

A Soldier's Lie

Once a soldier asked his commanding officer for a day's leave to attend his sister's wedding. The officer asked him to wait outside the door for a few minutes while he considered the request. The officer then called the soldier back in and said, "You are a liar. I've just phoned your sister and she told me she's already married." "Well, sir, you're an even bigger liar," the soldier replied, "because I don't even have a sister."



What's the Meaning ...

1. commanding officer
2. leave
3. consider
4. request
5. liar

Lesson 1

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 Command
- 2 Officer
- 3 Attend
- 4 Soldier
- 5 Already

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Why did the soldier tell the officer a lie?
2. Why did the officer tell the soldier a lie?
3. Can you remember telling such lies?

Beggar Replacement



The doorbell rang, and the housewife answered it. She found two beggars outside. "So, you're begging in twos now?!" she exclaimed. "No, only for today," one of them replied. "I'm showing my replacement before going on holiday."

What's the Meaning ...

1. beggar
2. exclaim
3. replacement
4. holiday

Lesson 2

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 Beggar
- 2 Exclaim
- 3 Reply
- 4 Replacement

Questions Related to the Topic

1. This joke is telling us something about beggars' life. What is it?
2. Do you know a joke or a true story about beggars?

Finding Ms. Right



One day a friend asked, "Why aren't you married? Can't you find a woman who will be a good wife?"

Fred replied, "Actually, I've found many women I wanted to marry, but when I bring them home to meet my parents, my mother doesn't like them."

His friend thinks for a moment and says, "I've got the perfect solution, just find a girl who's just like your mother."

A few months later they meet again and his friend says, "Did you find the perfect girl? Did your mother like her?"

With a frown on his face, Fred answers, "Yes, I found the perfect girl. She was just like my mother. You were right; my mother liked her very much."

The friend said, "Then what's the problem?"

Fred replied, "My father doesn't like her."

What's the Meaning ...

1. reply
2. solution
3. frown
4. for a moment

Lesson 3

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 powerful
- 2 complicated
- 3 realize
- 4 difficult thing
- 5 searching

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What was the man's problem?
2. What was the solution given by his friend?
3. What is his problem now?

A Day off



Two factory workers are talking.

The woman says, "I can make the boss give me the day off."

The man replies, "And how would you do that?"

The woman says, "Just wait and see." She then hangs upside-down from the ceiling.

The boss comes in and says, "What are you doing?"

The woman replies, "I'm a light bulb."

The boss then says, "You've been working so much that you've gone crazy. I think you need to take the day off."

The man starts to follow her and the boss says, "Where are you going?"

The man says, "I'm going home, too. I can't work in the dark."

What's the Meaning ...

1. day off
2. upside- down
3. ceiling

Lesson 4

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 upside-down
- 2 day off
- 3 ceiling
- 4 light bulb
- 5 dark

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What were the two factory workers doing?
2. What were they planning to do?
3. Were they able to get the expected result?
How?

The First 3 Years of Marriage



- In the first year of marriage, the man speaks and the woman listens.
- In the second year, the woman speaks and the man listens.
- In the third year, they both speak and the neighbors listen.

What's the Meaning ...

1. marriage
2. neighbors

Lesson 5

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 marriage
- 2 listens
- 3 neighbors
- 4 speak
- 5 both

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What happens in the first year of marriage?
2. Who speaks in the second year?
3. Who listens in the third year?

Book Sale



"I may want to read it again one day" is the reason why my husband keeps every book he reads. Over 25 years most of them, never opened again after the first reading, have accumulated in our cellar. One day, however, thinking he'd never notice their absence, I donated most of them to a charity book sale. As I stood admiring the empty cellar, I heard Frank call to me, "I'm home early so I can get to the book sale before it closes."

While he was gone, I prepared for the worst. But when he arrived home empty-handed, I asked him if there had been any books that interested him.

"Yes, there were lots of good ones," he replied, "but I've got them all,"

What's the Meaning ...

1. accumulated
2. cellar
3. however
4. donated
5. charity
6. sale
7. admiring
8. empty-handed

Lesson 6

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 reason
- 2 accumulated
- 3 cellar
- 4 absence
- 5 donated
- 6 charity
- 7 admiring
- 8 worst
- 9 empty-handed
- 10 lots of good ones

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What does the writer's husband do to every book he reads?
2. What did she do with the books one day?
3. What did her husband say when he came home from the charity book sale?

Weather Forecast

While we were sailing, my friend tuned in to listen to the weather forecast on a local radio station. Over the airwaves, there was a pause and an audible shuffling of papers, followed by a voice saying, "I'm sorry, I can't find the forecast, but let me look out of the window--Oh! it's a lovely drying day."



What's the Meaning ...

1. sailing
2. tuned in
3. weather forecast
4. local
5. radio station
6. airwaves
7. pause
8. audible
9. shuffling
10. lovely

Lesson 7

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 tuned in
- 2 weather forecast
- 3 radio station
- 4 airwaves
- 5 audible
- 6 shuffling of papers
- 7 look out of the window

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What were the writer and his friend doing?
2. What were they listening to?
3. Did the radio announcer have a problem with the forecast? What happened?

Vacuum Cleaner



A man selling vacuum cleaners appeared at the door of an old lady's cottage and, without allowing the woman to speak, rushed into the living room and threw a large bag of dirt all over her clean carpet. He said, "If this new magical cleaner doesn't pick up every bit of dirt, I'll eat it."

The woman, who by this time was losing her patience, said, "Sir, if I had enough money to buy that, I would have paid my electricity bill before they cut it off. Now, what would you like to use? A spoon or a knife and fork?"

What's the Meaning ...

1. vacuum cleaner
2. cottage
3. carpet
4. patience
5. cut it off

Lesson 8

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 vacuum cleaner
- 2 appeared
- 3 cottage
- 4 rushed into
- 5 magical
- 6 every bit of dirt
- 7 woman
- 8 enough
- 9 electricity
- 10 cut it off

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What did a man selling vacuum cleaner do inside an old lady's house?
2. What was wrong with the old woman's house?
3. Does the old woman have a lot of money?

Killing Mothballs



The old lady walked into a chemist's shop and bought a packet of mothballs. The next day she returned and again bought a packet of mothballs. On the third day she did the same and when she appeared the fourth day and asked again for a packet of mothballs, the chemist could not restrain his curiosity. 'You must have a lot of moths, madam?' he queried. 'Yes, I have,' she nodded, 'and I don't know what I'm going to do. I've been throwing these balls at them for three days now and I haven't hit one yet!'

What's the Meaning ...

1. mothballs
2. chemist
3. packet
4. returned
5. appeared
6. restrain
7. curiosity
8. moth
9. queried
10. nodded

Lesson 9

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 chemist's shop
- 2 a packet of mothballs
- 3 returned
- 4 appeared
- 5 restrain
- 6 curiosity
- 7 madam
- 8 queried
- 9 nodded
- 10 "I haven't hit one yet!"

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Why did the old lady go to the chemist's shop?
2. How many times had she gone there before the chemist asked her the reason for buying mothballs everyday?
3. Why did she buy mothballs everyday?

Not My Dog!



A man walks into a shop and sees a cute little dog. He asks the shopkeeper, "Does your dog bite?"

The shopkeeper says, "No, my dog does not bite."

The man tries to pet the dog and the dog bites him.

"Ouch!" He says, "I thought you said your dog does not bite!"

The shopkeeper replies, "That is not my dog!"

What's the Meaning ...

1. bite
2. shopkeeper
3. pet

Lesson 10

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 cute little dog
- 2 shopkeeper
- 3 bite
- 4 Ouch!
- 5 thought

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What did the man see when he went to a shop?
2. What question did he ask to the shopkeeper?
3. Does the shopkeeper own the dog?

Baby! Not A Monkey!



A woman got on a bus, holding a baby.
The bus driver said, "That's the ugliest baby I've ever seen."
In a huff, the woman slammed her fare into the fare box and took an aisle seat near the rear of the bus.
The man seated next to her sensed that she was agitated and asked her what was wrong.
"The bus driver insulted me," she fumed.
The man sympathized and said, "Why, he's a public servant and shouldn't say things to insult passengers."
"You're right," she said. "I think I'll go back up there and give him a piece of my mind."
"That's a good idea," the man said. "Here, let me hold your monkey."

What's the Meaning ...

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. huff | 7. sensed |
| 2. slammed | 8. agitated |
| 3. fare | 9. insulted |
| 4. fare box | 10. fumed |
| 5. aisle | 11. sympathized |
| 6. rear | |

Lesson 11

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 got on a bus
- 2 the ugliest baby
- 3 in a huff
- 4 slammed
- 5 took an aisle seat
- 6 sensed
- 7 agitated
- 8 insulted
- 9 fumed
- 10 sympathized
- 11 passengers
- 12 go back up there
- 13 piece of my mind
- 14 good idea

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What was the woman holding when she got on the bus?
2. What did the driver say to her baby?
3. What did the man who was sitting next to the woman think of her baby?

"I Don't Want to go to school today!"



"Dad, I don't want to go to school today." said the boy.

"Why not, son?"

"Well, one of the chickens on the school farm died last week and we had chicken soup for lunch the next day. Then three days ago one of the pigs died and we had roast pork the next day."

"But why don't you want to go today?"

"Because our English teacher died yesterday!"

What's the Meaning ...

1. roast pork
2. farm

Lesson 12

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 chickens in the school farm
- 2 chicken soup
- 3 roast pork

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What happened in the child's school last week?
2. What happened three days ago?
3. Why does not the child want to go to school today?

The Perfect Son



A: I have the perfect son.

B: Does he smoke?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: Does he drink whiskey?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: Does he ever come home late?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: I guess you really do have the perfect son. How old is he?

A: He will be six months old next Wednesday.

What's the Meaning ...

1. whiskey
2. perfect

Lesson 13

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 perfect son
- 2 whiskey
- 3 come home late
- 4 six months old

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What does Speaker A have?
2. What makes Speaker A's son perfect?
3. How old is Speaker A's son?

A Broken Finger



A man goes to the doctor and says, "Doctor, wherever I touch, it hurts."

The doctor asks, "What do you mean?"

The man says, "When I touch my shoulder, it really hurts. If I touch my knee - OUCH! When I touch my forehead, it really, really hurts."

The doctor says, "I know what's wrong with you - you've broken your finger!"

What's the Meaning ...

1. forehead
2. broken

Lesson 14

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 wherever
- 2 touch
- 3 shoulder
- 4 forehead

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Why did the man go to the doctor?
2. What is wrong with the man?
3. What did the doctor tell the man?

The Biggest Lie



Two boys were arguing when the teacher entered the room.
The teacher says, "Why are you arguing?"
One boy answers, "We found a ten dollar bill and decided to give it to whoever tells the biggest lie."
"You should be ashamed of yourselves," said the teacher, "When I was your age I didn't even know what a lie was."
The boys gave the ten dollars to the teacher.

What's the Meaning ...

1. argue
2. ashamed
3. lie

Lesson 15

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 biggest lie
- 2 arguing
- 3 decided
- 4 whoever
- 5 ashamed

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What were the two boys doing when the teacher entered the room?
2. Why were the boys arguing?
3. Why do you think the teacher received the ten dollar bill?

Wrong Number



A teenage girl had been talking on the phone for about half an hour, and then she hung up.
“Wow!,” said her father, “That was short. You usually talk for two hours. What happened?”
“Wrong number,” replied the girl.

What’s the Meaning ...

1. teenage
2. hung up
3. wrong number

Lesson 16

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 half an hour
- 2 hung up
- 3 talk for two hours
- 4 wrong number
- 5 replied

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What had been the teenage girl doing for half an hour?
2. Why was her father surprised?
3. Why did not the teenage talk on the phone for two hours?

The Oldest Profession



A surgeon, an engineer and a politician were arguing on what profession was the oldest.

"Eve," said the surgeon, "was made from Adam's ribs and that was a surgical operation."

"But prior to that," replied the engineer, "order was created out of chaos, and that was an engineer's job."

"But even before that," the politician insisted, "somebody must have created the chaos."

What's the Meaning ...

1. profession
2. surgeon
3. engineer
4. politician
5. ribs
6. surgical operation
7. prior
8. chaos
9. insisted

Lesson 17

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 oldest profession
- 2 surgeon
- 3 engineer
- 4 politician
- 5 arguing
- 6 surgical operation
- 7 prior to that
- 8 chaos
- 9 politician
- 10 created

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Who were arguing on what profession is the oldest?
2. According to the surgeon, what procedure was done when Eve was taken from Adam's ribs?
3. Who must have created the chaos according to the story?