

## FUMCESL 1-25-2024 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

### Talking About the Future:

Some phrases are commonly used to refer to actions or events in the future with a meaning similar to “about to”.

EX: I’m about to give up on this project. It just seems too difficult for me.

People can be “about to starve” or “on the **verge** of starvation”.

Scientists are about to discover the cure for cancer. OR Scientists are on the **brink** of a discovery to cure cancer.

She was so exhausted she was about to collapse. OR She was at the **point** of collapse.

We use “due” to say that something is expected to happen. EX: My car is **due** for an oil change. The company’s chief executive is **due** to retire next year.

We can also use “set”. EX: The executive is **set** to retire in 2018.

We use “bound to be” to refer to a thing that will surely happen. EX: There is **bound to be** parking in one of these lots.

We use “look to” to talk about something we intend to do in the future. EX: We **look to** add over one hundred entry level jobs this year. OR We **aim to** add one hundred jobs.

Talk about the future for you. What events are due to happen in the coming year?

### VOCABULARY: Words with similar meanings

interfere - intervene: Intervene is to “step in”. It is neutral in meaning. Interfere is to “involve yourself” and it usually has a negative meaning.

EX: The UN should **intervene** to stop the civil war. She shouldn’t **interfere** in their marriage.

**Meddle** is another word that has negative connotations. EX: Mother in laws should not meddle in the affairs of their children.

**Question:** When and whether to intervene is sometimes a cultural question. Talk about whether you would intervene in these situations:

a-you see a man knock a woman down and steal her purse

b-a man and woman are arguing loudly in a restaurant

c-a mother is spanking her child in public

d-a man slugs his wife in the face as they sit in a bar

e-someone is clearly lost and in need of directions

f-a family who are obviously foreign is having trouble figuring out which train platform they should be on

g-a woman is struggling to carry her children and luggage at the same time

h-a woman is chasing her small child who has pulled away from her and run

Have you ever intervened to protect someone or to prevent something bad from happening. Or have you intervened to help someone who obviously needed help. Describe what happened.

**Discussion:**

How much do you know about your family history? Do you know where your grandparents and great grandparents lived? Do you know what jobs they worked at? Do you know the names of their siblings? Do you know the names or stories of anyone past your great grandparents? What is something surprising you learned about one of your ancestors?

Is knowing your family history important to you or do you think it doesn't really matter? Do you pass on stories about your family to your children?

What is something you know about your parents or grandparents that you will definitely pass on to your children?

Did you grow up in a big family or a small family. Would you prefer to have been an only child? Did you enjoy having siblings?

Has your family faced any difficult challenges?

Do you keep up with all your aunts, uncles and cousins?