

## FUMC ESL 6-5-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

**Please note:** This week is the last week of **in person classes**. Zoom classes will continue through June. We will not have classes in July or August.

**Introduce yourself.** Tell where you are from and where you live now. Is there an English word that confuses you?

### Confusing English Words

#### 1-advice vs advise

**Advice** is a noun, which means an opinion that someone offers you about what you should do or how you should act in a particular situation.

For example: "Please give me some **advice**."

**Advise** is a verb, which means to give information and suggest types of action.

For example: "I **advise** everybody to make a will."

#### 2-Lose Loose Loss and Lost

**Lose** is a verb. It is the opposite of win. EX: Did our team **lose** the game?

The past tense of lose is **lost**. EX: Yes, our team **lost** the game.

**Loss** is a noun. EX: Our team only has one **loss** this season.

**Loose** means something entirely different. If something is **loose**, it is not tight. It is an adjective. EX: That screw is **loose**. Please tighten it.

#### 3-altogether vs. all together

**All together** (adv) means "together in a single group."

For example: The waiter asked if we were **all together**.

**Altogether** (adv) means "completely" or "in total".

For example: She wrote less and less often, and eventually she stopped **altogether**.

#### 4-alone / lonely

**Alone**, can be used as an adjective or adverb. Either use means without other people or on your own.

For example: "He likes living **alone**."

"I think we're **alone** now." = There are just the two of us here.

**Lonely** is an adjective which means you are unhappy because you are not with other people.

For example: "The house feels **lonely** now that all the children have left home."

#### 5-beside vs besides

**Beside** is a preposition of place that means at the side of or next to.

For example: The house was **beside** the river. I sat beside Tim.

**Besides** is an adverb or preposition. It means in addition to or also.

For example: We didn't carry anything **besides** water.

Any questions about these confusing words?

## Expressions and Idioms

1. Elaine made no money out of the biography she wrote. The book was **a labor of love**. It was her way to **pay her respects** to her mother. Elaine's description of her family was quite **touching**. Even my father was **moved** when he read it.

- Describe something you do that is a "labor of love".
- What moves you? (makes you feel emotional. For example, I am moved when I hear the Star Spangled Banner.
- When someone dies, you pay your respects to the family. How do you pay your respects to someone?

2. The critics told Erin her new book would be **a bust**, but it was **wildly popular**. She **made a bundle** on the book and is now **leading the life of Riley**. Personally, I think her writing **leaves a lot to be desired**, but I **wouldn't dream of telling her that**.

- Did the critics think her book would be a success? Was it a success?
- Does the author like Erin's writing?
- Would she ever tell Erin how she feels about her writing?
- "Bust" has many meanings in English. Which definition is used in the paragraph above?

to break or damage

when a business loses so much money it is forced to close

a statue of someone's head and shoulders

a woman's breasts

a failure

- Name something that is "wildly popular" in your country right now.
- Which of your friends comes closest to leading the "life of Riley". Explain....
- What is something you have done that you would "never dream of" telling your parents?
- If something "leaves a lot to be desired", it is not very good. You desire it to be better. Can you think of something in your house that doesn't work very well and leaves a lot to be desired?

3. Tara is a **laid back** mother. She doesn't worry much about what her kids do or how they behave. Personally, I think she's too **easygoing**. I keep a careful watch when the children are playing outside. Tara lets her kids go outside while she sits in my kitchen and drinks coffee.

- Is Tara a nervous mother?
- How does the author compare herself to Tara?
- What kind of mother are you? Give an example of your child raising philosophy.

4. Well, I **flunked** my French exam. **Needless to say**, I should have studied more.

- If you flunk, you fail. Have you ever failed a test or failed a course?
- The phrase, "needless to say" means it is so obvious that it doesn't need to be said. Can you use this expression in a sentence?

5. Tim and I went out to dinner at the new restaurant. But we were disappointed. The dinner was average, **to say the least**. We expected more from an expensive restaurant.

- a. Were they happy with the food in the new restaurant?
- b. The phrase, "to say the least", means the food was worse than average. You could use stronger adjectives than "average". Have you often found that restaurant food is just average?

6. I went to a meeting today to discuss some important decisions that must be made in our company. I have **strong opinions** about what should be done, but I **won't have any say** in the final decision. Only the firm's partners will **get a vote**. I'm getting **fed up** with this leadership style. The partners say they **honor my opinions**, but then they **exclude** me when it's time to make a decision. I'm **at my wit's end**. It may be time for me to look for another job.

- a. Does the author have ideas about what the company should do? What are "strong opinions"?
- b. What does she mean when she says, "I don't have any say"?
- c. What is she fed up with?
- d. Why is she at her wit's end?
- e. Do you think she will continue in that job?
- f. Do women have a say in politics in your country?
- g. Have you ever been in a situation where your opinions were not valued? Talk about it.

**PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE:** Long words with many syllables can be difficult to pronounce. Let's practice on a few. Teachers, say the words slowly a couple of times. Then have students say the words then read the sentence.

- a. intimidating      EX: Learning to speak English well can be intimidating.
- b. refrigerator      EX: We keep the milk in the refrigerator.
- c. alphabetical      EX: Put these words in alphabetical order.
- d. veterinarian      EX: A doctor for dogs is a veterinarian.
- e. disorganization      EX: The disorganization of the rescue team caused delays in rescuing those trapped in the cave.
- f. specifically      EX: I specifically told you not to throw out the extra food.
- g. mischievous      EX: The mischievous monkeys stole my sunglasses.

(Mischievous is difficult to pronounce because there are actually 2 pronunciations. It is correctly spelled and pronounced as MIS chievous. In this pronunciation, the accent is on the MIS.. But many people put in an i sound after the V. So they say mis CHEE vi ous. The accent syllable is CHEE. This is technically an incorrect spelling and pronunciation. However, it is used so commonly that it is accepted in casual speech. Dictionaries only have the spelling without the I. If you are writing a formal paper, write it and say it without the I sound.)