

FUMC ESL 3-18-2024 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. What is something you have **decided** to do? What is something you are **undecided** about? Do you generally think about things a long time before making a decision or do you decide quickly?

Pronouncing EA: There are many ways to pronounce this vowel combination. Say these words: EAT, BREAD, STEAK, WEAR, HEAR, HEART, AREA, OCEAN

They are all spelled with the EA vowel combination. But the EA is pronounced differently in each word. Teachers: pronounce the words again, slowly, so the students can hear the difference. Have the students pronounce these words.

Practice pronouncing these EA words.

meat	great	real	bear	heard	hear	heart	earth	breath
head	cream	clear	break	sweat	earn	wealthy	pearl	weather

b: How can these vocabulary be used in idioms? Read below.

1-I didn't sleep well last night and my brain feels foggy. I'm going to take a walk and see if that might **clear my head**.

What does a foggy brain feel like? What does "clear your head" mean?
What kinds of things do you do to clear your head?

2-Thank you all for attending this staff meeting. Before I get to the **meat of the problem**, I want to assure everyone here that your jobs are secure. Even though the company has been losing money, we don't plan to lay off any of our top staff.

What is the "meat" of the problem? What did he assure everyone of?

3-Even though Lily treated me rudely last month, I don't **bear a grudge**. Lily was going through a lot and wasn't herself. I have forgiven her.

What does it mean to "bear a grudge"? Why does she forgive Lily for treating her rudely? What is meant by, "she wasn't herself"? The meaning of "bear" here is not the big hairy animal. It means to endure something or to put up with something, to tolerate something or to carry something. What are some things you can't bear? What are some things you must bear even though you don't want to?

4-When I yelled at my students, you could have **heard a pin drop**. They weren't expecting me to yell at them.

What does "could have heard a pin drop" mean? Have you ever been in a situation when everyone went suddenly quiet? Would it surprise you if a teacher yelled at the students?

5-At first, I wasn't going to invite Aunt Maud to the Easter dinner at my house because she is so critical of everyone. She can really hurt people's feelings with her criticisms. But after thinking about it, I've had a **change of heart**. Aunt Maud is getting very old and may not be around much longer. I don't feel right leaving her out of the Easter celebration.

What was the original decision? Why was it made?

What was the change of heart? Why was it made?

What are some other reasons you might leave someone?

Talk about a change of heart you have had.

6-Kara is the most **down to earth** person I know. She makes a lot of money, but you would never know it. She is never ostentatious, even though she is rich enough to be. She lives simply in a moderate size house and drives a practical car.

Do you know anyone who is ostentatious? In other words who enjoys showing off their wealth? Is it acceptable in your culture to show off your wealth?

7-Graduates from Harvard Law School are the **cream of the crop**. They are normally hired by prestigious law firms.

What does it take to be the "cream of the crop"? What does "prestigious" mean?

What university in your country accepts only the cream of the crop?

Would you welcome the competition at one of these prestigious schools or do you think it would be too much pressure?

8-The movers we hired were all big and strong. They loaded all of our heaviest boxes onto the truck without even **breaking a sweat**.

If you say someone didn't even break a sweat, what does it imply about that person?

What is a skill or talent you have that is very easy for you? For example, my friend can set up a new TV system without breaking a sweat. He knows exactly where to plug everything in and download the apps you need. It would take me several hours to do that.

9-If you are going to live here without paying rent, you will need to **earn your keep** by helping with the cooking and cleaning.

Sometimes grown children have to move back in with their parents if they lose a job or decide to go back to school. Is it fair that the parents ask the grown children to help out with chores? Would you welcome your grown children back home if you and your spouse were both retired and living on your savings? In that situation would you require the grown children to pay rent?

10-Benjamin Franklin said, "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man **healthy, wealthy and wise.**"

Do you agree with Ben? Do you think getting an early start will make you healthy and wealthy? Are you early to bed and early to rise, or are you a night owl?

The word procrastinate means to put things off until the last minute. Are you a procrastinator, or do you like to get an early start?