

FUMC ESL 2-27-2025 Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Have you ever competed in an athletic event?

Pronouncing Homophones: Homophones are words that are pronounced the same, but are spelled differently and have very different meanings. Explain the difference in meaning in these homophones.

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|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| patience - patients | wait - weight | flu - flew | seller - cellar |
| bridal - bridle | incite - insight | mussel - muscle | slay - sleigh |
| sole - soul | paws - pause | herd - heard | air - heir |

Put one of the homophones into the blanks in the sentences below.

1. Someone who will inherit the things you own is your _____.
2. A room under your house is a _____.
3. The people waiting to see the doctor are her _____.
4. The bottom part of your shoe is the _____.
5. If you have a lot of cows on your ranch, you have a _____ of cattle.
6. A virus that causes fever and makes your muscles ache is the _____.
7. A measure of your heaviness is your _____.
8. An animal's hands are called _____.
9. If you encourage someone to fight or argue, you _____ them.
10. A small edible sea animal with a black shell is a _____.

Explain the difference in a compliment, an apology and an excuse.

If you tell someone how nice they look, you are (complimenting, apologizing, excusing) them?

If you accidentally bump into someone. Do you (compliment, apologize or excuse)?

If the weather is very bad and several of your employees are late, do you (compliment, apologize, excuse) them?

You can apologize, accept an apology, owe an apology or make no apologies. What is the difference? Look at these sentences and explain the different meanings.

1. I apologize for my sister's rude behavior.
2. Please accept my apology for my sister's rude behavior.
3. I owe you an apology for the way my sister behaved last night.
4. I make no apologies for my sister's behavior. The man she insulted was quite rude and deserved it.

You can give a compliment, pay a compliment, accept a compliment or return the compliment. Read these sentences, then explain the difference.

1. Sara gave me a compliment on my speech.
2. Sara paid me a nice compliment when she said my speech was funny.
3. It is always hard for me to accept compliments. I never know what to say.
4. When Sara said she enjoyed my speech, I returned the compliment. Her speech was one of the funniest I have ever heard.

You can make an excuse, listen to an excuse or be excused. We say, "excuse me", when we bump into someone. Sometimes we give an excuse with an apology.

EX: I'm so sorry I didn't call last night. By the time I arrived it was too late. I didn't want to disturb you.

We ask to *be excused* from an assignment or from the dinner table. *EX: Mom, I'm finished. May I please be excused? May I be excused from attending the lecture tomorrow? I'm not feeling well.*

A "back handed compliment" is a compliment that is partly an insult. *EX: You look very nice, for a woman of your age. Your son is more handsome than I expected. You're a good driver, for a woman. Your hair looks better than usual.*

If you are "fishing for a compliment", you say something that you hope will get you compliments. *EX: How do I look in my new dress?*

A "blanket apology" is one that applies to a group of people. Sometimes blanket apologies are announced on the speaker system at the airport or through signs. *EX: We apologize for the inconvenience our construction is causing.*

A "lame excuse" is one that is not very convincing. *EX: No, I can't go out with you this Saturday. I have to stay home and wash my hair.*

Accepting apologies

What should you say when someone apologizes to you?

Here are some examples. Do you have other examples of things you have used?

That's all right.

Never mind.

You don't need to apologize.

Don't worry about it.

That's OK.

Don't mention it.

I understand.

I'm sure you couldn't help it. No harm done.

What are some things you have apologized for in the past?

Would you ever tell someone you don't accept their apology?

IDIOMS: Read each story. Explain what happened in your own words. Tell what the underlined idioms mean. Does each story remind you of similar experiences in your life? Explain.

1. Buying a new car is a **bone of contention** for this couple:

My wife and I were **at odds** about what type of car to buy. To my wife, a car is simply transportation. She doesn't want anything fancy or large. She just wants a car that is dependable and will get her where she wants to go. I, on the other hand, view a car as part of my personality. I want to drive a car that says, "I'm an affluent, successful person." I want a luxury car with **all the bells and whistles**. So when it was time to go to the car dealer to find a car, we had a very hard time. My wife found a used compact car that was only a year old and was in good condition. But it was one of the cheapest cars on the lot and it looked cheap. I found a brand new luxury model. It was the top of the line. After hours of discussion, I **met my wife halfway**. We bought a mid-sized car. It wasn't a luxury car, but it wasn't a cheap compact either. The car was brand new and very nice looking. At the same time, it wasn't too showy. And I **struck a good deal** with the salesman, so it wasn't that expensive. Though we don't **see eye to eye** about cars, we were able to **meet in the middle**.

2. Dad is **over the moon** at his daughter's success.

My daughter was running in her first track meet. She had been training for months. Though she had a few **butterflies in her stomach** that morning, she was sure she would win the race. I tried to **temper her expectations**. After all, she was a 9th grader and had just joined the track team. I didn't expect her to win her first race and I didn't want her to **get her hopes up**. The loud speaker announced my daughter's race. She went to the starting line. She **flashed me a thumbs up**. She was **raring to go**. I was **on the edge of my seat**. She had **put her heart and soul into** training for this race. I didn't want her to **be let down**. In just a moment, the race was over. And to my surprise, my daughter had won! She ran over to me, **grinning from ear to ear**. She was **on cloud nine**. She had beaten all the older girls on her team. I hugged her and told her she was **my pride and joy**.

3. Mother is a **social butterfly**, but daughter is a **shrinking violet**.

Our daughter was turning 10. My wife planned a really big surprise celebration. She **pulled out all the stops**, hiring a band, some clowns and even some jugglers to entertain. She hired a caterer to prepare a beautiful birthday cake. She **left no stone unturned** when sending out invitations. My wife invited all our neighbors and all the children in my daughter's class at school as well as friends from church. I thought she was **going overboard**, but my wife **goes the extra mile** and **saves no expense** to make our daughter happy. I took my daughter to the movie, so the guests could be there to surprise her when we came home. To our **astonishment**, when we entered our home and the guests yelled, "Surprise!", my daughter **burst into tears**. She **took one look** at all the people and ran right out the door. She refused to come inside. Finally, we apologized to our guests and asked them to leave. My wife was **crushed**. Unfortunately, my wife's idea of a great party, **didn't mesh with** our daughters.