

English Class Topic



American Slang

#6 ~ Slang terms with "e" or "f"

ID 90099285 © Publicdomainphotos | Dreamstime.com

Warm up:

Think of a common saying in your country that local people all understand, but most foreigners don't understand.

American Slang: **sth = something; sb = somebody.

1. is eating sb = is bothering sb; is upsetting sb; is irritating sb **What's eating him?**
2. Enough is enough! = I've reached my limit. I can't take it anymore. **Enough is enough! Stop telling me what to do!**
3. every so often = once in a while **Every so often I like to go for a long walk.**
4. sth is a real eye-opener = something that corrects your misunderstanding of something **That video was a real eye-opener. I had no idea that Covid-19 had affected so many jobs worldwide.**
5. fall for sth or sb = believe sth that is not true/real; begin to romantically love sb **If you don't stand for sth, you're likely to fall for anything. Joan fell for Tony the first time she laid eyes on (= saw) him.**
6. fall short = be not enough **The results of his research fell short of our expectations.**
7. flip out = get extremely upset; freak out **He flipped out when he saw the damage his son did to the family car.**
8. for what it's worth = I don't know if what I'm going to say is of any value to you, but... **For what it's worth, I think you're making a big mistake if you buy that old car. For what it's worth, I believe in you, even though you don't believe in yourself.**

Questions: (Try to use a slang expression in your answers, to make sure you can use it correctly.)

1. When your close friend or spouse is in a bad mood, what might be eating him/her? When something is eating him/her, what do you usually say or do? Explain. **(When something is eating ____, I usually)**
2. On Sundays, what are some things you like to do every so often? Why? **(Every so often, I like to)**
3. In what situation and with what person(s) might you say "Enough is enough!"? Explain.
4. Describe an experience you had that was a real eye-opener in your understanding of life in America.
5. Share some of the reasons you fell for your spouse or for your boyfriend/girlfriend. **(I fell for ____ because)**
6. Share about a person, a school course, a job, or a vacation trip that fell short of your expectations. How did you feel about that situation? Also, how did you deal with that situation? **(____ fell short of my expectations because)**
7. Have you ever seen somebody flip out? If so, what caused him/her to flip out? How did he/she calm down afterwards? **(____ flipped out because) (____ flipped out when)**
8. Try to use "for what it's worth" in sth that you might say to a close friend, a colleague, your spouse or a supervisor.

=====

These lessons were created or adapted by the staff of International Friendship Ministries, P.O. Box 12504, Columbia SC 29211; ifmusa.org; info@ifmusa.org. IFM is grateful to Kathy Williams for most of the original work. Some lessons were adapted from EFLsuccess.com (with permission). IFM makes these lessons available to our participants, but this does not imply our consent for others to publish these lessons online or in print without permission. *If posted at www.ifmusa.org/english: this resource was created for our students under the understanding of "fair use" for educational purposes.*