

FUMC ESL 12-10-2020 High Intermediate and Advanced Online Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now.

Most of the students did not finish the last page of last Thursday's lesson, so I copied it onto this lesson. I'm sorry if you did this last time.

Stacy: Will you and Tom have children?

Wendy: I don't know. We're kind of ambivalent about it. Neither of us are just dying to have a child. We have such a quiet and peaceful life. But my parents expect us to have their grandchildren. They pressure us about it.

What does Wendy mean when she says, "They pressure us about it"?

Do your parents expect you to have children? Do they pressure you about it? How would you feel if your kids told you they didn't want to have children?

Paula: I don't think Ted will ever amount to much. He never seems to finish what he starts. He didn't finish college. He has quit every job he has ever had. And he's thrice divorced. You can't get ahead in life if you can't stay the course.

Clarissa: My father used to say that success was just a matter of hanging on after all others had let go. Perseverance wins out. That's a lesson Ted hasn't learned.

Are you a person who perseveres?

How do you know when it's time to give up on a project?

Taylor: The doctor agreed to release Mother from the hospital, on the condition that we hire round the clock nurses to care for her. I want her to come home, but hiring nurses will be a financial burden for the whole family. None of us can really afford that expense right now. I'm not sure what to do.

Sammie: That's a real dilemma. I guess the insurance company will pay for her hospital stay, but not for home care.

Taylor: That's exactly right. Financially, it's better for her to stay in the hospital. But she hates being in the hospital and it's hard for us to visit her every day what with working and taking care of the baby. Yet I can't leave her here at home without someone looking after her.

Sammie: I know a friend who just lost her job. She was working as a nurse's assistant at a doctor's office, but the doctor retired. She might be able to help out on a part-time basis until she finds another job. You would only have to pay her for the hours during the day when you and your wife were working. Would you like me to give her a call and see if she's interested in the job?

Describe Taylor's dilemma.

What solution does Sammie offer?

Have you ever had a dilemma like this?

Does the government pay for home health care for seniors in your country?

Explain what's funny about these quotes, then answer the question.

1. I'm on a seafood diet. I see food, I eat it.

Do lots of people diet in your home country? What kinds of diets have you tried.

2. As a child, my family's menu consisted of two choices....take it or leave it.
Did your Mom make you eat whatever she cooked or did you get to decide what to eat?

3. My favorite machine at the gym is the vending machine.
How do you exercise?

4. I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.
What's your favorite day of the week?

5. A woman in labor suddenly called out, "shouldn't, wouldn't, couldn't, didn't, can't".
"Don't worry," said the doctor. "Those are just contractions."

Which of these jokes do you like the best?

TOEFL Vocabulary: Read the paragraph below. Find an adjective in the word bank that best describes the person in the paragraph.

dominant	deferential	dejected		eccentric
extravagant	contrite	gullible	impulsive	complacent

1-Dan accepts everything people tell him and everything he reads as the absolute truth.Lots of people at work make fun of poor Dan because he is so easily tricked. He assumes everyone is completely honest. You would describe Dan as _____.

2-Gloria spends a lot of money on very expensive clothing and jewelry. She is always dressed in very sophisticated and expensive clothes and always wears diamond necklaces and rings. She even wears diamonds when she takes her kids to the park. Most of us mothers wear sweat pants and sneakers to the park, but not Gloria. I feel sorry for her husband who has to pay for all of these high dollar purchases. You would describe Gloria as _____.

3-I really like my daughter's boyfriend, Jason. He is so respectful to my husband and I. He doesn't offer an opinion of his own, but asks us what we think about everything. Then he compliments us and says he agrees with our opinion. He seems to feel that, as a young person, he should follow the guidance of his elders. Jason is _____.

4-My next door neighbor is quite odd. To begin with she has about twenty cats that roam in and out of her house. She sometimes dresses them in little outfits. And speaking of outfits, she wears the most amazing get ups. I don't know where she even finds these clothes she wears. They look like something from the eighteenth century. She has some odd mannerisms as well. When the dogs in my neighborhood start to bark at night, she comes out and barks back at them. And she will frequently stare at us as if she doesn't remember who we are. My neighbor is definitely _____.

5-Larry is having a bad week. First he failed two of his courses at college and will have to repeat them next semester. Then he was fired from his part-time job as a delivery driver because he got a speeding ticket. And just yesterday, his girlfriend for the past year dumped him. It is safe to say that Larry is feeling very _____.

6-Sandra apologized repeatedly for backing into our car. She feels so guilty and sad because it was our brand new car. We had only had it for a couple of days. I told her not to worry about it.

I said that everyone makes mistakes. But she continues to feel bad about it and insists on trying to make it up to us. Sandra is very _____.

7-Jane definitely wears the pants in her marriage. Her husband, Jon wouldn't dare to do anything without asking his wife's permission. She makes all the decisions in the marriage. If Jane tells Jim it's time to sell their house and move, the next day Jim puts up a "For Sale" sign. He is very obedient to his wife's wishes. And Jane could be described as _____.

8-My son seems to think that now that he has a college degree, people will beat a path to his door with job offers. He believes everyone will want to hire him and he doesn't need to work to get interviews. He seems very self-satisfied. You could say he is a bit _____.

9-Kyle and Claire made a quick decision at the age of eighteen and ran off to get married. They weren't able to afford college and both have dead end jobs that don't pay much. And to add another bad decision onto the first, they decided to start a family right away. They are twenty now and already have two children. While most of their friends are going to parties and enjoying their youth, Kyle and Claire live in a small apartment with two young children and are saddled with debt. Now, they are wondering if they have been much too _____.

10-Bill put on his brand new \$500 shoes and headed out for work. But on the way to his car, he realized he had stepped in dog poo. His brand new shoes were now covered with icky, brown, smelly dog poo. Bill knew where it came from. His neighbor had three large dogs and he always walked them at night. The neighbor always let the dogs relieve themselves on Bill's yard. Bill had talked to him about it, but the problem continued. Bill was at the end of his rope. He was _____.