

FUMC ESL 10-12-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson
Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now.

Read the conversations. Explain the words and phrases in bold. Answer the questions.

Jeff: Hi, I'm your neighbor from downstairs. I don't want to **break up the party**, but we have a baby. We are trying to get her to sleep. The noise from your apartment is really loud. Do you think you could **turn it down a bit**?

Angela: **Sure thing.** Sorry we **bothered** you.

1. Would you be embarrassed to knock on a neighbor's door and tell them to turn down the noise?
2. Would it be better or worse if you were friends with them?
3. What would Jeff have done if Angela said she wouldn't turn it down?

Jan: Sue is **bringing up** her daughters in a way that I don't approve. She lets them wear make-up when they are very young. She lets them go out with boys when they are only 13. She allows boys to visit with her girls in her house without a **chaperone**. I just think she's **asking for trouble**. Girls need more supervision.

Megan: I don't approve either, but there isn't much we can do about it. She is their mother and has the right to make her own decisions.

1. Would you ever offer advice to a friend or family member about how to raise a child?
2. Do you think Sue is too permissive? When should girls be allowed to wear make up and go on dates with boys.
3. Were your parents very strict with you when you were growing up? Did they ever make you change clothes before going out?

Sally: I'm going to bed early tonight. I really must **catch up on my sleep**. I've worked **overtime** all week, My husband is out of town this week, so after working an extra two hours, I had to come home and take care of my daughter.

Jen: It sounds like you are **burning your candle at both ends**. Better slow down a bit.

1. Describe a time in your life when you felt like you were burning your candle at both ends.
2. Do you think life in the U.S. is more stressful than your life before coming here? In what ways?

Sandra: Hey, Beth. How's it going?

Beth: Hi, Sandra. We are doing well. How about you?

Sandra: We're just doing OK. Sam lost his job. He worked at a restaurant. He was a waiter. The restaurant closed because of Covid.

Beth: That's too bad. I'm really sorry. Has he found another job?

Sandra: Not yet. He has decided to go back to school. He wants to become a chef. He has enrolled at a cooking school. I can support us for now.

Beth: That sounds good. I'm happy for him. I have to go now. I have an appointment in ten minutes. It's good to see you. Keep in touch.

Sandra: Yes, I will. Have a good day.

1-Why does Sandra say they are "just doing OK,"? Does this mean she is doing well or badly?

2-Who is Sam and what happened to him? What are his plans for the future?

3-Why did Beth have to leave?

4-Were you or anyone you know impacted by Covid?

Jen: Many employees came late today. Our store opens at ten o'clock. Everyone should be here by ten of ten. This is a business. Our customers want us to be open at ten. Not ten fifteen. Please come to work on time.

Lee: Most customers don't come to the store at ten o'clock. They come later. I think it is OK to be a little late. You should not be upset.

Jen: Lee, when you were hired, you agreed to be here before ten every day. You are seldom here by ten and are often as much as thirty minutes late. That is unacceptable. If you can't get here on time, you'll have to find work elsewhere.

1. Why is Jen upset?
2. Does Lee agree with Jenn?
3. Why does Lee think it is ok to come a little late?
4. Who do you agree with, Jen or Lee?

Luis: The company has new software for the computers. We have to learn how it works.

Solara: I don't want new software. I just learned the old software. It took a long time to learn the software. Now I'm **back to square one**.

Luis: I know you don't want it. I don't either. But the company does want it. What can I do about it?

1. Why is Solara upset?
2. Is it difficult to keep up with the rapidly changing technology?
3. Why does Solara say she will be, "back to square one"?
4. Give an example of how an improvement in technology makes your life better.

Pronunciation: How do I pronounce the letter G?

There are two ways to pronounce the letter "g".

The hard G. is the most common pronunciation. The hard G is pronounced in these words: guess, go, get, great, gate, guitar, game, ago

The soft G is pronounced like a J as in giant, Germany, general, gymnastics, large, energy, change, giraffe, gentleman, genuine, gym

The general rule is this: if the letter after 'g' is 'e', 'i' or 'y', the pronunciation is a 'soft g' as in 'fringe'. Any other letter is pronounced with a hard g.

As in all English, there are many **exceptions**. For example, we say "range" with a soft G, though the rule says it should be a hard G. And to be more confusing, the g in "rang" is pronounced with a hard G as it should be. Practice saying **range** and **rang**. Say the words, "**long**" and "**lounge**". Which one has the soft G sound.

Finally, we have several words that have a G, but it is not spoken. It is silent. EX: foreign, cologne, gnaw, frighten. The G is usually silent when it comes before the letter H. EX: sigh, high, light, bright.

There are some words that have both soft G and hard G sounds. EX: geography, gauge, garage, gigantic, gorgeous. Practice saying these words. Tell which syllable has the soft G or the hard G. (Teachers help them with the meaning of these words.)

So there is no simple answer to, "How do I pronounce the G sound." You just have to practice.

Read the words below. Tell if the G is a hard G sound or a soft G sound or silent. Students ask if you don't know the meaning of a word.

begin	goat	age	sponge	danger	goose
germs	garden	garbage	fragile	gum	edge
jogging	bridge	magnet	magic	pig	surgeon
ginger	yoga	wig	religion	recognize	apology
together	illegal	spaghetti	angel	magazines	negative
again	change	sugar	champagne	August	sight
budget	merge	stage	strategy	tragedy	knowledge
margarine	laugh	design	designate	dough	lasagna

Read these sayings and tell the meaning. Do you agree with the proverb or disagree?

1. Gardens are not made by sitting in the shade.
2. Give someone an inch and they will take a mile.
3. Give someone enough rope and they will hang themselves.
4. Good and quickly seldom meet.
5. A good conscience is a soft pillow.
6. Great oaks grow from small acorns.