

## FUMC ESL 4-25-2022. High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

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

### **Pronunciation Rules for G**

Before a, o or u G sounds like GUH. EX: gone, gulf, against, gallon, garden

Before e, i or y, G sounds like J. EX: manager, gentle, budget, region, tragic, religion, gym

EXCEPTIONS: get, girl, begin, geese, forget, together, target, forgive, gift, giggle, girdle

After a short vowel, the J sound is spelled dge. EX: edge, judge, pledge, lodge, bridge

After a vowel and a consonant J is spelled ge. EX: large, urge, range, change, lounge, orange

After a vowel in an unstressed syllable, j is spelled ge EX: bandage, college, shortage, sausage, language, beverage, damage

### **Practice these sentences:**

1. Let's get together with Gene at the gym.
2. Imagine a magic land full of giants.
3. George gave me geranium seeds for my garden.
4. Start the engine again and put it in gear.
5. Gordon got the girl to register to vote.
6. George got a good picture of the gypsy.
7. Passengers claim their baggage.
8. I urge you not to rush into marriage.

READ AND DISCUSS---This story of a family road trip has many uses of the word **START**. Talk about the many meanings of the word "start". After each paragraph, answer the questions.

We packed the car and **started off** early Friday morning for our three day weekend road trip. My wife **started** the car while I locked up. It had taken several days to get ready for this trip. But at last we were on our way We hadn't gone far when things **started to fall apart**. To **start with**, we had forgotten to bring snacks for the kids. Of course, they were hungry and **started to whine**. We stopped at a convenience store to pick up some food. The prices were crazy. The price of snacks **started at \$5.00**. A few snacks to keep the kids fed cost me \$25.00. I **started to sweat** thinking how fast my money was going out of my pocket.

1. *When did they start off on their trip?*
2. *Who locked up?*
3. *What had they forgotten to bring for the kids?*
4. *Why did the kids whine?*
5. *What did the snacks cost?*
6. *Why was the dad starting to sweat? Was he nervous or angry?*

We hadn't gone far down the road when I realized my tires were low. We stopped at a service station. As I got out of the car, a man suddenly appeared behind me. I **started** and nearly

jumped out of my skin. He was a panhandler and wouldn't go away until I gave him some money. There went another \$5 out of my pocket. I got back in the car, but couldn't get the car **to start**. I had to pay the service station attendant to give me a **jump start**. Another \$15 out of my wallet.

1. *What surprised and scared the dad?*
2. *What did he pay the panhandler?*
3. *What did he have to pay the service station attendant for?*

Our trip seemed to be progressing **by fits and starts**. But we drove on. We were almost to the state line when alarm bells started ringing in my head. I remembered locking the front door, but did I lock the back door? Leaving the house unlocked for three days seemed very risky. But we had gone too far **to start over**. When I asked my wife if she locked the door, she freaked out. "**Don't start with me**", she said. "I told you the back door was unlocked and to be sure and lock it before we left. How dare you blame me for the door being unlocked," she said. I apologized. I didn't want us to **start off on the wrong foot**.

1. *Why did alarm bells ring in the dad's head?*
2. *What seemed risky?*
3. *Why didn't they turn around and go check the door?*
4. *Why did the wife get mad at him?*
5. *Was the dad afraid he would make his wife mad?*

The kids began to whine again. They were bored and tired of riding in the car. I tried to **kick start** some excitement by describing all the great scenery we would see. There would be mountains, well maybe not mountains, but perhaps hills. There might be snow. Not very likely since it was just October, but it was possible. The kids were not impressed. Every five minutes they wanted to know how much longer. Heh, heh. I remember tormenting my dad with that exact question on our family vacations.

1. *How did the dad try to get the kids excited?*
2. *What did the dad remember about road trips when he was a child?*

As the noise level from the back seat increased, I began to wonder why I wanted **to start a family** in the first place. If my wife and I didn't have kids, we could be doing this trip on my motorcycle. We could be enjoying the freedom of the road with the wind in our face instead of listening to our kids complain.

*What does the dad daydream about?*

We finally reached our destination, a resort in New Mexico. I had **started out** thinking it would be great to bring the kids here. We could finally have some family time away from all the activities that kept us hopping at home. No soccer games, no dance recitals, just enjoying the

family. But once we got checked in, I realized there really wasn't anything here for the kids to do. It was too cool to swim in the pool. After the third game of checkers, the kids were ready for something else. We went for a walk in the desert, but my daughter almost stepped on a rattlesnake and we decided it was safer to stay inside. We flipped on the TV thinking we'd watch a movie, but the resort didn't have cable, so there wasn't anything for the kids to watch.

1. *What was their destination?*
2. *Why did the dad plan to go to this resort?*
3. *Why didn't the kids swim?*
4. *Why couldn't they watch movies?*

We decided to go to bed early so we could get **an early start** exploring the area in the morning. About that time, my cell phone rang. It was my neighbor from home. It was dark at home and she saw a flashlight moving around inside my house. She asked if I'd left a door open. I had to admit that I probably had. She said she had **started to call** the police, but then decided to wait to talk to me. It turns out, by the time the police arrived, the burglar had cleaned us out. Gone was our new 60" flat screen and all our electronic devices, as well as the \$1000 in cash I kept in my underwear drawer.

1. *Why did they go to bed early?*
2. *What did the neighbor tell him?*
3. *What had happened by the time the police arrived?*
4. *What was stolen?*

I didn't get much sleep thinking about all the money I was spending at the resort that no one really liked. **Early in the morning**, we packed up and checked out. Since I didn't give 24 hours notice, I had to pay for the next night even though we weren't staying there. If you ever decide to **start** on a trip with the family, think again. Stay home and enjoy the football game.

1. *Why did the dad have to pay for the room for the next day?*
2. *What advice does he give people who want to go on a trip with their family?*
3. *Did you take road trips when you were a kid? Where did you go?*
4. *Have you taken any road trips in the U.S.?*
5. *If you have kids, do you ever have a moment when you wish you hadn't had kids?*
6. *Does a road trip on a motorcycle sound fun?*

### **Grammar Quiz:**

1. Pat and Grace have been married (since 20 years / for 20 years).
2. Where (are you coming / do you come) from?
3. Anna has gone out. Really? What time (has she gone / did she go)?
4. Why (did you go / have you gone) to bed so early last night?

5. Can you describe the woman you saw? Yes, she ( has been wearing / was wearing) jeans and a black shirt.
6. Ann didn't see me. She (looked / was looking) in the other direction.
7. During Covid, I (don't / didn't) drive a lot. My gas bill was very low.
8. I asked the taxi drive to slow down. She (has driven / drove) too fast.