

FUMC ESL 4-25-2024 High Intermediate and Advanced Lessons

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Tell us something about yourself we probably don't know.

Pronunciation:

In English we have words that are spelled the same, but have a different pronunciation and mean something different. These are called heteronyms. Read the sentences below and explain how the meaning is different.

1-Let me take another **minute** to look over my report.

I know the committee will go over it in **minute** detail, so it is important not to make errors.

2-We **live** near a forest, so we often see **live** animals in our backyard.

3-We quickly **wound** a bandage around the **wound** on her arm.

4-I'm sorry, but these coupons are **invalid**. They expired three months ago.

Dad was an **invalid** the last year of his life. He depended on Mother to feed and dress him and take him to doctor's appointments.

5-I discovered Mother's wedding dress in the attic. The material was old and yellowed. It had a **tear** in the hem. As I thought about my parents wedding day, I felt a **tear** sliding down my cheek.

6-The play was wonderful. At the end the star took a **bow**. To everyone's surprise, the big **bow** in her hair fell out onto the stage.

7-Let's go out this way. This exit is very **close**. Be sure you **close** the door after you go through it.

NOTE: This is a word where the S can sound like an S or a Z. There are several words like this, including house and use. See the two examples below.

8-We will **house** the international students in the dorm for the summer program. The program director plans to invite them to her **house** for dinner occasionally.

9-I don't have any **use** for these old towels.

I'll take them. I can **use** them to polish the furniture. Note: When using USE as a noun, we pronounce the S with an S sound, but when using as a verb, we pronounce the S as a Z.

10-My work schedule **alternates** between working days and working nights.

The lead actress was sick tonight, so her **alternate** played the role.

DISCUSSION:

1--In the past, the private behavior of politicians mattered to most people. If it was known that a presidential candidate had an affair or abused women, most people would not vote for them. That seems to have changed. Now many people in the U. S don't seem to care about the morality or private behavior of elected officials.

a-Do you think this is true in your country as well? Is it less important these days that politicians behave morally?

b-Do you think people expect that actors and actresses will behave immorally, as for example, having affairs or taking drugs? Is there more tolerance for actors than for politicians?

c-Are there some kinds of behavior in politicians which should absolutely never be tolerated?

d-Some schools are requiring their students to wear uniforms. They believe students **behave** better when they are dressed better. They say it helps to **alleviate** bullying. Do you believe this is true?

e-Do you feel people in the world have become more or less moral? Can you give an example of how people are less moral or an example of how they are more moral?

2--Would you be more likely to go on a walk, go on a run or go for a swim?

3--Would you be more likely to go on a cruise, go on a hiking vacation or go to your home country to see your family?

4-Read and explain this discussion between a homeowner and a repairman. Explain the bold vocabulary.

Owner: Have you been able to **pinpoint** the problem with the **wiring**?

Electrician: Not yet. It's difficult because the house appears to have been **wired** by a madman. I've never seen wires and circuits like this. It makes it really hard to **trace** the problem. I may have to **re-wire** this circuit to fix the problem.

Have you had to have repairmen do work in your apartment or house? How did it go? Do you feel you can trust repairmen to tell you the truth and to not overcharge you?

5-I like to go to lunch with Jill, but she always gets a phone call sometime during our lunch. She answers it and talks to the caller. It makes me kind of mad. What do you think about answering a cell phone when you are with someone else? Is it rude?

6-Jamie was nervous. Her boyfriend wanted her to meet his parents. She didn't know if they would like her. Her boyfriend came from a wealthy family. Jamie's parents had divorced when she was young and her mother had to work two jobs to support her. She was worried her boyfriend's family would think she wasn't good enough for their son.

Do you remember meeting a boyfriend or future husband's parents? Were you nervous? How did it go? Did they like you? Did you like them?

7-Is it easy for you to relate to people much older than you? Do you enjoy hearing stories from your grandparents? Would you ever volunteer to work with senior citizens?

8-Jan is the saver in her family. Her husband is the spender. It aggravates Jan that they can't save money because any time her husband makes extra money, he buys something with it. Jan wants to have plenty of money in savings when they get old. Her husband isn't worried about saving. He says, "Enjoy life while you can, because you may die tomorrow."

- a. Is this the way your family works or do you both agree on saving and spending?
- b. Did you and your spouse talk about financial issues before you got married?
- c. Would you feel free to buy a big ticket item without checking with your spouse?
- d. Do you make a budget and live by it?

9-If you could time travel, would you rather travel into the future to see what the world is like or travel into the past to see what happened? Is there a figure from history you'd like to spend time with? What questions would you ask him/her?

10-Answer these "would you rather" questions.

Would you rather:

- a-have a pool in your backyard or live next to the ocean
- b-be the smartest or the funniest person in the room
- c-move to a new city every year or live in the same city the rest of your life
- d-watch the sun set or the sun rise
- e-lose your sense of taste or your sense of touch