

FUMC ESL 3-31-2022 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. If you are in a "tough spot," you are in an awkward or difficult situation. EX: If my car loan isn't approved, I'm going to be in a tough spot because I don't have enough cash to pay for the car. Tell about a time when you were in a tough spot.

READING COMPREHENSION: This story has lots of idioms. Read the story and talk about the meaning of the bold words and phrases.

Skippy **hits the road**.

Nina always took her little dog, Skippy, for a walk **come rain or shine**. The dog was a strange looking thing. **To my way of thinking**, he was the ugliest dog I had ever seen. But Nina thought Skippy was beautiful. **Beauty is in the eye of the beholder**, I guess. Nina was **devoted** to Skippy. One day on their walk, the little dog **spied** a rabbit running into the woods and **took off** after him. Nina called Skippy to come back, but he was too excited and didn't listen. Nina tried to follow the dog, but quickly got lost in the woods. Nina finally found her way out of the woods, but Skippy was **nowhere to be seen**. I told her the dog would **find his way home**, but that didn't stop her worrying. After several hours, her **mood darkened**. She was **broken-hearted**, afraid Skippy was lost.

- 1-Did the author of the story think Skippy was a good-looking dog?
- 2-What did Skippy chase after?
- 3-What did the author tell Nina Skippy would do?
- 4-What was Nina afraid of?

Nina **moped around** for days. **Life just wasn't the same** for Nina without her **pal**, Skippy. Nina went back to the woods every day. She called Skippy's name and listened for his bark. But she heard only silence. A few weeks went by and things **looked grim** for Skippy. Nina's friends **began to wonder** if some kind of animal in the woods had killed Skippy. They were sure if he were alive, Skippy would not abandon Nina. They knew if Skippy were able to, he would find his way home. After a while, Nina's friends thought Skippy was a **goner**. But Nina wouldn't **give up on** Skippy.

- 1-Did Nina's friends lose hope that Skippy would return?
- 2-Did Nina agree with her friends that she should give up on Skippy?

We tried to **cheer up** Nina by taking her out to dinner and to the movies. But Nina **couldn't get her mind off** Skippy. Many friends suggested Nina get a new dog. There were plenty of dogs at the shelter that would be glad to have a home. But Nina **wouldn't have it**. No dog could ever replace Skippy in her heart. We gave up on trying to get Nina to **move on**.

1-How did Nina's friends try to cheer her up? Did it work?

Then, a month later, Nina got a phone call from her vet. A man had brought in a dog for a check up. It was Skippy. The vet questioned the man about where he found Skippy. The man said he saw the dog on the side of the road one day several weeks ago. He was afraid the dog would get **run over**, so he stopped and picked him up. The man had been wanting a dog and this one seemed friendly and he decided to keep him. The man was a **long haul trucker** who drove from one side of the country to the other. He took Skippy along on his trip. Skippy seemed to enjoy riding in the truck. He would put his little paws up on the side of the door and look out. But, Skippy did seem a bit sad at times. The man wondered if Skippy was thinking of his past owner.

When the trucker finally got back into town, he decided to get the dog checked out by a vet. When the vet explained that this was Skippy, Nina's dog, the man apologized and gave him back to the vet. The trucker said he would miss the little dog. He was a great traveler. Nina was **over the moon** to get Skippy back. And Skippy was just as happy to see Nina again. And from then on, when they went for a walk, Nina kept Skippy on a leash.

1-Why did the man pick Skippy up?

2-What was the man's job?

3-Where had the man taken Skippy?

4-Was Skippy glad to be home?

ABBREVIATIONS: Some of the groups didn't finish the abbreviations exercise and asked for more abbreviations. I've included the abbreviations from Monday and added some more.

1. Get a **BLT** for the **VP** and an **OJ** for the **CEO, ASAP**.
2. I had to provide an **ID** with a **DOB** for my **CPA** so he could purchase the **CD** for me.
3. An **AWOL** soldier named Rochester Brown, **AKA** "Rocky" was **DOA** after being transported to the **ER** at the hospital. **RIP**.
4. **FYI**, our **ETA** in Boston is 10 AM. We will have to go straight to the office because we meet with **HR** at noon.
5. Dad had a heart attack yesterday. We gave him **CPR** then took him to the **ER** where the **MD** started an **IV**. The nurse provided plenty of **TLC**. The **doc** said he'll be **A-OK** with a little **R and R**.
6. Jess was visiting a bar in **D.C.** with her friends. She made the mistake of getting in her car to drive home. But she barely made it out of the parking lot when she was stopped by the cops and ticketed for **DWI**.
7. I work for a company in **mfg**. Our company doesn't have enough employees. We keep hiring **temps** to get the work done.
8. We had 100 **lbs.** of dirt delivered for our yard. It cost me fifty **bucks** to get it delivered.
9. Please answer the questions with agree, disagree or **N/A**.
10. Be sure to **CC** the **CFO** on that email. The **R&D** team should be copied as well.

11. The last page of the website is for **FAQ's**.

Discuss these situations and tell what you would do.

1. It's your secretary's birthday and you would like to get her a present. But you wonder if that will make your wife jealous. What do you do?
2. You took an economics course at the college last year. You made a good grade. A friend is taking it this year. Your friend asks to look at your old exams so he can study them. Do you give him your old exams or not? Is it cheating to tell someone what is on a test?
3. The male professor in your university class asks one of the female students to go to dinner with him. Would you advise her to accept his invitation or decline?
4. You and your wife are hosting her parents for the weekend. Your boss tells you at 4 PM on Friday that he expects you to work all weekend. Do you refuse or do you work all weekend?
5. You hear screaming and shouting from the apartment next door. Then you hear a loud noise and everything gets very quiet. Should you knock on their door to check that everything is OK, or do you call 911 or do you just ignore it. Discuss these situations and tell what you would do.

Read these "sayings" or proverbs and match them with a definition from the table below.

1. The longest journey begins with a single step.
2. A watched pot never boils.
3. Beggars can't be choosers.
4. Birds of a feather flock together.
5. Don't bite the hand that feeds you.
6. Don't judge a book by its cover.
7. Fortune favors the bold.
8. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

a-If something is working well, don't try to change or improve it.
b-People who are brave and take risks are more successful than those who always do the safe thing.
c-Don't make someone mad who is trying to help you.
d-If you're in a bad situation and someone offers help, you have to take it and don't ask for more.
e-Don't judge someone by appearance alone.
f-If you have a big project, you get started by doing the first small part.
g-If something takes time to do, it doesn't help to constantly check on it. Just give it time.
h-People who are similar, spend time together.

Pronouncing the blend SP.

- At the beginning of the word: spell, speech, special, speed, spot, speak, spicy
- In the middle of the word: responsive, unsportsmanlike, desperate, transparent
- At the end of the word: gasp, wasp, clasp, crisp

Put one of the SP words above in the blank.

1. I like potato chips that are fresh and _____ and crunch when you bite into them.
2. He ran up behind the player with the ball and punched him in the back. That was really _____ conduct.
3. The governor stood and gave a one hour _____. It was so boring.
4. We told the police someone had been following us home, but they were not _____. They said we were imagining it. They didn't do anything.
5. _____ are red and black flying insects that sting.
6. The _____ on my necklace broke, so I can't connect the two ends.
7. They don't have a place to live or any money to rent a place. Their situation is really _____.
8. The windows were so dirty they were no longer _____. You couldn't see through them at all.
9. We heard the teacher _____ and knew she had seen something frightening.
10. There is a dirty _____ on my sweater. I will try to wash it out.