

FUMC ESL 8-12-2021 High Intermediate and Advanced

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Who do you **resemble**?

Hint: Who do you look like?

Which of these sentences is incorrect? Sometimes just one of the sentences of the three is correct, sometimes two are correct. Put a check by the correct sentences in each group.

1. Both men are in jail in the moment.
2. Both men are in jail at the moment.
3. At present, both men are in jail.

4. I wasn't aware of that it was so late.
5. I wasn't aware of the time.
6. I wasn't aware that it was so late

7. We are sorry about the delay.
8. We are sorry that the train is delayed
9. We are sorry about that the train is delayed.

10. I was surprised at her strength.
11. I was surprised that she was so strong
12. I was surprised of her strength.

13. He insisted on being paid.
14. He insisted to be paid.
15. He insisted on to be paid.

16. I don't like the idea of to get married in December.
17. I don't like the idea of getting married in December.
18. I don't like the idea of get married in December.

19. The police questioned me about what I saw.
20. The police question me what I saw.
21. The police questioned me of what I saw.

22. I'm interested to learning about my grandfather.
23. I'm interested in learning about my grandfather.
24. I'm interested to learn about my grandfather.

25. How does he look like?
26. What does he look like?
27. Who does he resemble of?

28. See you on next week.
29. See you next week.
30. See you in next week.

Excerpt from WISHTREE:

Chapter 1

It's hard to talk to trees. We're not big on chitchat.

That's not to say we can't do amazing things, things you'll probably never do.

Cradle downy owlets. Steady flimsy tree forts. Photosynthesize.

But talk to people? Not so much.

And just try to get a tree to tell a good joke.

Trees do talk to some folks, the ones we know we can trust. We talk to daredevil squirrels. We

talk to hardworking worms. We talk to flashy butterflies and bashful moths.

Birds? they're delightful. Frogs? Grumpy, but good-hearted. Snakes? Terrible gossips.

Trees? Never met a tree I didn't like.

Well, okay. There's that sycamore down at the corner. Yakkity-yakkity-yak, that one.

So do we ever talk to people? Actually talk, that most people-y of people skills?

Good question.

Trees have a rather complicated relationship with people, after all. One minute you're hugging us. The next minute you're turning us into tables and tongue depressors.

Perhaps you're wondering why the fact that trees talk wasn't covered in science class, during those *Mother Nature Is Our Friend* lessons.

Don't blame your teachers. They probably don't know that trees can talk. Most people don't.

Nonetheless, if you find yourself standing near a particularly friendly-looking tree on a particularly lucky-feeling day, it can't hurt to listen up.

Trees can't tell jokes.

But we can certainly tell stories.

And if all you hear is the whisper of leaves, don't worry. Most trees are introverts at heart.

chitchat-informal conversation about unimportant things

If you **cradle** something, you hold it closely in your arms. A baby owl is **downy** because it has very soft feathers.

daredevil-someone who likes doing dangerous things

bashful is another word for shy

1-Why does wishtree say trees have a complicated relationship with people?

2-People who care deeply about the environment are called "treehuggers" by people who don't. It is meant as an insult, but most environmentalists are proud to be called "treehuggers."

How do you feel when trees are cut down to make way for buildings?

Chapter 2

Names Red, by the way.

Maybe we've met? Oak tree near the elementary school? Big, but not too? Sweet shade in the summer, fine color in the fall?

I am proud to say that I'm a northern red oak also known as *Quercus rubra*. Red oaks are one of the most common trees in North America. In my neighborhood alone, hundreds upon hundreds of us are weaving our roots into the soil like knitters on a mission.

I have leather leaves and reddish-gray bark, and if I do say so myself, the best fall color on the street. "Red" doesn't begin to do me justice. Come October, I look like I'm ablaze. It's a miracle the fire department doesn't try to hose me down every autumn.

You might be surprised to learn that all red oaks are named Red. Likewise, all sugar maples are called Sugar and all junipers are called Juniper. That's how it is in the tree world. We don't need names to tell one another apart. It's a good thing we trees don't attend school. Imagine how confused the teacher would get with all the Reds, Sugars and Junipers.

1-Red says trees aren't good at telling jokes. But Red did tell a joke in this chapter. Can you find it?

2-Why would teachers get confused if trees went to school?

Chapter 3

My friends call me Red, and you can, too. But for a long time people in the neighborhood have called me the "wishtree."

There's a reason for this. Every year on the first day of May, people come from all over town to adorn me with scraps of paper, bits of fabric, snippets of yarn, and the occasional gym sock. Each offering represents a dream, a desire, a longing.

Whether draped, tossed, or tied with a bow: They're all hopes for something better.

Wishtrees have a long and honorable history, going back centuries. There are many in Ireland, but you can find wishtrees all over the world.

For the most part, people are kind when they visit me. They seem to understand that a tight knot might keep me from growing the way I need to grow. They are gentle with my new leaves, careful with my exposed roots.

After people write their hope on a rag or piece of paper, they tie it onto one of my branches.

Usually they whisper the wish out loud.

It's traditional to wish on the first of May, but people stop by throughout the year.

My, oh my, the things I've heard:

I wish for a flying skateboard.

I wish for a world without war.

I wish for a week without clouds.

I wish for the world's biggest candy bar.

I wish for an A on my geography test.

I wish my teacher weren't so grumpy in the morning.

I wish my pet rabbit could talk.

I wish my dad would get better.

I wish I weren't hungry.

I wish I weren't so lonely.

I wish I knew what to wish for.

So many wishes. Grand and goofy, selfish and sweet.

It's an honor, all the hopes bestowed upon my tired old limbs.

Although by the end of May Day, I look like someone dumped a huge basket of trash on top of me.

bestowed-to give someone something valuable or important

1-How does wishtree feel about all the wishes bestowed on him?

2-Wishtrees exist in many cultures. They exist in Scotland, Hong Kong, Thailand, Argentina, to name a few. Do you know about wishtrees? Do you have them in your country? Have you ever brought a wish to a wishtree?

Last week, my group talked a bit about binomials. These are phrases with two nouns or two adjectives that must always be said in the correct order. They are a form of idiom.

For example, we say we are **head over heels** in love. It wouldn't make sense to say heels over head. Here are some other examples. Take a guess at the meaning.

1. Always check the **lost and found** for missing items.
2. It was a **life or death** situation.
3. The teacher posted a list of **dos and dont's**
4. We gave the apartment a **floor to ceiling** cleaning.
5. He has grown by **leaps and bounds**.
6. As a salesman, you never know how much money you will make in any month. It's **feast or famine**.
7. My boss suggested I go to the company **meet and greet**.
8. Aunt Elsie is **near and dear** to my heart.
9. I really love the **hustle and bustle** of city life.
10. I should have known not to invite Tim's old girlfriend to his wedding. Oh well, **live and learn**.