

## FUMC ESL 6-3-2021 High Intermediate and Advanced Online Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Answer: Name something you don't have in your house, but could definitely use.

### VOCABULARY

**Un** and **In** are two very common prefixes that are used in English to make a word mean the opposite. For example, we say: I am *able* to swim. I am *unable* to swim. The first means you can swim. The second means you can't swim.

We say **unable**, but **inability**.

I'm *unable* to attend the party.

I have an *inability* to remember names.

"Unable" in the first sentence is an adjective. "Inability" in the second sentence is a noun.

Even more confusing, we have the word **enable**. Enable means to make someone able to do something. Enable is a verb. EX: A bird's wings *enable* it to fly. The extra money will *enable* us to do some traveling.

Enable can also mean to help someone to continue in destructive behavior. For example, if your child does drugs and you give them money to buy more drugs, you are *enabling* them.

You are an *enabler*. *Enabler* is a noun. You are making it possible for them to continue to buy drugs. EX: Mom enables Brad's addiction by giving him money.

Can you give an example of someone you know who enables destructive behavior?

And of course you have **disable** which means to put something out of action. It functions as a verb. EX: I *disabled* the camera on my laptop because I didn't want people to spy on me. And you have the noun, **disabled** that refers to people that are handicapped. EX: Everyone must take the stairs except the *disabled* who may use the elevator. **Disability** is also a noun referring to the condition that handicaps someone. EX: Her *disability* makes it difficult to walk long distances.

Though UN and IN are the most common prefixes that mean NOT, they aren't the only ones. We just looked at DIS in the word disabled. We also use IL, as in illegal. If something is illegal, it is not legal. If it is illogical, it is not logical. In other words it doesn't make sense. Occasionally, we also use IR as in irreplaceable, meaning not replaceable. EX: I'm so sad I broke the crystal vase. It is irreplaceable. They don't make them like that anymore. And we also use IM as in impossible meaning not possible.

Tell what you think these words probably mean. immature, imperfect, inadequate, indefinite, irresponsible, irrelevant, disappear, dissatisfied, unlawful, unforgiving.

### Read the conversations below and answer the questions.

**Teacher:** Jack is very **immature**. If he starts kindergarten this year, I think you'll find he won't do well. He is a very young 5 year old with a birthday in August. I recommend you hold him back this year and let him start kindergarten next year.

**Parent:** I have heard boys **mature** slower than girls. Aren't all the boys in his pre-school class immature?

**Teacher:** It is usually true that girls mature faster than boys, but Jack is not as mature as the other boys in his class. He has trouble sitting still. He often gets up and runs around the room

during story time. He has a hard time controlling his impulses. I strongly suggest letting him have another year of pre-school.

1. What does the teacher recommend? Why?
2. What does the parent ask the teacher?
3. What problems does Jack have?
4. What does "controlling his impulses" mean?
5. It is very common in the U.S. to "hold back" children who are born late in the summer. Is this done in your country? Would you ever hold back a child? This is sometimes called "giving the gift of time". Do you think holding a child back is a gift or a penalty?

**Sandy:** I bought this lovely vase while on my trip. I really love it.

**Jane:** It looks very expensive.

**Sandy:** I got it for a bargain price because it is **imperfect**.

**Jane:** Really, I don't see any **imperfection** in it.

**Sandy:** If you look closely, you'll notice a tiny chip at the bottom.

**Jane:** Oh yes, I see it now. That is so small that no one will ever notice.

**Sandy:** That's what I think. I will turn that side to the wall and no one will ever know.

1. What did Sandy buy?
2. Why did she get a bargain price?
3. What is the imperfection?
4. How will Sandy hide the imperfection?
5. Have you ever bought something that had an imperfection?

**Bev:** Because of the drought, the food supply for the wild birds is **inadequate**. I fear many will die.

**Jon:** Many people have hung bird feeders in the trees to help with the food supply.

**Bev:** I tried a bird feeder, but the squirrels stole all the bird seed. Stupid squirrels!

**Jon:** I'm not fond of squirrels. They take every nut off of our pecan trees before they are ripe. We don't get a single pecan. Some people think squirrels are cute, but I think they are nuisances.

**Bev:** I may try a different kind of bird feeder that is "squirrel proof". And I plan to install a water fountain in my yard so the birds will have fresh water. I really want to support the wild birds. They are threatened by the weather, but also by people's cats. I want to make sure they have an **adequate** supply of food and water.

1. Why will the food supply be inadequate?
2. What have many people done to try to help?
3. Why did Bev's bird feeder not work?
4. How does Jon feel about squirrels? Why?
5. What will Bev do to try to help the birds?
6. What are some threats to wild birds?
7. Do you have many birds near your house? Do you enjoy watching them or do you feel they are a nuisance?

**Stu:** My guitar classes were **indefinitely** postponed due to Covid. Now that the Covid cases are much lower, I hope they will begin again. I really miss being around the people in my class.

**Linda:** I know what you mean. I have felt very isolated the past year. And I have missed being able to attend concerts. Austin is such a great place to hear live music, but most of the music scene was shut down due to Covid.

**Stu:** Are you and Paul planning to go to ACL this fall? Tickets are on sale now.

**Linda:** Remind me what ACL is.

**Stu:** ACL is the Austin City Limits music festival. It happens every fall. Last year, of course, it was cancelled. But this year, it is happening. George Strait and Stevie Nicks will play, along with many other great musicians. We are **definitely** going. I bought tickets already.

**Linda:** Oh yes, of course. I would love to go, but our plans for fall are **indefinite**. Paul may be traveling to Europe for work. If he goes, he'll be there for a couple of months. I'll go along and sightsee while he works. Of course, that depends on Europe opening up to Americans.

**Stu:** You should buy ACL tickets anyway. If you don't go to Europe, you can come with Dale and I. If you go to Europe, you can sell the tickets for more than you paid for them.

**Linda:** That's a good idea. I'll definitely try to buy some.

1. What does Stu hope will begin again?
2. How has Linda felt the past year? What has she missed being able to attend?
3. What is ACL?
4. Who is definitely going to ACL?
5. Why are Linda's plans for fall indefinite?
6. Why does Stu recommend buying ACL tickets now?
7. Have you ever been to ACL or any other live music performances?
8. If you are interested in going to ACL this October, this is the link for tickets. But they are going fast! <https://www.aclfestival.com/>

**Sara:** I feel **inadequate** when I'm around my old college friends. They have all achieved so much. Most of them have terrific jobs and make great salaries. I'm still a struggling artist that can barely pay my rent.

**Jen:** Sara, you have no reason to feel **inadequate**. Your art is wonderful. You have had several gallery shows and the prices for your paintings keep going up. I'm sure you'll be famous someday. And besides, how much money you make is no measure of success.

**Sara:** I know you're right. I really love painting. It's nice to have work that I enjoy doing. And I am getting recognized more and more. But still, it's hard to hear them talk about jetting to Malta for a quick vacation or sending their kids to expensive summer camps.

**Jen:** I get that. But you are the only one of all your friends who are creating something that will be loved and appreciated for years. You are adding value to people's lives. I hung your painting in my living room and I look at it every day. It is so vibrant and full of life. It makes me happy and makes me think of you.

1. Who does Sara feel inadequate around? Why does she feel inadequate?
2. Why does Jen say Sara shouldn't feel inadequate?
3. Do you agree that how much money you make is no measure of success?
4. What is hard to hear for Sara?
5. Jen tells Sara, she is the only one who is ...
6. What do you think about the way Jen responded to Sara's feelings? What would you have said to Sara?
7. Do you ever feel inadequate around certain groups of friends?

**Shelley:** I just saw Dan. He's looking for work again.

**Taylor:** I thought he just got a job.

**Shelley:** He was offered a great job in sales for a company that made laundry machines for businesses. But he discovered that the machines his company sold used huge amounts of water and electricity to run. Once a business bought the machines, they quickly discovered their water and electricity bills went way up. He made lots of sales because the machines were

cheap, but his customers came back with complaints about the low energy efficiency of the machines. It made Dan very uncomfortable. So he quit.

**Taylor:** Isn't what his company did illegal?

**Shelley:** No, the company didn't advertise their machines as high efficiency. So they weren't breaking any laws. But they were definitely unethical.

1. What was wrong with Dan's job?
2. What is the difference between illegal and unethical?
3. Do you think Dan did the right thing?
4. What would you do if your boss asked you do something unethical, but not illegal?