

FUMC ESL 4-20-2023 High Beginning and Low Intermediate Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Tell something about yourself.

Life Goes On -- A Helpful Mother in Law

Read the story below. Discuss and answer the questions.

Jennifer and Shaun are newlyweds. These days they are both working very long hours. They feel exhausted when they get home at night.

- 1) Exhausted means very tired. They have little energy. Why are Jennifer and Shaun exhausted?
- 2) What is a newlywed? Are you a newlywed?

Their apartment is a mess. Their laundry basket is full. Their refrigerator is empty. They eat peanut-butter sandwiches for dinner. One evening, Shaun looks at the calendar and says, "My mother is coming on Saturday."

- 1) Describe Jennifer and Shaun's apartment.

"I remember," says Jennifer. "But it's not a good time. Look at this place!" Jennifer sighs. She doesn't really know her mother-in-law, Evelyn. Evelyn lives 3,000 miles away. Jennifer is happy that her mother-in-law lives so far away. She thinks most mothers-in-law cause problems for young married couples.

- 1) Why is Jennifer happy that her mother-in-law doesn't live close to them?
- 2) Are you happy when your mother-in-law comes? Is your mother-in-law helpful when she visits?

Evelyn arrives on Saturday. She is actually a lovely person and very helpful. When Jennifer and Shaun are at work, Evelyn cleans the apartment. She does the laundry. She shops for food. She cooks delicious meals. One day, Evelyn even paints the living room. Now Jennifer thinks Evelyn is the best mother-in-law in the world.

- 1) What kinds of things does Evelyn do for Jennifer and Shaun?
- 2) What kinds of things would you like your mother-in-law to do?
- 3) Is your mother-in-law a good cook?

Jennifer asks if Evelyn can stay longer. But Evelyn says she has to go home tomorrow. "When can you come back, Evelyn," asks Jennifer. "Maybe next year," says Evelyn. "It's very expensive to fly here, so I can't come often." Jennifer turns to Shaun. "We live too far away from your mother, Shaun. Let's move!"

- 1) What advice do you have for getting along with a mother-in-law?

Pronunciation: Long A and Short A

Long A is pronounced like the letter A. Short A is pronounced like the A in bat, hat, cap, fast.

Say these word pairs. Tell if both words are long A, both words are short A or one is long A and one is short A.

pay - pan	away - stay	catch - last	glass - class	pray - cave	glad - sad	race - rat
gate - gas	ask - slap	flag - cab	lazy - gray	plate - plan	tap - tape	shade - hate
apron - apple	agent - basin	share - scare	sat - stand	brake - bake	trash - trade	behave - have

Practice saying these sentences. Circle the long A words and underline the short A words.

1. Jay has something to say.
2. Kay fed the horses hay today.
3. This is the first day of May.
4. Payday is today.
5. The lambs are happy and gay.
6. She dropped the apples in her apron.
7. Catch the cat and carry it inside.
8. Share with your parents.
9. The drapes keep out the glare.
10. My pal is going on a date with Hal.

Some words which are spelled with an A and look like they should be pronounced long A are not. Pronounce: *says* and *said*. They both have the short E sound not the A sound. They are pronounced like sez and sed. The singular form, "say" is pronounced with the long A. EX: Doctors say you drink lots of water.

Diphthongs are two vowels together in a word. USUALLY you pronounce the first letter in the vowel combination with a long vowel sound. Say these words:

rain	wait	nail	claim	pail	aim	chain	paid
faith	raise	waist	paint	maid	braids	sail	remain

But, in English there are ALWAYS exceptions. So you have some words, spelled with AI, which are pronounced with the short sound: air, plaid, dairy, fair, pair, stair, prairie. Listen to the difference in pronunciation between DAILY and DAIRY.

And some words are pronounced with the long sound of the SECOND vowel, like aisle. Compare the pronunciation of praise and aisle. They both of "ais" in the middle but sound completely different.

Grammar: In these sentences, decide whether you should use the present tense, or the present continuous tense. Remember present tense is used for things that regularly happen, while present continuous tense is used for what is happening now. The first example is done for you.

1. The sun (**sets** / is setting) in the west every evening.
2. Look! The sun (sets/ is setting) behind the mountain.
3. The football players (practice / are practicing) on this field now so we will have to use the other field.
4. My parents usually (eat / are eating) dinner early.
5. I can't talk to you right now. I'll call you back later. We (eat / are eating) dinner.
6. Sam and Lara (talk / are talking) on the phone every night.
7. Coffee (grows / is growing) in mountainous areas, not in the desert.
8. Hello, Sara. I (call / am calling) you from my car. Can you tell me how to get to your house?
9. Near the Arctic Circle, the sun (shines / is shining) for more than twenty hours a day.
10. Please be quiet. The baby (sleeps / is sleeping).
11. I wish they would stop talking. I (try / am trying) to concentrate.
12. My grades are horrible this semester. I (fail / am failing) one of my courses.
13. I (like / am liking) orange juice.
14. Look at Jon. He (wears / is wearing) his school uniform.
15. I (get / am getting) up early on Saturdays.
16. I (get / am getting) up early this Saturday because I have an early tennis match.

Discuss:

1. Do you have a lot of friends, or just a few?
2. Do you have any good friends that are the opposite sex?
3. Would you go to a movie alone or do you always go with friends?
4. Do you have any friends that are much older or much younger than you?
5. Do you have any childhood friends that are still your friends today?
6. What are some ways you can make friends in a foreign country?
7. Has social media made it easier or harder to stay friends?
8. Do you get jealous when you see on social media that your friends are doing something without you?