

## FUMC ESL 4-23-2026 Lesson

Introduce yourself.

### Discuss:

- your dream job
- a valuable life lesson you have learned
- your favorite menu item
- If you could be an instant expert at one thing, what would it be?
- dog person or cat person
- fries or chips
- favorite food most people don't eat

### Read and discuss:

1-Joanna walked into the office. Lots of people were in their **cubicles** but the room was so quiet you could **hear a pin drop**. She knew right away **something was up**. She wondered if she should ask what was wrong, or just get to work and ignore it.

What would you do if you were Joanna?

2-Paula got a letter from her **landlord**. She was afraid her landlord was going to sell the house she was renting and she would have to move. She was sure that letter **spelled trouble**. But, when she opened it, her landlord asked if she wanted to **renew her lease**. She happily answered, "YES!" What a **relief** for Paula.

Have you ever received a letter or phone call that spelled trouble?

3-Lara is going to the **city council** meeting today. The city council voted to close the libraries. Lara is angry about this. Libraries are important. She is going to the city council to **speak her mind**. Lara feels everyone needs to **speak up** when the city council votes for something that isn't right.

Do you think Lara was right to speak up or should she have **kept quiet**? Does it take bravery to speak up against authority?

4-**Suzy**: Do you still go up to your cabin in the woods?

**Lisa**: Not very often. **Once in a blue moon** we will go up there for a few days. The cabin is so far from everything and **isolated** that the kids don't like going up there. They prefer to stay in town and **hang out** with their friends. **And I can't say I blame them**. It is kind of boring up there. We just sit around and read books or lie in the **hammock** and look at the lake.

**Suzy**: I can understand that. I don't like to have too much time on my hands. I like to keep busy. And at night I'm ready for **the bright lights**. I like to go to restaurants and clubs.

a-Do you have any place that is isolated that you go away to?

b-Would you enjoy going to an isolated cabin or would you prefer to be where the lights are bright (i.e. in a city with lots of things to do)?

**These sentences have words with slightly different pronunciation. How are they pronounced and what do they mean?**

1-Don't turn the dog **loose**. He will run away and we'll **lose** him. (Notice that the S in LOOSE is pronounced with the S sound, but the S in LOSE is pronounced with a Z sound.)

2-Jeff: I'm going to quit school and find a job.

Ann: Have you **thought** this **through**?

3-**Pour** some water for the **poor** dog.

4--The **boss** chartered a **buss** to take us to the party.

5-The shop that sells **clothing** is **closing**.

6-All the **clothes** were made from the same type of **cloth**.

7-It is our **custom** to wear costumes on Halloween. Many people have **custom costumes** made for Halloween

**The sentences below have contronyms. The words mean the opposite.**

1-By the time he **left**, there were only 2 cookies **left**. (The first word means leave, the second means remain.)

2-I hope we can **weather** this awful **weather**.

3-The immigrants were **bound** and put on a ship **bound** for east Asia. (tied up or headed for)

4- We **trimmed** the cake with fresh strawberries. The dresses were too long, so Mother **trimmed** them. (one means add to and the other means to subtract from)

5-Mother will **help** you. The rain caused the picnic to be cancelled. It **can't be helped**. (help / no help)