

FUMC ESL 9-7-2023 High Beginning - Low Intermediate Lesson

NOTE: We will have class every Monday and Thursday from 10AM to Noon CDT (Central Daylight Time). For those students who live in Austin, you may also attend a Wednesday morning discussion class to practice speaking. This class is also 10 to Noon. Catherine and Jane will teach this class. Catherine will bring a short reading passage to encourage discussion. If you plan to attend the class, please email Catherine at catherine.bingaman@gmail.com. She will explain where to meet.

Now we will break up into small groups to begin the lesson.

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Tell how long you have lived in this place. Tell something you like about it.

Today we will talk about numbers. In American culture, the number 13 is unlucky. When I was growing up, builders did not put a 13th floor on the elevator buttons. The buttons went from 12 to 14. No thirteen. People were superstitious. They didn't want to work on the 13th floor.

When I lived in Japan, 4 was an unlucky number. Instead of a saki pitcher and 4 cups, they would sell you 5 cups. What numbers are lucky or unlucky in your culture?

Using Numbers in Conversations.

1-We use cardinal numbers to count: one, two, three, one hundred, one thousand, ten thousand, one hundred thousand, one million, one billion

2-We use ordinal numbers to talk about position: first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth

3-We also use ordinal numbers in dates: The party will be on April **5th**. The wedding will be on the **first** of June. This is the **first time** I have been to a Chinese restaurant.

Jan: What was the date of your wedding?

Lee: We were married on the third of September.

My birthday is the 28th of July. When is your birthdate? If you are married, what is the date of your anniversary?

4-When talking about an address, we often split the numbers. For example: I live at 3634 (thirty six-thirty four) Main Street.

What is your house number?

5-When talking about years, we usually don't say the whole number. We split the numbers up. For example: My father was born in 1926 (nineteen twenty six). This year is twenty twenty three. Exception: First nine years of the 21st century. EX: We don't say twenty o nine. We say two thousand nine. But then twenty ten.

What year did you graduate from school?

6-When we use numbers in conversations about money, we can say "twelve dollars and fifty cents".OR. "twelve fifty". When we talk about one hundred dollars, we frequently replace "one" with "a". EX: I spent a hundred dollars on new tires for my car.

What did you spend on your watch? On your cell phone?

7-We frequently use "bucks" to replace "dollars". EX: This watch cost me a hundred **bucks**. This is informal English used with friends in conversation.

If I gave you a hundred bucks, what would you do with it?

8-When we use the numbers 9-1-1, we say them two different ways and they have two different meanings. If we want emergency services, we say "call nine one one." If you say "nine eleven", you are referring to September 11, 2001 when terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. EX: Where were you on nine eleven. All Americans who are old enough to remember that day will be able to tell you where they were on that date.

Tammy: That car just ran into the ditch. I hope no one is hurt.

Jane: It looks like the driver hit his head. He is bleeding. I'll call nine-one-one.

9-There are **four floors** in my office building. My office is on the **fourth** floor. You can also say, "There are four **stories** in my office building. It is a **four story** building.

What floor do you live on? How many stories are there in your building?

10-We frequently **exaggerate** numbers. EX: Jon, for the **hundredth** time, pick up your dirty clothes. EX: Jen has **a million and one** ideas about how to decorate the house. EX: I love my new suit. I feel like **a million dollars**.

Do you have to tell your kids a hundred times to do things?

11-We use "once" to talk about one time. EX: I went to a football game **once**. We saw that movie **twice**.

Name something you have only done once.

12-If you say, "I went to that restaurant once or twice," you mean a few times. It might not have been just one or two times.

What place have you been to a few times. In other words, once or twice.

13-If you ask for a double of an alcoholic drink, you want twice as much liquor. EX: I'll have a scotch and soda. Make that a double.

Numbers can be tricky to pronounce. Try these numbers.

1. thirteen and thirty
2. fourteen and forty
3. fifteen and fifty
4. sixteen and sixty
5. seventeen and seventy
6. eighteen and eighty
7. nineteen and ninety
8. 10,000
9. 100,000
10. 110,000

11. 956,000
12. 1,000,000
13. 4,398,432
14. 78,455, 602

We **count** things. EX: The nurse counts the pills in the bottle. The teacher counted the children. There are five people in my family, counting me.

Name something you count.
How many people are in your family, counting you.

But we also use the verb count to mean **depend**. EX: I can **count on** Tom to do the right thing. That means you can depend on Tom. Tom is **reliable**.

Here is another way to use count. EX: The goal doesn't count because the player fouled the goalie. In other words, the goal isn't accepted.

Practice these conversations:

Father: Is there enough medicine for the week?

Daughter: Yes, I counted the pills. There are enough.

Linda: I count on my mother to babysit for my kids.

Kate: That's great you have your mother in town. I can't count on my mom because she travels so much.

Do you have family that you can count on to help you?
Who do you count on the most?

Sally: I walk to school every day. It takes thirty minutes to get to school. You always take the bus. How long does it take to get to school on the bus?

Tim: It takes about fifteen minutes. I usually read on the bus. Sometimes I finish my homework.

Les: I got up at 6 AM this morning. I ate breakfast and drove to work. There was no traffic at that time of day.

Cyndi: What time did you get to work?

Les: I was in my office by 7.

Are you an **early riser**?

Bren: In the past people didn't have cell phones. Can you believe it?

Sherry: Yes. My grandmother just got a cell phone last year. She didn't like cell phones. But now she uses it. She likes to call her grandchildren.

Does everyone in your family have a cell phone?
What age should you buy a child a cell phone?

Ken: I drink coffee once a day. I only drink one cup.

Pat: I don't drink coffee at all. But I drink tea several times a week.

Questions:

1. Who does Linda count on?
2. Who counted the pills?
3. Who rides the bus to school?
4. Who got up early and drove to work?
5. What did Sherry's grandmother get last year?
6. Who only drinks coffee once a day?
7. What does Pat drink several times a week?
8. I usually drink _____ in the morning.
9. I never drink _____.