

FUMC ESL 1-5-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Did you live with your parents as a grown person?

Comprehension:

Some young adults are moving back home after college. This is a new **trend**, as young adults used to enjoy the freedom of living on their own. But with rising rents and **mortgage** rates, some young adults have a hard time **making ends meet**. Parents are not always happy to have their children move back in. After all, parents of grown children are saving for their own retirement and don't necessarily welcome spending money supporting grown children. Read this conversation and discuss .

Ben: Dad, is it alright if Marian and I move in with you and Mom for a while?

Dad: Well, I don't know. I'll have to talk to your mother about that.

Ben: I don't see what the problem is. We'll live downstairs in the basement. We won't interfere with your lives. I thought you'd be thrilled to have your son back home.

Dad: Look I paid for your college, now you want to move back in so I can support you, even though you are working. We're not exactly rolling in dough you know. And then there is the issue of moving in with a woman who is not your wife.

Ben: If that's what's stopping you, we can fix that. I asked Marian to marry me. We were going to wait a year, but we can move up the date if that would make you guys happy.

Dad: Like I said, I'll have to talk to Mom. But I think she'd feel more comfortable if you two got married. But I'm not at all sure your mom will be on board with this. She has talked about updating the basement and using it as her art studio.

Ben: Art studio! Since when does Mom need an art studio.

Dad: Since you left home, your mother has been taking art classes. She has actually sold a couple of paintings. She thinks if she had a better space, she could get more painting done.

Ben: Oh. Well, we don't plan on staying forever. We just thought if we could live with you for a year, we could save enough to put a down payment on a house of our own. Would Mom be willing to wait a year?

Dad: We'll talk about it. I don't want to seem like a penny pincher, but Mother and I have been squirreling away money for our retirement. We don't want to burden you and your sister with our care when we are older. So I'm a little nervous about how much this will cost us.

Ben: I appreciate that Dad. And Marian and I don't expect you to support us. We just need a place **to crash**. Rent for a decent apartment costs a fortune. Both of us have entry level jobs that don't pay a lot. We just want a chance to get back on our feet.

Dad: Ok I talked to your mom, and you can move back in, but you'll have to earn your keep. We expect you to help out with the housework and help your mom in the kitchen. You can't expect her to buy the groceries and cook all the meals.

Ben: No problem. Marian is a great cook. She'll be happy to prepare dinners for the four of us.

Thanks a million, Dad. You won't regret it. We'll be quiet as church mice down in the basement. You won't even know we're here. We'll stay out of your hair.

Dad: I'm sure we'll get along fine. Your mother and I were in the same boat right after we got married. We were dead broke those first few years and a couple of times I had to ask my dad to cover me until the next paycheck. My dad wasn't sure I'd ever amount to anything. For a while I was burning the candle at both ends. I worked two jobs for the first five years of our marriage. But eventually, I built a solid reputation as a writer and was offered a job as the chief correspondent for the paper. A few years later I became the bureau chief and began to make a decent wage.

Ben: I didn't know you had such a hard time when you started out. I don't remember us kids going without.

Dad: By the time you and your sister came along, we were doing better. And Mom and I sacrificed things we wanted to make sure you kids had a good life. Mother wore secondhand dresses to work, and my shirts were hand me downs from my big brother. When you shoulder the responsibility for a family, you have to put your own needs aside.

Ben: You're the greatest. I can always depend on you and Mom when it counts.

Explain the underlined words or phrases.

Questions:

1. Why is Dad hesitant about allowing his son to move in?
2. Why does Ben want to move back in with his parents?
3. What plans does Mom have for the basement?
4. Do you think Dad understands Ben's needs?
5. How was Dad burning the candle at both ends?
6. How did Dad's father help him?
7. Who shouldered the responsibility for the family?
8. Did it surprise you that your parents developed other interests (such as painting or tennis) after the kids were grown?
9. If you were in Dad's shoes, would you let Ben and Marian move in?
10. Do you think Ben's mother will resent his taking her studio space?
11. In your country, is it common for adults to live with their parents after college?
12. In your country, is it common for parents to help support their grown children?
13. When was the last time you lived with your parents?

14. Would your parents approve of you moving into their house with a girlfriend or boyfriend/
15. Would you be happy if your parents moved in with you when they got older?
16. What sacrifices did your parents make for you?
17. What sacrifices do/did you make for your own kids?
18. Are you closer to your mom or your dad? Which parent would you ask if you wanted to borrow money?

IRREGULAR VERBS: Put the correct verb form in these sentences. You may use past, present perfect or past perfect.

1. (break) Somebody has _____ the window.
2. (sleep) I feel good. I _____ very well last night.
3. (see) We _____ a great film yesterday.
4. (rain) It _____ a lot in Ireland while we were visiting.
5. (lose) I've _____ my purse. (see) Have you _____ it?
6. (steal) Those kids have _____ Rosie's bike.
7. (run) My brother has _____ many marathons.
8. (ride) I have never _____ a horse.
9. (bite) That dog has _____ several people.
10. (know) I have _____ Shelly for years.
11. (go) The children have _____ to bed early because they must get up early tomorrow.
12. (meet) I know Jerry, but I have never _____ his wife.
13. (sell) They had already _____ the car by the time I got there.
14. (build) My dad and I have _____ a doghouse for our puppy.
15. (drive) We _____ to Dallas this weekend.