

FUMC ESL 5-9-2022 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Name something you see, read or hear about that has a positive effect on you. (Teachers, you give an example first.)

VOCABULARY

English has **formal** and **informal** words. When we are speaking at work or at school, we use more formal words. If you are talking to your friends, you use informal words. In the sentences above I used "speaking" which is more formal and "talking" which is more informal. Read the sentences below and tell which is the more formal choice.

1. I'd like to (enquire / ask)about your English classes.
2. Things are (tough / difficult) for us right now.
3. Can you (check / verify) that this is correct.
4. The (whole / entire) building (exploded / blew up).
5. We decided to (buy / purchase) a new house.
6. I can't (put up with / tolerate) loud noise.
7. He (told / informed) me that I won the election.
8. I (live / reside) in Austin.
9. This job offers me the (chance / opportunity) to learn a new skill.
10. My neighbor is an (old / elderly) woman.
11. She has been (sick / ill) all week.
12. Thank you for your (gift / donation). We can (use / utilize) all of your old furniture.

English also has some weird sounding words. Read the sentences and tell from the context of the sentence what the word in bold means.

1-SIZZLE: When I wake up on Saturday morning, my husband is in the kitchen cooking my breakfast. The sound of the eggs **sizzling** in the pan and the smell of the bacon cooking make my mouth water.

What sounds or smells do you like to wake up to?

2-DUMBFOUNDED: I was dumbfounded to discover that my children were all good at math. I don't know how that could happen. I always struggled with math and my husband is not good at math either.

How do you feel about math? Have your children ever surprised you by being good at something that you weren't good at?

3-SNICKER: In the office today, we all received an email at the same time. It was about a woman in a wheelchair. It was a funny joke and we all wanted to laugh, but we knew we shouldn't laugh about someone being in a wheelchair. So we kept a straight face and pretended it wasn't funny. But soon, someone began to **snicker**. Then we heard a chuckle. And finally the whole room broke out in laughter. We were ashamed of ourselves, but we just couldn't help it.

Have you ever struggled NOT to laugh at something? Tell about it. What do you do if someone tells a joke that is funny but not completely appropriate?

4-WOBBLY AND GALLIVANT: The little horse was just born and his little legs were still very **wobbly**. But after a few minutes, he seemed to gain control of them and was soon **gallivanting** around the pasture.

Do you like horses? Do you ride? Would you like to ride?

5-POOCH: I saw the cutest little **pooch** at the animal shelter. I wanted to adopt him, but my wife is allergic to animal hair, so I resisted.

Do you have a pet? What kind is it?

Don't get the word, **pooch**, mixed up with, **pouch**. A pouch is a small bag used to carry something. Kangaroo mothers have a pouch to carry the baby kangaroo (joey). Notice the difference in pronunciation.

GRAMMAR

We use present tense to talk about something that happens repeatedly. EX: I eat breakfast every morning at 9. We use present continuous to talk about something that is happening now. EX: I am working right now.

Put the correct tense in the sentences below. Use the verb in parenthesis.

1. practice: You can't mow the field now because the players _____ on it.
2. listen: Every morning I _____ to The Morning Show on the radio.
3. fall: Because of gravity, objects _____ down when they are released.
4. grow: Coffee _____ in mountainous areas, not in deserts.
5. shine/sing: It's a beautiful day. The sun _____ and the birds _____.
6. shine: Near the Arctic Circle, the sun _____ for more than twenty hours a day in summer.
7. call: Hello, Sara. I _____ to invite you to my house for dinner.
8. try: Please be quiet. I _____ to concentrate.
9. fail: My grades are horrible this semester. I _____ three courses.
10. bite: My daughter always _____ her fingernails.

There are some verbs that do NOT have a continuous form. Here is a list of some of these non-continuous verbs: want, cost, need, care, contain, owe, exist, own, belong, possess, like, love, hate, dislike, fear, envy. We use the present tense instead of present continuous with these verbs.

Read some **wrong** examples. Notice how strange they sound.

1. That is a really pretty coat. I am **envying** you.
2. Welcome, Jay. You are **belonging** to this group.
3. Look at those large, scary dogs. We are **fearing** those dogs.
4. This jar is **containing** a lot of quarters.
5. There you are behind the tree! I am **seeing** you.

Some verbs have two or more meanings. For example, the verb APPEAR. One meaning of the verb APPEAR can be used with continuous tense and the other meaning can't. The first meaning of APPEAR is seems. We can't use continuous tense with this form. NOT: Sara is appearing confused. Correct--Sara appears confused.

The second meaning of the verb APPEAR is to perform. This form of the verb CAN be used in continuous tense. EX: My favorite actor is appearing in a play in our town.

When we use HAVE to mean possess, it has no continuous form. We don't say, "I am having a quarter now." If we use HAVE to mean experience, it can be used in continuous form. EX: I am having such a great time today.

Other verbs like this include: hear, look, miss, see, smell, taste, think and weigh. Tell which sentence in the pairs below is correctly used.

This box is weighing a lot.
The man is weighing the box.

Bob is being very stubborn.
Bob is being an American citizen.

The student is thinking about the problem.
I am thinking this test is really hard.

This coffee is tasting good.
He is tasting the coffee to decide if it is too bitter.

I am smelling the flowers.
The flowers are smelling good.

I am seeing with my eyes.
I am seeing a doctor about my eyes.

PRONUNCIATION (Teachers, have one student read these paragraphs and ALL the students pronounce the examples.

Words that contain the letters OUGH are often difficult for students to pronounce. That's because there are so many ways to pronounce this letter combination.

The first way to pronounce OUGH is like a long O. EX: dough, although, thorough.

The second way to pronounce OUGH is like the OOO sound. EX: through

The third way is like off. EX: cough, trough

The fourth way is like uf. EX: tough, rough, enough

The fifth way is like aw. EX: ought, thought, bought, brought, fought

The sixth way is like ow. EX: plough, drought

CONVERSATIONS WITH IDIOMS:

Read these short conversations and discuss the meanings of the idioms.

Tad: Are you going to the baseball game with me tonight?

Jeff: Yes, I can come. I was supposed to babysit tonight so my wife could go shopping, but she **let me off the hook**.

Jan: I'm sorry I'm late. Traffic was really bad today.

Susan: I'll **let it slide** this time, but don't **make a habit of it**.

Stan: I got assigned night watch duty eight weeks in a row. I really got the **short end of the stick**.

Julie: That's a long time to work nights. That is **above and beyond the call of duty**.

Tara: Brad **stood me up** again tonight. That's the third time he's said he would come over and didn't. **That's the straw that broke the camel's back**. I am **finished with him**.

Haley: I think you've been very patient to put up with Brad all this time. You should **give him the boot**.

Mother: Johnny! Stop throwing mud at my windows. I **have a mind** to call your mother and tell her **what you are up to**.

Johnny: Oh, Mrs. Jones. Please don't call my mother. Let's just **forgive and forget**. We can pretend this incident never happened.

Pick one of these idioms and use it in a sentence.