

ENGLISH

Level 4



Small Talk

- How have you been? Had a good week?
- Where are you off to after class?
- How's the family?

Conversation

- You haven't slept and are grumpy. Someone keeps talking. What do you do?
- What are some ways to make friends in a new city?
- Create an unbreakable secret code.



Theme: Lakes

Lake Superior, Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, Lake Baikal,
Lake Malawi, Lake Titicaca

Vocabulary: Negative Personalities

arrogant
demanding
lax
stubborn
vain
naive
gullible

Idioms (review)

What do these idioms mean?

- (i) half-baked idea
- (ii) my hands are tied
- (iii) my hands are full

Grammar: Tag Questions (review)

Can you make turn these questions into tag questions:

- (i) Is your name Dave?
- (ii) Do you have any money?
- (iii) Should we do this?



Book Hotels (part 2)

Receptionist: Good evening. Welcome to The Master Motel. How may I help you?

Philip: Hi. *Is there any chance* you have any rooms? There was a *mix-up* at our hotel and they *gave our room away*.

Receptionist: Ouch. Yes, we have rooms. *Is it just* a double you're after?

Philip: *Preferably yes*, although *at this stage* we'll *take anything*.

Receptionist: Well, we have one on the first floor, and one on the second floor. Both *come in at \$32 a night*.

Philip: When you say first floor, I guess you mean *ground floor*. I'm OK with either. *Do you have any preference, Pumpkin?*

Anna: *Whichever's quietest*. I guess the first floor, *by which I mean* the second floor.

Receptionist: Ah, you're from *across the pond*. "*Two nations divided by a common language*". Anyway, there's no *sales tax* in this *borough* of Alaska, so the total is \$32 if you're just staying the one night. Here's your keycard. Towels, water, and *all that jazz*, are all in the room, but just *give me a holler* if you need anything or have any questions. It's not a big place, so I'm receptionist, concierge and maid tonight. *The name's* Joel, by the way.

Philip: Well, Joel, tonight you're also a *life-saver*. You've *saved our bacon*: *no matter how* beautiful Alaska is, neither of us fancied a night under the stars. Thanks very much

May as well

in this larger unchangeable situation, doing x is our best choice / a good use of time

You don't have to be at work for another week. You may as well take a trip somewhere while you can.

We're going to be waiting here for a while. We may as well play a game.

Since we have been paired together, we may as well try to work together.

it's not that...; it's just that...

it may look like this reason, but it is actually this other reason

It's not that I can't afford it, it's just that I think that it is overpriced.

It's not that I want to do it, it's just that it makes sense.

It's not that I don't like her, it's just that I find her bossy.



Western Culture: Muhammad Ali

When was he born?

Cassius Clay was born on January 17th 1942 in Louisville, Kentucky.

In 1964 he changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

Why is he famous?

Muhammad Ali is regarded as one of the greatest heavyweight boxers in history. He won the world heavyweight title 3 times.

In 1963, aged 22, Ali (still named Cassius Clay) beat Sonny Liston to become the youngest boxer to claim a world heavyweight title by beating the defending champion. That victory was named the 4th greatest sporting moment of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated.

Three other fights remain very famous: 'The Fight of the Century' (vs. Joe Frazier; Ali's first loss); 'The Rumble in the Jungle' (vs. George Foreman; fought in Zaire); and 'The Thrilla in Manilla' (his third fight against Frazier).

Ali's personality and over-the-top statements made him popular with the media, including his catchphrase 'I am the greatest'; that he 'floats like a butterfly and stings like a bee'; he beat George Foreman with 'rope-a-dope' tactics; and Joe Frazier was 'too dumb to be champion'. He was nicknamed 'The Louisville Lip' because of his habit of trash talking and self-aggrandization. .

He was also arrested, suspended for 3 years and had his heavyweight title removed for refusing join the army during the US-Vietnam War.

What was his mark on history?

Ali's name remains near the top of the list of greatest ever boxers. His most famous fights are still replayed on TV and have been the subjects of movies.

His boastful style and playing to the media have been copied by many boxers since.

The decision to change his name after converting to Islam (stating Cassius Clay was a 'slave name') was controversial at the time, but has been done since by a variety of celebrated people. Similarly his decision to not join the US army remains one of the most famous examples of refusing the US draft.

Notes

In 1978 Louisville made a Muhammad Ali Street. Within a week 12 of the 70 street signs had been stolen.

Ali was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Obviously frail he lit the flame at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Also in 1996 the documentary 'When We Were Kings' – about the 'Rumble in the Jungle' – won an Oscar.

Ali's daughter became a women's boxing champion.

