

Proverbs

Introduction ❄️

full text on page 113 (cd track 1)

A proverb is a short, popular saying that expresses some common truth or thought. Every culture has them. Here are a few American ones. After you have talked about these three, share one proverb that you know with the class.

1. A picture is worth a thousand words.
2. When the cat's away, the mice will play.
3. An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Vocabulary and Pronunciation ❄️

1. **to hatch** - to come out of an egg; be born
2. **to spoil** - to make bad or rotten
3. **a broth** - a clear soup
4. **a trick** - an action animals are trained to do
5. **a worm** - a small crawling animal with no legs
6. **hard** - difficult

Partial Dictation ❄️

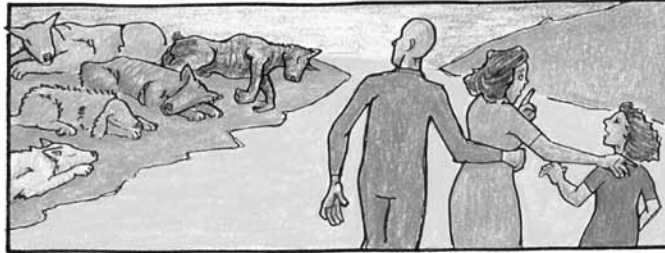
Fill in the blank spaces. Correct and discuss the meaning of each proverb with a partner.

1. There's no _____.
2. Don't _____ before they're hatched.
3. First _____, first _____.
4. Love makes the world _____.
5. _____ is _____.
6. _____ spoil the broth.
7. You can't _____ new tricks.
8. You can't have your cake and _____.
9. _____ and _____.
10. The _____ catches the worm.
11. The _____ is the hardest.
12. The apple doesn't _____ from the tree.

Discussion ❄️

Share two proverbs that you know with a partner and explain what they mean.

- 1.
- 2.

**Cooperative Learning ❄️**

Work in four groups with 3, 4, or 5 students in each group. Each student finds answers to one or several proverbs and reports back to their group. Then all four groups share the answers they have found in reconfigured groups, each person responsible for all of the answers from their group.

Group One

1. Beauty is only skin deep.
2. Many hands make light work.
3. Opportunity seldom knocks twice.
4. The grass is always greener in the other person's yard.
5. The squeaky wheel gets the oil.

Group Two

1. Two heads are better than one.
2. One man's loss is another man's gain.
3. Life is just a bowl of cherries.
4. Let sleeping dogs lie.
5. It never rains but it pours.

Group Three

1. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
2. The love of money is the root of all evil.
3. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.
4. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
5. To err is human, to forgive, divine.

Group Four

1. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
2. Honesty is the best policy.
3. You don't get something for nothing.
4. A stitch in time saves nine.
5. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Writing ❄

Choose a proverb that you know and write a short paragraph about it. If possible, include a personal experience in your writing.

If you prefer, write about one of these proverbs:



(from Africa): It takes a village to raise a child.

(from China): There are always ears on the other side of the wall.



Optimists and Pessimists

Introduction ❄️

full text on page 114 (cd track 2)

Are you an optimist or a pessimist?

Vocabulary and Pronunciation ❄️

1. **gas guzzlers** - cars that "eat up" or use more gasoline than necessary
2. **strict** - expecting rules to be followed; stern
3. **suspenseful** - full of nervous uncertainty
4. **food poisoning** - a stomach illness caused by eating bad food
5. **weird** - strange or unusual
6. **an optimist** - one who sees things positively
7. **a pessimist** - one who sees things negatively

Partial Dictation ❄️

Listen and write the words you hear in the blank spaces. Then, with a partner, decide on a response to these complainers. Take the optimist's (or positive) view.

Example:

(complaint) "The winters here in the Northeast are very cold."

(response) That's true, but you can go skating and enjoy the quiet beauty of the first snowfall.

1. "The food at McDonald's _____ ."

On the other hand, _____ .

2. " _____ is illogical."

OK, but _____ .

3. "There are _____ in the U.S."

That's true, but _____ .

4. "It's been raining for _____ ."

Yes, but _____ .

5. "American cars _____ ."

I know, but _____ .

6. "I have to pay a lot _____ ."

Anyway, _____ .

7. "My parents _____ ."

That may be true, but _____ .

Discussion and Pairwork ❄

You're walking down a busy street behind a young woman (YW) with a cell phone. You can hear only her part of the conversation, of course. Can you guess what the other person (OP) is saying? Work with a partner and decide how to complete the conversation. Then share your conversations with the class.

1. Conversation One

YW: I just had lunch at that new Italian restaurant in the North End. It was terrible!

OP: _____.

YW: I tried the chicken parmesan and the chicken wasn't cooked enough. It was pink.

OP: _____.

YW: Right. I'm just glad I didn't end up in the hospital with food poisoning.

2. Conversation Two

YW: You know that teller's job I interviewed for at City Bank? Well, I didn't get it.

OP: _____.

YW: Well, the woman who interviewed me was really weird.

OP: _____.

YW: She asked me if I liked money.

OP: Really? _____.

3. Conversation Three

YW: That used car I just bought is making strange noises.

OP: _____.

YW: I did, but my mechanic couldn't find any problems.

OP: _____.

YW: Yeah, that's a good idea.



Discussion ❁

Here are some situations where people should turn off their cell phones. Work with a partner and talk about whether you have experienced these situations. Share your experiences with the class.

Part A

1. You are in a funeral home and the minister is saying a prayer for the deceased. A cell phone rings.
2. You are in the middle of an important exam. A cell phone rings.
3. You are watching a suspenseful movie in a theater. A cell phone rings.

Part B

Who's the complainer? With a partner, decide who is complaining. In some cases there is more than one possible answer.

Example: "Why don't you do the laundry this week, dear?"

Wife (to husband)

1. "This bedroom is always such a mess."
2. "This car I just got is a lemon."
3. "She's always wearing my clothes without permission."
4. "He promised not to raise taxes and then he did."
5. "The people upstairs are so noisy."
6. "You really should lose 50 pounds."
7. "I want everyone to be on time for class tomorrow."

Idioms ❄️ *Here are some common idioms or expressions that you hear when people are upset. Can you guess what they mean?*

1. Get off my back!
2. He gave me the run around.
3. I don't like being cooped up in an office all day.
4. He gets on my nerves.
5. I'm fed up with the situation.
6. Those kids drive me crazy! They're driving me out of my mind.
7. Mary got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning.

Writing ❄️



Today you can be an optimist or a pessimist. Write a paragraph about a good or bad experience you had and explain what you learned from this experience. Begin with an introductory sentence and then explain step by step what happened.

Brain Teasers!

full text on page 115 (cd track 3)

Introduction ❄️

Here are some tricky questions. Don't be fooled! But don't worry, you won't look foolish!

Vocabulary and Pronunciation ❄️

1. **feathers** - birds' "clothing"
2. **cement** - a material that, when mixed with water, will harden like a rock
3. **a pound** - a weight of 16 ounces or 453.6 grams
4. **to bury** - put in the ground after death
5. **a sand pile** - a little hill children make with the sand at the beach
6. **a lion** - the largest wild cat
7. **a tiger** - a wild, striped cat
8. **to attack** - to use violent force

Partial Dictation and Discussion ❄️

After checking the dictation, try to figure out the answer with a partner.

Example: When the Vice-President of the U.S. dies, who is the President?

Answer: The President!

1. Which is heavier, a pound of feathers, or a _____ ?
2. How many _____ does the average person have?
3. Can a man _____ in northern United States be buried in Canada?
4. A little girl is playing _____. She is making sand piles. She has _____ in one place and _____ in another place. If she puts them _____, how many sand piles will she have?
5. Bob _____ Sam. Sam is standing behind Bob at the _____. How is that possible?
6. _____ have a lion attack you or a tiger?
7. What word, if pronounced right, _____ but if pronounced "wrong" _____ ?
8. Do you know the thing that has keys that open _____, has space but _____, and allows you to enter but _____ ?

Riddles ❄️ *(cover column B first and try to guess)*

A

1. Why do birds fly south for the winter?
2. What kind of water never freezes?
3. Who did Burger King marry?
4. Where can you always find money?

B

- a. it's too far to walk
- b. hot water
- c. Dairy Queen
- d. in a dictionary

Writing ❄️ *Write five riddles and share them with the class.*

Trivia Contest

Introduction ❄️

full text on page 116 (cd track 4)

Trivia is information that is not important but is fun to know.

Vocabulary and Pronunciation ❄️

1. **an abbreviation** - shortened form of a word or phrase
2. **a license plate** - a permit from the government attached to a car in the form of a piece of metal with numbers and letters on it.

Partial Dictation ❄️

After you fill in the blank spaces, work together in pairs or small groups and answer as many questions as you can. The group with the most correct answers wins the contest.

1. What does the abbreviation ET _____ ?
2. What do people put _____, _____, and _____ dressing on?
3. What is the _____ that a woman has had at one time?
4. What do people in the United States have to do _____ ?
5. What is the name of the _____ in India ?
6. What do you do when you _____ ?
7. Who wrote _____ ?
8. What sports event takes place _____ ?
9. Which is the _____ ?
10. What _____ do they speak in _____ ?
11. What is present in _____, _____, _____, and chocolate ?
12. What was the _____ and where _____ ?
13. Who does a car with the _____ on the license plate _____ ?
14. Who was both _____ and _____, but became a _____ ?

Cooperative Learning *

Work in four groups with an equal number of students in each group. Below are four sets of trivia questions, and each group is assigned one of these sets. Each person in the group finds out the answers to one or more of the trivia questions and then reports back to their group. This can be done as homework or in class. Each person in the group must be prepared to explain the answers to all the questions in their set. Then all the people are reassigned to newly configured groups. Finally each person shares with their new group the answers to their set of questions.

Set One

1. What is the coldest month in the US?
2. What are "subs," "po boys," and "hoagies" ?
3. What's the hardest rock?
4. Where is the smallest bone in the human body?
5. Who wrote *Julius Caesar*, *Macbeth*, and *Hamlet*?

Set Two

1. What is the most popular spectator sport in the world?
2. What does the modern slang word "cool" really mean?
3. End this common phrase, "See you later,
4. What first language is spoken by the most people in the world?
5. How can you write the words "I scream" so that they have a different meaning?

Set Three

1. How many events are there in the decathlon?
2. What are "soda" and "pop" common words for?
3. What book has been translated into the most languages?
4. What is the full term for e-mail?
5. How many words are there in the English language?

Set Four

1. What insect has been around since the time of the dinosaur?
2. What do "bucks," "fins," and "C notes" refer to?
3. What does UFO stand for?
4. What was the previous name of Thailand?
5. How many is a "baker's dozen"?



Writing ❄️ *In a group, write a mini trivia contest (5 questions) for your classmates.*



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Proverbs

(Partial Dictation)

dictation page 1 (cd track 1)

1. There's no place like home.
2. Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.
3. First come, first served.
4. Love makes the world go 'round.
5. Time is money.
6. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
7. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
8. You can't have your cake and eat it too.
9. Live and learn.
10. The early bird catches the worm.
11. The first step is the hardest.
12. The apple doesn't fall very far from the tree.

Optimists and Pessimists

(*Partial Dictation*)

dictation page 4 (cd track 2)

1. The food at McDonald's isn't very good.
2. English grammar is illogical.
3. There are so many immigrants in the U.S.
4. It's been raining for six straight days.



5. American cars are gas guzzlers.
6. I have to pay a lot for medical insurance.
7. My parents are too strict.

Brain Teasers

(Partial Dictation)

dictation page 8 (cd track 3)

1. Which is heavier, a pound of feathers, or a pound of cement? (they weigh the same)
2. How many birth days does the average person have? (one)
3. Can a man who is living in northern United States be buried in Canada?
(no, he's still living – alive)
4. A little girl is playing at the beach. She is making sand piles. She has three piles in one place and four piles in another place. If she puts them all together, how many sand piles will she have? (one)
5. Bob is standing behind Sam. Sam is standing behind Bob at the same time. How is that possible? (They are standing back to back.)
6. Would you rather have a lion attack *you* or a tiger? (You have to read this with the emphasis on the word “you” so that your answer would be, “I’d rather have the lion attack the tiger.”)
7. What word, if pronounced right, is wrong, but if pronounced wrong is right? (wrong)
8. Do you know the thing that has keys that open no doors, has space but no room, and allows you to enter but not go in? (a keyboard)

Riddle answers: 1. C; 2. D; 3. B; 4. A

Note: This is a fun activity to do after a “real” test. It’s a good way to release tension!

Trivia Contest

(Partial Dictation)

dictation page 10 (cd track 4)

1. What does the abbreviation ET stand for? (extra terrestrial)
2. What do people put French, Russian, and Italian dressing on? (salads)
3. What is the greatest number of babies that a woman has had at one time? (8)
4. What do people in the United States have to do on April 15? (file and pay income tax)
5. What is the name of the traditional woman's dress in India? (sari)
6. What do you do when you grab a bite? (You get something to eat.)
7. Who wrote A Christmas Carol? (Charles Dickens)
8. What sports event takes place on a diamond? (baseball)
9. Which is the largest continent? (Asia)
10. What language do they speak in Brazil? (Portuguese)
11. What is present in tea, coffee, soda, and chocolate? (caffeine)
12. What was the first American college and where is it located? (Harvard, Cambridge, MA)
13. Who does a car with the initials MD on the license plate belong to? (a doctor)
14. Who was both deaf and blind, but became a writer? (Helen Keller)

Cooperative Learning Answers

Set 1: January, sandwiches, diamond, ear, Shakespeare

Set 2: soccer, interesting (exciting), alligator, Chinese, ice cream

Set 3: ten, carbonated drinks, Bible, electronic mail, approximately one-half million

Set 4: cockroach, money, unidentified flying object, Siam, thirteen



Opportunity Knocks

Introduction ❖

full text on page 137 (cd track 27)

A newly arrived immigrant had an opportunity, took it, and was successful.

Vocabulary ❖

1. **traumatized** - not able to do things normally because of a very bad experience
2. **a mentor** - an experienced person who advises, encourages, and helps a less experienced person
3. **to turn down** - to refuse
4. **to kidnap** - to catch and hold a person – usually for a ransom (money)
5. **a scholarship** - money given for education either for excellence or need

Prediction Dictation ❖

In this activity you are not going to listen first. Work with a partner and fill in each blank with a word you think is correct. When you are finished, you will listen and do the dictation on the next page. Then compare your responses.

Most _____ schools will not accept young people who are _____ 17, have a history of school troubles, speak little _____, or otherwise seem unlikely to be able _____ the final exams and graduate in a reasonable amount of _____. _____ New York, a night _____ day school _____ created for these students.

Four _____ ago, just before his sixteenth _____, Jean-Luc Gerard landed at Kennedy _____ with \$20.00 in his _____, alone, speaking no _____, and traumatized by the deaths of his uncle and brother in a West African civil war. _____ mother _____ kidnapped, and he _____ saw her again.

Four _____ later Mr. Gerard _____ graduated from this high school with a full _____ to Dartmouth College. He had been a night student while _____ full-time during the _____. The teachers helped _____ with tutoring. They _____ him English. They _____ him with immigration and gave him a mentor. The mentor even gave him a party when he was _____ to college.

More than half the students at the _____ are recent _____ like Mr. Gerard. Most come to school during the day for intensive _____ classes after they have been turned down by other high schools because of their age. No one at the school has much _____. Many students at the school hold some kind of _____ to support _____, their children, and sometimes other family _____.



Listening Dictation ❖

Listen and fill in the blanks with the words you hear. Correct and discuss the dictation with your partner.

Most _____ schools will not accept young people who are _____ 17, have a history of school troubles, speak little _____, or otherwise seem unlikely to be able _____ the final exams and graduate in a reasonable amount of _____. _____ New York, a night _____ day school _____ created for these students.

Four _____ ago, just before his sixteenth _____, Jean-Luc Gerard landed at Kennedy _____ with \$20.00 in his _____, alone, speaking no _____, and traumatized by the deaths of his uncle and brother in a West African civil war. _____ mother _____ kidnapped, and he _____ saw her again.

Four _____ later Mr. Gerard _____ graduated from this high school with a full _____ to Dartmouth College. He had been a night student while _____ full-time during the _____. The teachers helped _____ with tutoring. They _____ him English. They _____ him with immigration and gave him a mentor. The mentor even gave him a party when he was _____ to college.

More than half the students at the _____ are recent _____ like Mr. Gerard. Most come to school during the day for intensive _____ classes after they have been turned down by other high schools because of their age. No one at the school has much _____. Many students at the school hold some kind of _____ to support _____, their children, and sometimes other family _____.

Discussion ❖

Work with a partner. Share your ideas with the class.

1. What kind of future will Mr. Gerard have after he graduates from college?
2. What are some of the difficulties that he had to overcome in order to graduate from high school and receive a scholarship?
3. If you are an immigrant, what difficulties did you have to overcome, and still have to overcome?
4. Has anyone helped you? Who? Did it make a difference?



Dartmouth College

Writing ❖ Choose *one* of the following topics.



1. Write a paragraph about an opportunity you have had since you arrived in this country.
2. Do you have a lot of contact with others who came from your native country?
In what ways do you help each other out?
3. Have you found what you were looking for in this country? Please explain.

Overprotected?

full text on page 138 (cd track 28)

Introduction ❄

Parents love their children. No matter how old they are, they worry about them and try very hard to keep them away from danger. Some parents try too hard to protect their children. Were you overprotected when you were a child?

Vocabulary and Pronunciation ❄

1. **overprotective** - so anxious to protect someone from harm that you restrict their freedom
2. **foreigner** - someone from a different country
3. **to pressure** - attempt to persuade someone by using influence, argument, or threat
4. **commute** - to travel from home to school or work and back
5. **prom** - a formal dance party for high school students
6. **on your own** - alone, by yourself
7. **instinct** - a natural tendency to behave or react in a particular way without having to learn about it or think about it

Prediction Dictation ❄ *This is a letter to an advice columnist. Work with a partner and decide on a word to fill in each blank space.*

Dear Amy,

I read you _____ the Internet because I _____ in Europe. I am _____ to a foreigner and _____ in his country. I love it here, but my problem is the difference in attitude about children. Specifically, I _____ a nine-year-old daughter who must take a bus to the train _____ and then a 20-minute _____ on a train to get to her school. It is a private bilingual _____. Many of the _____ in her _____ come from far _____ on their _____. In fact, this is quite common in their culture. Children are off to school on their _____ as young _____ kindergarten. I am American and my instinct is not to allow a nine-year-old to go through a big city train _____ on _____ _____. My husband and my daughter's teacher have been pressuring me; she _____ I am overprotective, that I should let my daughter make this trip _____. I am just _____ comfortable with this. Am I overprotective? How can I ever _____ comfortable about this?

Kate

Listening Dictation ❁ Listen and fill in the blanks with the words you hear. Then compare your prediction to the listening with a partner.

Dear Amy,

I read you _____ the Internet because I _____ in Europe. I am _____ to a foreigner and _____ in his country. I love it here, but my problem is the difference in attitude about children. Specifically, I _____ a nine-year-old daughter who must take a bus to the train _____ and then a 20-minute _____ on a train to get to her school. It is a private bilingual _____. Many of the _____ in her _____ come from far _____ on their _____. In fact, this is quite common in their culture. Children are off to school on their _____ as young _____ kindergarten. I am American and my instinct is not to allow a nine-year-old to go through a big city train _____ on _____. My husband and my daughter's teacher have been pressuring me; she _____ I am overprotective, that I should let my daughter make this trip _____. I am just _____ comfortable with this. Am I overprotective? How can I ever _____ comfortable about this?

Kate



Discussion ✨ *Discuss these questions with a partner. Share your ideas with the class.*

1. Do you believe that Kate is being overprotective?
2. What do you think the mother is afraid of?
3. Are you now living in a country where children have more freedom than they do in your original country?

Discussion ✨ *Discuss the following situations.*

- A. Your nine-year-old daughter's friend is having a "sleep-over" birthday party. The party begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and you are told to pick up your child at 10:00 the following morning. Do you let your child go?
- B. High school seniors stay out all night on the night of the senior prom. The night begins with a dinner dance at a hotel, followed by a party at someone's house, and ends with breakfast at a popular restaurant. Your daughter really wants to go but your husband disapproves. What do you do?
- C. Your three-year-old wants to climb to the top of a very big slide and then go down it herself. She screams when you try to help her. Do you let her do it alone?

Writing ✨ *Choose one of the following topics and write several paragraphs.*



1. Write a response to Kate, giving her advice.
2. Write about the negative and/or positive effects of being overprotective.
3. Write about a time in your life when you were overprotective or a time when you were overprotected.

Opportunity Knocks

(Prediction Dictation)

dictation page 79 (cd track 27)

Most high schools will not accept young people who are over 17, have a history of school troubles, speak little English, or otherwise seem unlikely to be able to pass the final exams and graduate in a reasonable amount of time. In New York, a night and day school was created for these students.

Four years ago, just before his sixteenth birthday, Jean-Luc Gerard landed at Kennedy Airport with \$20.00 in his pocket, alone, speaking no English, and traumatized by the deaths of his uncle and brother in a West African civil war. His mother was kidnapped, and he never saw her again.

Four years later Mr. Gerard had graduated from this high school with a full scholarship to Dartmouth College. He had been a night student while working full-time during the day. The teachers helped him with tutoring. They taught him English. They helped him with immigration and gave him a mentor. The mentor even gave him a party when he was accepted to college.

More than half of the students at the school are recent immigrants like Mr. Gerard. Most come to school during the day for intensive English classes after they have been turned down by other high schools because of their age. No one at the school has much money. Many students at the school hold some kind of job to support themselves, their children, and sometimes other family members.

Overprotected?

(Prediction Dictation)

dictation page 82 (cd track 28)

Dear Amy:

I read you on the Internet because I live in Europe. I am married to a foreigner and live in his country. I love it here, but my problem is the difference in attitude about children.

Specifically, I have a nine-year-old daughter who must take a bus to the train station and then a 20-minute ride on a train to get to her school. It is a private bilingual school.

Many of the children in her class come from far away on their own. In fact, this is quite common in their culture. Children are off to school on their own as young as kindergarten. I am American and my instinct is not to allow a nine-year-old to go through a big city train station on her own.

My husband and my daughter's teacher have been pressuring me; she says I am overprotective, that I should let my daughter make this trip by herself. I am just not comfortable with this. Am I overprotective? How can I ever feel comfortable about this?

Kate



Homeschooling

full text on page 145 (cd track 36)

Introduction ❄️

Homeschooling, the education of children at home by their parents or guardians, has gained in acceptance in the past 35 years. A recent estimate of the number of children in the United States who are schooled at home is approximately two million. The following is an interview with a parent who homeschooled her daughter, Eve, for five years. Eve is now enrolled in Michigan State University.

Vocabulary and Pronunciation - (meanings limited to this context only) ❄️

1. **to/a challenge** - to test one's abilities; something that's difficult but not impossible
2. **conservative Christians** - people who want to include more (Christian) religion in their children's education
3. **an approach** - a course of action
4. **a virtual course** - a computer course that is taken only online
5. **expertise** - a special skill in doing something
6. **to network** - to meet and exchange information with people in similar situations
7. **isolated** - separated from others



Dictogloss Pre-Listening ❄️

Listen to each sentence only once and write down the words you can remember. With a partner try to reconstruct the sentences in writing as accurately as possible. Before doing the listening below, talk about/guess the possible answers to the three questions in this pre-listening activity.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Listening ❖

You will listen to an interview with a parent who homeschooled her daughter. Listen twice. The first time, just listen. The second time, listen and check (✓) the sentences you hear. Then work with a partner to check your answers.

- _____ 1. We didn't want to send her to private school.
- _____ 2. At home she will be excited about learning and be challenged.
- _____ 3. Two million children are now homeschooled.
- _____ 4. In the 1980's and 90's, it became more popular.
- _____ 5. We can buy lesson plans in all subjects from organizations and schools.
- _____ 6. We parents share our expertise and have support groups.
- _____ 7. All parents of homeschooled children have college degrees.
- _____ 8. I do most of the teaching during the day.
- _____ 9. We have this network of activities that put homeschoolers together.
- _____ 10. Eve has many friends in her neighborhood.

Discussion ❖ *With a partner, talk about these statements.*

A. Decide if these statements are Fact or Opinion.

- () 1. Private schools are more expensive than public schools.
- () 2. Private schools are better than public schools.
- () 3. Homeschooling is now legal in all 50 states.
- () 4. Homeschooling is better than the public schools.
- () 5. Homeschooling started back in the 1970's.

B. Decide if these statements are True or False -- or write IDK (I don't know)

- () 1. Eve and her parents are very religious.
- () 2. Eve was bored in public school.
- () 3. Eve's parents both graduated from four-year universities.
- () 4. Eve's mother does most of the teaching.
- () 5. Eve received excellent grades in her courses.
- () 6. Eve has opportunities to socialize with others her age.
- () 7. You can't get accepted into a university if you have been schooled at home.
- () 8. Homeschooled students are better prepared to enter a university than other students.

C. Talk about these questions with a partner. Share your ideas with the class.

1. According to Eve's mother, what are some advantages of homeschooling?
2. What concerns do you have about homeschooling?
3. What other questions would you have for Eve's parents?
4. More African-American and Latino parents are homeschooling their children. Here are some of their complaints about public (and parochial) schools. Which do you agree/disagree with?

overcrowded classrooms

underqualified teachers

bullying by racists

too much emphasis on passing tests

**Idioms ❁** *Discuss the meaning of these idioms and expressions with your class*

1. She's conservative. She's from the old school.
2. He's a socialist. He belongs to that school of thought.
3. He was schooled in the family business.
4. She's learning the ropes on her new job.
5. Sandra is the teacher's pet.
6. Bob's a smart aleck – a "know-it-all."
7. She knows her p's and q's.
8. She has the know-how to do her job well.

Writing ❁

From your notes, write a summary of the interview. You may take each question individually and respond in complete sentences or write a paragraph highlighting the important information.

Homeschooling

(Dictogloss and Listening)

dictation pages 100-101 (cd track 36)

Dictogloss Pre-Listening

1. Why is homeschooling becoming more acceptable?
2. Who probably does most of the teaching at home? Why?
3. What do you think is one disadvantage of homeschooling?

Listening Text

Why did you choose homeschooling for your daughter?

My husband and I were not happy with the education Eve was getting in the public schools, and we didn't want to send her to private school, which is too expensive and too far away. My husband and I believed that we could give Eve a better education at home, a place where she will be excited about learning and be challenged.

Is homeschooling legal?

Yes, it is now, in every state. Back in the 1970's when conservative Christians wanted to homeschool their children for religious reasons, it was not really accepted by mainstream Americans. But in the 1980's and 90's it became more popular, not only for the religious right, but for thousands of parents like ourselves who felt we could do a better job than the public schools.

How does homeschooling work?

When we first started this project, we copied the traditional classroom subjects, trying to improve on them. But we later tried other approaches which worked even better. We can buy lesson plans in all subjects from organizations and schools. We use the Internet for virtual courses offered by different schools, and we have joined a network of families called the HS Club, where we parents share our expertise and have support groups. Sometimes we hire tutors.

Do you and your husband have teaching degrees?

I graduated from a two-year college where I studied English, and my husband has a master's degree in engineering. I do most of the teaching during the day, but we have Eve do a lot of independent study on topics that interest her, and we take lots of field trips to museums.

Were you at all worried that Eve could become isolated from other children her age?

Actually, that was a concern in the beginning, but we have this network of activities that put homeschoolers together. For example, in the HS Club we have a theater group, a problem-solving group, a ski group, and a math club. We also have science fairs and music recitals. We get together often, and Eve has made many friends.

Check List of What You Heard – Homeschooling, *continued*

1. We didn't want to send her to private school.
2. At home she will be excited about learning and be challenged.
3. Two million children are now homeschooled.
4. In the 1980's and 90's, it became more popular.
5. We can buy lesson plans in all subjects from organizations and schools.
6. We parents share our expertise and have support groups.
7. All parents of homeschooled children have college degrees.
8. I do most of the teaching during the day.
9. We have this network of activities that put homeschoolers together.
10. Eve has many friends in her neighborhood.

Discussion answers

A. Fact or Opinion? 1. Fact 2. Opinion 3. Fact 4. Opinion 5. Fact

B. True, False, or IDK (I don't know):

1. IDK 2. IDK 3. False 4. IDK 5. IDK 6. True 7. False 8. IDK