal asked to see me

this morning. He sounded very serious. I wonder what he has in store for me. I hope he's not going to assign me any extra students.

6. **Are you kidding me?** This sentence suggests surprise at what is being said. EX: Hey, let's go dancing tonight. Are you kidding me? I have a final exam tomorrow. I have to study. EX: Jean is dating Randy now. Are you kidding me? I thought she couldn't stand Randy.
7. **Even if:** Introduces a fact that is hard to believe. EX: I'm going to finish this bowl of ice cream even if it makes me sick. EX: I'm going swimming tomorrow, even if it rains.
8. **Grab a bite:** means get something to eat. EX: Would you like to grab a bite before we catch the train?
9. **What's it like?** To ask for a description of a person, place or thing. EX: You live in China! What's it like? EX: You know the president? What's he like? EX: I can't believe you drive a Jaguar. What's it like to drive?
10. **Come on:** is a way to say someone is exaggerating. EX: I need to lose at least ten pounds! Come on, Carol. You look great. You are not overweight. EX: Your sister is so smart. She's a genius. Come on, she isn't that smart. She just studies the lesson ahead of time. It makes her look like an expert.

Read and Discuss:

Yesterday was election day. As I write this on Wednesday, we still don't know who our president for the next four years will be. American elections are not decided by popular vote, but by electoral vote. We have something called the electoral college.

On December 14th, the electoral college will meet to formally elect the president. The number of electoral votes for each state is based on their population. So each state gets the same number of electors as the number of House seats they have plus their two senators. In all but two states (Maine and Nebraska) the winner of the popular vote for that state gets all the electors. This is a "winner take all" system. Maine and Nebraska split their electors according to the percentage of the vote each candidate gets.

This system creates a condition where a candidate can win the popular vote, as Hillary Clinton did in 2016, but lose the presidency because the other candidate won the states with big numbers of electors. Texas has 38 electors. Though only 52% of Texans voted for Donald Trump, he gets all 38 electors.

Many people feel this is an unfair system and believe we should get rid of the electoral college and just go by popular vote. But it is doubtful that this system will be changed because it favors Republicans over Democrats. It also favors heavily rural states. Every state, no matter how small is guaranteed 3 electors by the constitution. Thus states like Montana, with a very small, mainly rural population gets more electors than they would otherwise be entitled to. Getting rid of the electoral college would require a constitutional amendment. And that requires approval by 2/3 of the states. So we are probably stuck with the electoral college.

1. What questions do you have about the way we elect a president?
2. Do you have other questions about how our government works?
3. The U.S. is very divided currently. The two political parties have very different beliefs. It makes it very difficult to get along with people who are of a different political party. Do you have this situation in your country right now?
4. What are the main issues that people are concerned about in your country?
5. Has America ever had a woman president? Has your country?

6. How many American presidents can you name?
7. Our constitution says you must be 35 to run for president, but there is no upper age limit. Both candidates for president are older men. Donald Trump is 74. Joe Biden is 77. Do you think these men are too old to be president? What are the age limits of leaders in your country? Do you think an upper age limit is a good thing?