

FUMC ESL 12-7-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Tell about the last job you had.

Discuss this vocabulary by answering these questions.

1. If your lawyer tells you that you have an **open and shut case**, does he mean that your case is really complex or straight forward without complications?
2. If your best girlfriend is **chatty**, is she talkative or quiet?
3. Is a **shockwave** the same as a **tidal wave**?
4. If the doctor is a **quack**, does that mean he likes to hunt ducks?
5. What's the difference between a **stowaway** and a **throwaway**?
6. If she **rubs you the wrong way**, do you want to be around her or want to avoid her?
7. If you're **all thumbs**, can you easily do things with your hands, such as sew or make bows?
8. My friend is a **basket case** when she has to speak to crowds. Does she feel anxious or relaxed when speaking to crowds?
9. If you are **chomping at the bit** to start your new job, does it mean you are eager and ready to start, or nervous and anxious about it?
10. If your friend **let's the cat out of the bag**, has she told a secret or let her cat escape?

Discuss:

1. Would you describe yourself as chatty?
2. How do you find good doctors in a foreign country? Have you ever gone to a doctor who was a quack?
3. Does your country experience tidal waves? Did you live close to the coast where tidal waves were a threat?
4. Name something you are chomping at the bit to do.
5. Are you a basket case when you have to speak before crowds? Are you a basket case when you have to speak English to people? What situation is the most awkward for you?
6. Do you have a hard time keeping secrets?

Read this short conversation and answer the questions.

Jenny: I'm going to my last exam. Bill is supposed to pick me up at 9. I hope he is on time for once. This is my last class as a university student. I'm finished with school once and for all.

Jane: Did you study the articles the professor assigned for the exam?

Jenny: Yes. I read them. But some of the articles were difficult to understand. I'm not confident I can write about them. But I'll do my best.

1. Is Bill usually on time? How do you know?
2. Will Jenny continue her schooling next semester?
3. How does Jenny feel about the articles the professor assigned?

Jane: What do you plan to do after graduation?

Jenny: I plan to look for a teaching job, but for the time being I'll keep my job at the restaurant. I can't live without an income. Once I get a teaching job, I'll quit the restaurant job.

Jane: Once you graduate, you won't have to spend time on homework and quizzes. You'll have more time to look for a good job.

1. What kind of job is Jenny looking for?
2. What does "for the time being" mean?
3. Why won't Jenny quit her restaurant job?
4. Why will Jenny have more time after she graduates?

Jane: I'm sure you'll find a job quickly.

Jenny: I hope so. If I can't get a teaching job, all my schooling will be a waste.

Jane: I'm sure you'll get lots of offers. You have good grades in school and you have good references from your professors.

Jenny: I hope you're right. But I'm going to be picky about what job I take. I don't intend to work for peanuts. I did my student teaching in a small rural high school. They offered me a job, but they don't pay much. Ideally, I will be offered a job in a large urban high school that pays more.

1. Why does Jane think Jenny will get lots of job offers?
2. Jenny says she is going to be picky about what job she takes. What does she mean?
3. What does she mean when she says she doesn't intend to "work for peanuts"?
4. What kind of job does Jenny prefer?

Discuss:

1. Did you have several job offers after you graduated?
2. How important was the salary in choosing a job?
3. Did you feel parts of your education were "a waste"?
4. My son really enjoyed his time at the University of Texas. He was sad to graduate and have to go to work. Did you feel glad or sad when you finished your education?
5. Are you happy with the career you chose or do you wish you had chosen a different field?
6. Should students be encouraged to work at a job while they are in school? Did you work when you were going to school?
7. Did you go to private schools or public schools?
8. Is education free in your country? Should it be free everywhere?
9. Teachers in the U.S. are poorly paid. Is this true in your country?
10. Do many parents home school their children in your country? Would you ever consider home schooling your children? What are the advantages and disadvantages?
11. Will you insist your children take advanced level classes, or will you leave that decision up to your children?