

FUMC ESL 9-12-2024 Higher Level Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from. Tell us one thing about your country. Tell your occupation. Tell your **reason** for being in the U.S. What part of communicating in English **causes** you the most trouble.

Vocabulary: Cause or Reason

Cause and reason have very similar meanings. A cause is something that produces an effect. For example: The lightning **caused** the fire. A reason is an explanation for why something happens. For example: The **reason** the teacher asks for your phone number is so she can call you if your child is injured.

Noun forms of Cause: What was the **cause** of the accident? I give money to cancer research because it is a good **cause**.

Verb forms of Cause: Heavy traffic **causes** long delays. The drought **caused** problems for the farmers in the area.

Noun forms of Reason: What is the **reason** you come to English class? The **reason** she moved here is she hated cold weather.

Verb forms of Reason: My son was angry at me because I wouldn't buy him a motorcycle. But I **reasoned** with him that motorcycles were very dangerous and he might be killed.

One easy way to tell the difference is by which preposition follows. "Cause" is often followed by the preposition "of" while "reason" is often followed by "for".

Choose the correct word.

1. The (reason/cause) she lost her job is that she arrived late every morning.
2. Smoking is one of the (reasons/causes) of lung cancer.
3. What is your (reason/cause) for visiting the doctor today?
4. The police are investigating the (reason/cause) of the fire.
5. Give me a good (reason/cause) why I shouldn't quit my job.
6. I tried to (reason/cause) with her, but she wouldn't listen.
7. The (reason/cause) I was late is that I was involved in an accident.
8. The (reason/cause) of his illness is a poor diet.
9. I don't know why Tom won't buy a new car. I guess he has his (reasons/causes).
10. There are many (reasons/causes) why Angela doesn't want to marry.
11. For some (reason/cause), my car won't start.

12. The fire was (reasoned/caused) by a faulty electrical circuit.

13. There is no (reason/cause) for her bad behavior.

Idioms:: Read the sentence. Explain what the sentence means. Make a sentence that uses the idiom.

1...The general ordered a retreat as soon as he saw the battle was **a lost cause**.

2. Your blood pressure is very high. That is a **cause for concern**.

3. When the teacher came to class with her hair died bright pink, it **caused a stir** among her students.

4. Donating to cancer research is **a worthwhile cause**.

5. **It stands to reason** that if you don't study, you won't pass the test.

6. My husband wants to buy a motorcycle. I told him they are very dangerous. He could easily be killed if he was in a wreck. But he won't **listen to reason**.

Discussion:

1-What are some rules that you don't always follow? For example, sometimes I drive faster than the speed limit.

2-Did your parents ever make rules for you that you didn't follow? Does your country have rules that you sometimes don't follow?

3-Some cultures always follow rules and other cultures don't take rules seriously. Would you say most of the people in your culture are very serious about following rules, or do they "bend the rules" rather than follow them?

4-At your school, how were you punished for breaking the rules?

5-What are the rules at your house? Do you have special rules for your children? For example, our teenagers were required to be in bed by 10PM on a school night.

6-Do you think people ignore rules more often now than they did 20 or 30 years ago?

7-When you left home and didn't have to follow your parents rules any more, did you go wild? I admit I did. For example, my freshman year of college, the professors didn't take role. It was up to the student to decide to attend class or not. Unfortunately, my first year at college, I didn't attend every class. My grades suffered. By my second year in college, I realized I must attend class, even if there was no rule about attendance. Do you have a similar story?