

FUMC ESL 4-16-2026 Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Talk about something fun you have done recently.

Pronunciation: One of the things that makes English pronunciation so hard, is that the same group of letters, (ex: ear) are pronounced differently. So we have HEAR that rhymes with TEAR (the wet things that come out of your eyes), but not with TEAR (a small rip). LOVE and DOVE rhyme, but LOVE and MOVE don't.

Practice pronouncing these word pairs that have similar spelling but sound very different.

bother - Mother	horse - worse	Suzy - busy	head - heat	tear in your dress - tear in your eye	hear - tear
lord - word	hear - heart	beard - heard	later - latter	steak - streak	how - low
daughter - laughter	plaid - said	wound (injury) - round	toward - forward	alive - live	tomb - bomb

Pronounce these sentences. Explain the different vowel sounds you hear in the bold words.

1. Don't **bother Mother**.
2. **Suzy** is **busy**.
3. The **horse** is **worse** today.
4. Did you **hear** your dress **tear**?
5. Follow the **Lord's word**.
6. She **heard** about my **beard**.
7. The school doesn't **allow** a student with a **low** score to enter.
8. I love my **daughter's laughter**.
9. Move **forward toward** the light.
10. **Wood** is **good food** for ants.

PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE: When we talk about places, we use these prepositions: in, at, on.

Example IN: I am in the kitchen. She is in London. I live in a big city.

Example AT: The page number is at the bottom. We waited at the traffic light. There is someone at the door.

Example: ON: The book is on the shelf. Hang the picture on the wall. Put a stamp on the envelope.

Put IN, AT or ON in the blank. In some of these sentences you can use more than one preposition, but the meaning may change. For example, you can say, "Mother is in the

hospital.” or “Mother is at the hospital.” If she is in the hospital, she is staying there. Grandma fell and broke her hip. She is IN the hospital. Where is Mother? She is AT the hospital visiting Grandma. Mother isn’t staying in the hospital, she’s just visiting.

1. What's _____ that box?
2. I live _____ 5th Street.
3. I live _____ the end of the street.
4. Tom is _____ the doctor's
5. I swam _____ the river.
6. There is a fly _____ the ceiling.
7. There's a man _____ the roof.
8. Turn left _____ the traffic light.
9. Where is your daughter? She is _____ bed. (You can't use ON without adding THE. She is on the bed.)
10. We ate dinner _____ my sister's. (You can add “house” after sister's, but it's not required.)
11. My office is _____ the first floor.
12. Did you come to work _____ the bus?
13. _____ the way home, I saw a snake.
14. Hurry up and get _____ the plane.
15. Hurry up and get _____ the car.

Students read the conversation and explain the bold words. Summarize the conversation. Discuss the questions.

Tim: The best way to **reduce crime** is to put criminals in jail. If the criminals are in jail, they can't **commit more crimes**. We should spend less money on building fancy schools and more money building jails.

Jenny: The money we spend on education for children is **a drop in the bucket** compared to the money we spend on putting adults in jail. If we spent more money on education, we wouldn't need so many jails. The U. S has one of the highest **incarceration** rates in the world. But we don't have the lowest crime rate. That proves your argument is wrong.

a-Explain what Tim and Jenny are arguing about. Who do you agree with?

b-Do people argue about spending money for schools or for jails in your country?

c-The U.S. is second only to El Salvador in the percentage of the population that is incarcerated. In El Salvador, 1,086 of every 100,000 people are in prison. In the U.S. 614 per hundred thousand are in prison. El Salvador surged to the front of the line because of a crackdown on gang activity. After a single weekend when 70 people were killed by gangs, the president enforced martial law and put many gang members in jail. Do you agree this is a good solution to the gang problem?