

Conversation Questions

& Idioms & Phrases Lessons

BOOK I



Topic 01 Family



Questions

1. How big is your family?
2. What are your parents like?
3. Do you look more like your mother or your father?
4. Are/Were your parents strict?
5. Who do you get along better with, your mother or your father?
6. What is the best memory you have of your family doing something together?
7. What are some of your fondest memories of childhood?
8. What kind of things do you do with your family?
9. What was the most important thing your parents taught you?
10. Are/Were you pressured by your family to act in a certain way?
11. If you were offered an excellent job opportunity abroad, would you consider leaving your family for an indefinite period of time?
12. Describe a typical family unit and the importance of family in your country.



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 01

bored to death

- ❖ Meaning/Usage : Very bored
- ❖ Explanation : "Death" is the worst thing, so using it to compare how you feel is telling someone that you are very bored.

"I have nothing to do. I'm bored to death."

"I hate it when I'm bored to death."

"Would you rather be super busy or bored to death?"

A: Hey Seth, what are you doing?

B: I'm reading a book. What are you doing?

A: I'm bored to death. Let's do something.

B: Sure. Come over and we can play some games.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I'm so bored, I could die."

"I'm dying of boredom."

Topic 02 Friends



Questions

1. Can you describe one of your closest friends.
2. What is the longest friendship that you have had?
3. Do you have any childhood friendships that are still strong today? Tell us about them.
4. Do you have any long distance friends?
5. Have you made any friends over the Internet?
6. How do you maintain a good friendship?
7. What qualities do you think are important in a friend?
8. What things should friends never do?
9. There is a saying "To have a good friend, you need to be a good friend." How can you be a good friend?
10. What type of people do you get along with best?
11. What behavior of others hurts you most? When you have upset someone by your actions, what do you try to do?
12. Why do you need a friend?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 02

You've got to be Kidding.

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when a true statement is ridiculous.
- ❖ **Explanation** : "Kidding" is the same as joking. When a person hears something that is true, but it is not expected, the person will use this idiom to express that the statement is ridiculous.

A: Mom told me to tell you that you shouldn't stay out too late.

B: You've got to be kidding me. I'm 30 years old.

A: Patrick won the school election by two votes.

B: He's not that popular, how did this happen?

A: Nobody voted because they expected Jason to win.

B: You've got to be kidding me.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I really hope you're wrong."

"Please tell me it ain't so."

Topic 03 Cities



Questions

1. What's your favorite city? Why?
2. What are some differences between living in the city and living in the country?
3. What are some of the advantages of living in a city?
4. What are some of the disadvantages of living in a city?
5. What are the major problems in your city?
6. What size city is best to live in? Why?
7. Can you suggest some good tourist sites to visit in your city?
8. What are some historical places in your city? Have you visited them?
9. Would you prefer to live in a really old historical city, or a really new modern city?
10. If you had grown up in a different city, how would your life have been different?
11. Which cities would you like to visit in your home country? Why?
12. Which cities would you like to visit around the world? Why?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 03

sick and tired

❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when you no longer enjoy something because you have done it too many times.

❖ **Explanation** : It is common to say "I'm sick of it" or "I'm tired of it." Both of these are negative terms. If you have to do something again, it will either make you feel sick or tired because you do not enjoy it.

"I'm sick and tired of eating the same thing for lunch everyday."

"I'm sick and tired of listening to him nag all the time."

A: Where are you going for lunch today?

B: I don't know... how about a burger?

A: No. I eat that almost everyday. I'm getting sick and tired of them.

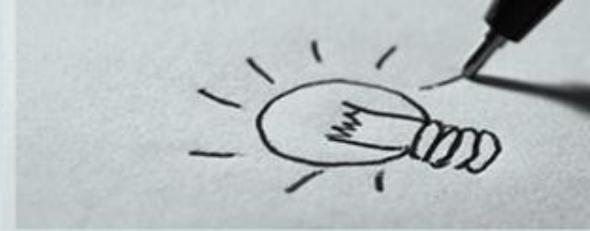
B: Let's go eat teriyaki then.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I'm getting sick of this phone. I think I'll buy a new one."

"I'm tired of the same routine. I need to find something new."

Topic 04 Habits



Questions

1. What are some good habits to have?
2. What are good study habits? What are bad study habits?
3. What are healthy eating habits? What are bad eating habits?
4. Do children learn bad habits at school or at home?
5. Which habit is the most important for parents to set as an example of for their children?
6. Are we born with our bad habits? Or do we acquire them from the environment surrounding us?
7. Do you have any bad habits?
8. How can we get rid of bad habits?
9. Have you been successful in getting rid of a bad habit?
10. How can we develop good habits?
11. Which bad habit do you think would be the most difficult to get rid of? Why?
12. Which good habit do you think would be the most difficult to develop? Why?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 04

call it a day

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used to express that the work day is over.
- ❖ **Explanation** : "Call it" is often times used to make a decision. When you add "day" to this, then a person is making a decision to say that the day is over. This is mostly used to end a working day.

"Let's call it a day. I'm too tired to continue working."

"We can't continue working without Mike, so let's call it a day."

"It's already nine o'clock. Let's call it a day."

A: How much more work do we have for tonight?

B: I think we finished everything for the day.

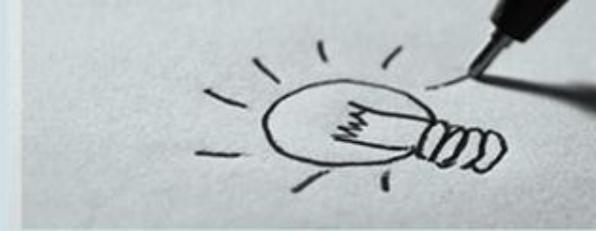
A: Good. Let's call it a day then.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"Let's turn in for the night."

"I think we should pick it up from the morning." (pick it up = continue)

Topic 05 Food & Eating



Questions

1. Are there any foods that you wouldn't eat as a child that you eat now?
2. Are you concerned about your daily calorie intake when choosing something to eat?
3. At what times do you usually eat your meals? (Breakfast?/Lunch?/Dinner?)
4. Do you cook? If yes, what food do you cook the most often?
5. Is there any food that you really dislike to eat?
6. What are some foods that are considered unhealthy?
7. What are some foods that you know are healthy for your body?
8. What country's food do you like the most?
9. What do you usually like to drink when you go out?
10. What is a typical meal from your country?
11. What special foods do you eat on holidays?
12. Are there any foods that bring back special memories for you? What are they?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 05

get on one's nerves

❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when someone or something is bothering you.

❖ **Explanation** : In this phrase, "nerves" is not used in a physical way, but to express that they are feeling bothered by what is happening.

"You're beginning to get on my nerves."

"Will you please stop doing that? It's getting on my nerves."

A: He doesn't like his birthday present.

B: He's starting to get on my nerves. It's one thing to not like it, but it's another to complain about it. We tried our best to get him a good present.

A: Yeah. It's bothering me too.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"You're beginning to annoy me."

"His complaints are starting to bother me."

Topic 06 Health



Questions

1. What are some things people can do to keep healthy?
2. What are some things that cause stress?
3. What are some ways to deal with stress?
4. Do you agree with the saying: "Eat your breakfast, share your lunch with a friend and give your dinner to your enemy"? Why do people say so?
5. How often do you eat junk food? What kinds of junk food do you eat?
6. Have you ever tried to go on a diet? What kind of diet was it? Did it work?
7. How many hours of sleep do you need daily? If you don't sleep enough, how do you feel and look?
8. What treatments or remedies do you follow when you have a cold?
9. Do you think pets are good for a person's health?
10. Why do many people try to have a healthy life style? What is the main purpose of it?
11. What is alternative medicine? Have you ever practiced alternative medicine?
12. Do you think traditional medicine is a good alternative to modern medicine?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 06

couch potato

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when someone watches too much television.
- ❖ **Explanation** : This was created for someone watching too much television because in some western countries, a person usually sits on the "couch" and eats "potato" chips while watching television.

"You have a huge belly because you're a couch potato."

"I should be more active and less of a couch potato."

A: James. We're going to play basketball. Do you want to play?

B: No, I'm going to watch TV today.

A: You did that all day yesterday. You better stop being a couch potato or you're going to get a big fat belly.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"Good luck trying to get his attention. He's glued to the television."

Topic 07 Hobbies



Questions

1. What is a "hobby"?
2. Why do people have hobbies? Why do people need hobbies?
3. Which hobbies are the most popular in your country?
4. What is your hobby? Why did you start your hobby?
5. How many hours a week do you spend on your hobby?
6. Does your hobby interfere with your work/study/personal life?
7. Which hobbies are the most expensive? Which hobbies are the cheapest?
8. Does your hobby influence your choice of friends?
9. Can a hobby save a child from bad peer influence?
10. Are there any hobbies you would like to try?
11. Do you think a hobby is different from a sport? Why or Why not?
12. Do you know anyone who makes money from his/her hobby?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 07

read one's mind

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when someone says something that you were also thinking about.
- ❖ **Explanation** : This is a stronger way of saying, "I was thinking of that too."

"You read my mind."

"I was going to suggest that. You must have read my mind."

A: Do you want to go play pool?

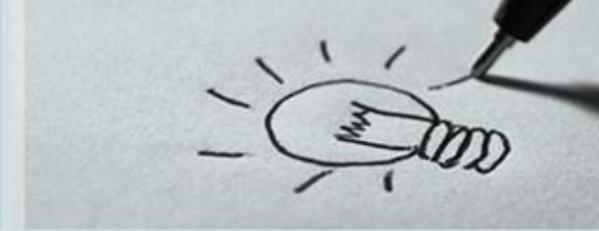
B: You read my mind. That's exactly what I was thinking too.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I was thinking of that too."

"That's exactly what I was thinking"

Topic 08 Internet



Questions

1. When did you first use the Internet?
2. What are the sites you most commonly access?
3. Do you access the Internet from your mobile phone? What type of pages do you access with your phone?
4. How has the Internet changed society?
5. Do you think our lives have been improved by the Internet?
6. Would you consider going out with someone that you met on the Internet?
7. How can the internet help you learn English? Do you take advantage of this?
8. What are some of the ways the Internet can be used for education?
9. Many Universities are now offering online courses. Give me some reasons why this is a good thing. Give me some reasons why this is a bad thing.
10. What are some security issues you must think about when you access the Internet?
11. Do you think that working at home using the Internet is good or bad?
12. Do you think that the Internet is making people more impatient and that we are becoming to want instant satisfaction?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 08

feel blue

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when someone Feels sad.
- ❖ **Explanation** : Long time ago, blue was related to the rain. Whenever the fictional god Zeus was sad, he would make it rain (crying).

"What a gloomy day. It makes me feel blue."

"Whenever I feel blue, I like to listen to upbeat music."

A: Where is Matt these days? I haven't seen him in a while.

B: He feels a little blue because he can't find a girlfriend.

A: Let's go cheer him up.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I feel a little depressed right now."

"I don't know why, but I just feel sad."

"Even though it's a nice day, I feel gloomy inside."

Topic 09 Television



Questions

1. What are the advantages of watching TV? What are the disadvantages of watching TV?
2. What is one of your favorite TV shows? Why do you like it?
3. What channel is your favorite channel? Why?
4. Do you think TV is educational? Why or Why not?
5. Do you think that TV makes people lazy? Why or Why not?
6. Do you think it is good for children to watch TV?
7. What is the purpose of advertising a product?
8. When you go food shopping, do you buy foods you've seen in TV commercials?
9. What TV commercials do you like? Why do you like it? Which ones do you hate?
10. What do you think about reality shows? Would you participate in one if you were invited?
11. If you could design a new television show to boost ratings, what kind of show would it be?
12. There is a famous English saying that goes "you are what you eat." Does this apply to television? Can the programs you watch affect your behavior?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 09

fender bender

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : A small car accident
- ❖ **Explanation** : "Fender" is the car body part that is right above the tire. "Bender" is derived from bend. Since the fender is a small part compared to the hood and door, and bend is not as bad as break or crack, combining these two indicates that the accident is very small.

"I got into a small accident. It was just a fender-bender."

"I got into a fender bender in the parking lot."

A: I got into a car accident.

B: That sucks. You didn't get hurt did you?

A: No. It was just a fender bender.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"It was a small accident."

"I rear ended him, but luckily there was no damage."

Topic 10 Dreams



Questions

1. Do you usually remember your dreams? If so, describe some of them.
2. What was your nicest dream that you can remember?
3. Do you usually read books on dream interpretation? What is your opinion on it?
4. Have you ever had nightmares? What were they like?
5. Do you generally have pleasant dreams or nightmares?
6. Do you believe that dreams can sometimes predict the future? Why or Why not?
7. Some people say that dreaming about losing money means that you will receive it. Have you ever heard this? What other sayings about dreams do you know?
8. Do you think that having dreams and aspirations is a waste of time?
9. When you were a child, what was your dream for the future?
10. Have your dreams for your future changed?
11. Do you tell people about your dreams?
12. Do you think you can achieve your dreams?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 10

(get) foot in the door

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is generally used when referring to an entry level position that will eventually lead to better opportunities.
- ❖ **Explanation** : There is no use trying to get to the 10th floor if you can't even get through the door. So getting through the door is extremely important. This statement expresses optimism.

"It's not a great position, but at least my foot is in the door."

"I need to find a way to get my foot in the door."

A: Did you find a job yet?

B: No. I'm still looking.

A: With the sagging economy, it's hard to find a job.

B: Yeah. I'm even considering a lower position. At least I'll have my foot in the door.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I'm working in the mail room. But I'm hoping I can change positions now that I'm in the company."

"I hate my position, but it's the only way I could start in this company."

Topic 11 Culture



Questions

1. What are some things that define a culture? For example, music, language, ...
2. What do you think is interesting about your culture?
3. What do you like about your culture? What don't you like about your culture?
4. What in your culture are you most proud about?
5. If you could change one thing about your culture, what would it be?
6. How do young people in your culture behave differently from older people?
7. Would you ever consider living permanently in a country other than your home country? Why or why not?
8. If a group of people just came to your country from overseas, what advice would you give them?
9. What is culture shock? Have you ever experienced culture shock?
10. On what occasions do you exchange flowers in your country?
11. Do you think "when in Rome, do as the Romans do" is always good advice? Why or why not?
12. What do you think is important when visiting another culture?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 11

chicken

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : Being afraid or scared
- ❖ **Explanation** : Chickens are very timid, afraid or scared of many things. It is common to use animals to express traits such as "sly as a fox" or "strong as a bear."

"There's nothing to be scared of. Don't be a chicken."

"Everyone thinks I'm a chicken because I didn't go bungee jumping with them."

"Stop being a chicken and just go."

A: Did you ask Martha on a date?

B: No. I was about to, but I got a little nervous.

A: You're such a chicken.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I didn't know you were afraid of insects. You're a scaredy-cat."

"He's a coward. He wouldn't even go on the rollercoaster ride."

"Jack is scared of everything. He's such a sissy."

Topic 12 Education



Questions

1. Did you enjoy going to elementary school? Why or Why not?
2. What do you remember about your teachers? Who was your favorite teacher? What teacher impressed you the most?
3. Did teachers grade students fairly? Did you ever feel like you should have gotten a better grade than you did in a class?
4. How many students were in your biggest class? How many in your smallest class? Did you prefer small classes or big classes?
5. What subjects were you good at? What subjects were you poor at?
6. Did you really learn in school or did you just memorize information and pass tests?
7. What is your attitude towards cheating? Why do students cheat during tests and exams?
8. Are there any subjects you wanted to study but they weren't available at your school?
9. Does your country provide a good public school system?
10. Is it difficult for people without a college education to get good jobs where you live?
11. Would you consider studying abroad? Why or Why not?
12. Do you think a person can become a genius, or are they just born that way?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 12

give somebody a hard time

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : To make someone feel bad for making a mistake
- ❖ **Explanation** : This can be done by complaining to the person a lot, ignoring the person, giving them a punishment, or anything that will make the person go through a hard or difficult time.

"Suzie gave him a hard time for not showing up to her recital."

"Stop giving me a hard time. There was nothing I could do about it."

"If you don't finish your project, the manager is going to give you a hard time."

A: My mom gave me a hard time for one bad grade on my report card.

B: That's a tough situation. My parents never gave me a hard time for bad grades.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"Albert is making it difficult for me."

"He's getting on my case about my comment."

Topic 13 Movies



Questions

1. Do you usually watch movies at home or at a movie theater?
2. How often do you go to movies?
3. What is your all-time favorite movie?
4. What is the worst movie you've ever seen?
5. Have you ever fallen asleep in the middle of a film? Why?
6. Which do you like better, action movies or comedy movies? Why?
7. What movie star would you most like to meet? Why?
8. Which two movie stars would you like to have for parents? Why?
9. Would you like to be an actor/actress? Why or why not?
10. If they made a movie about your life, what kind of movie would it be?
11. Have you ever seen the same movie more than once? If yes, name it (or them).
12. If a book has been made into a movie, which do you prefer to do first, see the movie or read the book? Why?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 13

make up one's mind

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : To make a decision
- ❖ **Explanation** : This is usually used when someone can't make a decision. Not only does it mean to make a decision, it also implies to do it quickly.

"Make up your mind, we don't have much time."

"I can't make up my mind. Can you help me decide?"

"If you don't make up your mind, I'll choose for you."

A: I don't know which one to get.

B: They're both pretty good, so just pick one.

A: I always regret it when I pick the wrong one.

B: You're picking between white chocolate or regular chocolate.

There is no wrong answer so hurry up and make up your mind.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I can't decide which one to take."

"I don't know if I should get the Volvo or the Ford."

Topic 14 Fashion



Questions

1. What is fashion?
2. Who do you think is the most fashionable person?
3. Do you read fashion magazines? Why or Why not?
4. What's your favorite color for clothes? Why?
5. What is the most useful article of clothing in your wardrobe?
6. Do you go to many shops before buying one particular item or do you just buy the first one you find?
7. What do you think about secondhand clothes?
8. When and where did you buy an article of clothing you're wearing right now? Why did you choose it?
9. What are some of the strangest fashions you have seen?
10. What do you think of body piercing?
11. What would you do or feel if you were refused entry to somewhere because of what you are wearing?
12. In your country do children have to wear school uniform? Do you think it is a good idea or not?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 14

throw in the towel

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : To give up; to quit; to surrender
- ❖ **Explanation** : When a boxer was getting beaten so badly, the coach or manager would throw a towel in to stop the fight. This phrase can be used outside of boxing to simply express quitting.

"I was ready to throw in the towel, but I stayed with it."

"He's not a quitter, so he's not going to throw in the towel."

A: The boxing match is great.

B: One guy is really getting beat up.

A: Do you think he's going to give up?

B: He's not going to throw in the towel.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"There's no chance for me to win. I'm calling it quits."

"I don't think I can win, so I'm going to give up."

"I'd rather surrender than get the hell beaten out of me."

Topic 15 Manners



Questions

1. Why are manners important?
2. What do you think are some good manners?
3. What do you think are some bad manners?
4. What are some good manners for using a cell phone?
5. What are some good table manners?
6. What's the best way to teach manners to children?
7. What culture is the most polite? Why do you think so?
8. Do you think it is good manners to hug or kiss another person in greeting?
9. What advice would you give a foreigner visiting your country who would like to show good manners?
10. When you are entering an elevator, what should you do if there are people getting out?
11. Can manners affect your success in life? How?
12. What are some manners in your country that no longer exist?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 15

goose bumps

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : The literal tiny bumps you get all over your body when you are experiencing intense emotions.
- ❖ **Explanation** : In some countries, they call it chicken skin because the tiny bumps on the arm looks like chicken skin. But in the US, they use "goose bumps."

"When she told me that she loved me, I got goose bumps."

"I get goose bumps anytime I'm scared."

"John told us a story and everyone got goose bumps."

A: "Did you watch the speech?"

B: "No, I missed it. Was it good?"

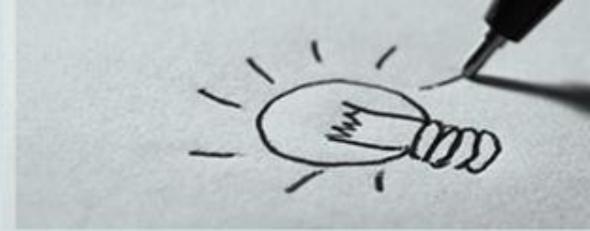
A: "It was so touching that I got goose bumps everywhere."

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I felt a jolt of excitement when I heard the good news."

"My arms were tingling when I heard that story."

Topic 16 Childhood



Questions

1. Did you have a happy childhood?
2. What did you like to do when you were a child?
3. How old were you when you learned to ride a bicycle? Do you remember who taught you to ride a bicycle?
4. What was your favorite game? Who did you play it with?
5. Were you good at making friends? How did you make friends? Did you have a lot of friends?
6. What did you like about school? What didn't you like about school?
7. Were your parents super protective? At what age could you go places by yourself? Did your parents always tell you what to do?
8. When you were a child, what did you want to grow up to be?
9. What foods did you like eating? What foods didn't you like to eat?
10. What was your favorite toy when you were a child? Who gave you this toy? Did it have a name?
11. Did you have any nickname? Explain.
12. Were you afraid of anything? What and why?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 16

stay in touch

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : To stay connected
- ❖ **Explanation** : When you can touch someone, you are literally close to that person. "Stay in touch" is indicating that the person wants to keep communicating so they will be "close" as friends.

"Call me more often man. We got to stay in touch."

"Let's stay in touch. I'll email you whenever I can."

"Are you staying in touch with her, or are you guys not talking any more?"

A: Since you are moving to England, I'm really going to miss you.

B: Yeah. I'm going to miss you a lot too.

A: You promise that you'll stay in touch?

B: Of course. We'll always keep in touch.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"Keep in touch. I'll want to know how you're doing."

"Julie told me that she would keep in touch with me."

Topic 17 Time



Questions

1. Do you think you manage your time wisely? Why or why not?
2. What is your busiest day of the week?
3. What takes up most of your time?
4. Do you spend a lot of time when preparing for something?
5. How much time do you spend sleeping?
6. Are you a "night owl" or an "early bird"?
7. Which time of day do you feel you are most productive in your work or study?
8. Are you good at getting things done on time?
9. What do you do if you forget an appointment?
10. What's the most significant time of your life? (Significant for any reason: because you liked it or hated it)
11. If you could stop time, what would you do and why?
12. If you had the power to stop and restart time, when would you use it?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 17

have the guts

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : To be brave; to be courageous
- ❖ **Explanation** : "Guts" is the stomach area. Having "guts" is representing you have a strong stomach. When you have "guts" you are saying you are brave or have a lot of courage.

"I don't have the guts to go bungee jumping."

"He doesn't have the guts to ask her on a date."

"He has a lot of guts to be hunting by himself."

A: I heard you went to Sky Mountain Park. How was it?

B: It was pretty fun.

A: Did you go on the monster ride?

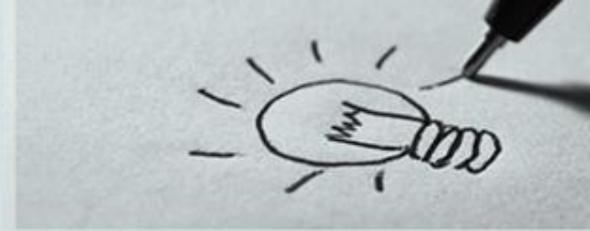
B: No. I didn't have the guts to go on that ride. It was too scary.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"He's very courageous."

"She isn't afraid of anything."

Topic 18 Weather



Questions

1. Where do you get your weather information?
2. What's your favorite season and why?
3. What crops are produced in which seasons in your country?
4. What is your favorite winter activities? (and summer activities?)
5. Which do you like better hot weather or cold weather? Why?
6. What kind of climate do you prefer when choosing a place to go on vacation?
7. Which season do you think is the most beautiful? Why?
8. Which season is the most comfortable for you? Why?
9. Do you think weather affects the way people feel?
10. How can extreme weather conditions affect the economy and social life in countries?
11. What is the hottest natural temperature (not in a sauna) you have experienced? Where and when was it and what did it feel like?
12. Do you know any interesting myths or stories about weather?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 18

rain or shine

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : Not allowing the weather to prevent you from doing something
- ❖ **Explanation** : For outdoor activities, rain can stop someone from doing something. This phrase is used to express determination of doing something no matter what external forces try to stop them.

"We're going camping this weekend rain or shine."

"Rain or shine, the protesters are out there every day."

"I don't care about the weather. I'm going golfing rain or shine."

A: I'm going hiking this Saturday. Do you want to come?

B: That sounds good. Rain or shine, count me in.

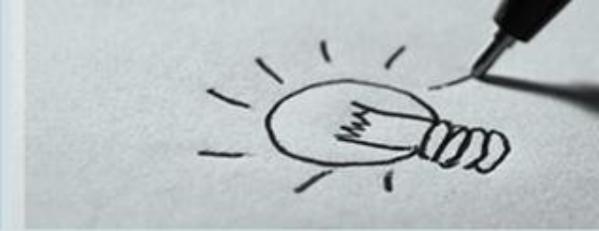
A: If it's raining, looks like you're going by yourself, because I'm staying home.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"Are you still going to go even if it's raining cats and dogs?"

"Unless it's pouring out, let's meet at seven in the morning."

Topic 19 Personality



Questions

1. What are some characteristics of your personality?
2. Are you happy with your personality? Why or why not?
3. What makes you happy? What makes you angry?
4. Are you a determined person? Are you a stubborn person?
5. Are you shy ? In which occasions are you shy?
6. Do you consider yourself selfish ? Why or why not?
7. Do you think you have an unusual personality? Why or why not?
8. Are you more introverted (focused on your inner world) or more extraverted (focused on other people and the outer world)?
9. Do you think you can change a major characteristic of your personality if you try?
10. If you could change any aspect of your personality, what would it be?
11. What personality traits do you consider important in a good friend / a boss / a partner?
12. Do you think birth order makes a difference in your personality?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 19

I'm beat.

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : I'm very tired.
- ❖ **Explanation** : "Beat" can mean to lose. It can also mean to be hit over and over again. When someone loses or they are hit over and over again, they are either mentally tired or physically tired. This phrase is saying you are very tired for whatever reason.

"I had a tough day today. I'm totally beat."

"I don't want to go out tonight. I'm beat."

"I'm beat so I'm going to sleep early today."

A: Hey Steve, we're going to go to a club tonight. Wanna come?

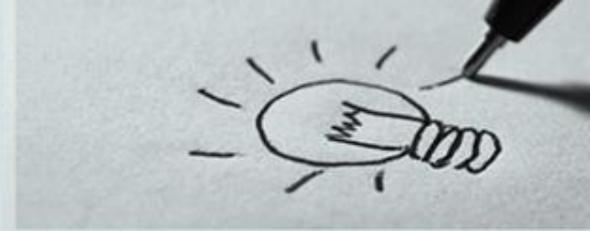
B: I worked a 12 hour shift today. I'm beat so I'm going to just stay home tonight.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"I'm very tired."

"I'm exhausted."

Topic 20 Jobs & Occupations



Questions

1. Can you talk about what a typical day at your current job is like?
2. At what age do people usually begin to work in your country? At what age do people usually retire in your country?
3. At what age would you like to retire? What do you think you will do after you retire?
4. What are the qualities a good boss should have?
5. What jobs in your country are considered to be good jobs? Why?
6. When you were a child, what job did you want to have when you grew up?
7. Would you like a job in which you traveled a lot? Why or why not?
8. Would you like to work in an office all day? Why or why not?
9. What should you not do during a job interview?
10. If money weren't a problem for you, which job would you prefer to have?
11. What are some jobs that you think would be fun? What are some jobs that you think would be boring?
12. Name three occupations that you could never do? Why do you think so?



Phrases and Idioms Lesson 20

easier said than done

- ❖ **Meaning/Usage** : This is used when something is easy to say but very hard to do.
- ❖ **Explanation** : This phrase is very literal. Often times people tell you to do something that sounds easy, but it is actually hard. So in response, you can say this phrase.

"He doesn't realize it's easier said than done."

"It's a lot tougher than that. It's one of those things that are easier said than done."

A: Do you do any stock trading?

B: No, but how hard could it be. Just buy when it goes down and sell when it goes up.

A: It's easier said than done.

❖ Other Common Sentences

"It's harder than you think."

"It's not as easy as you think."