(3) Idioms

Podcast Length: 12:42

Character Value: Being considerate Health Message: Exercise & moods

Introduction

Today's Walking Classroom podcast focuses on idioms. Idioms are groups of words that, when said together, have an understood meaning that is different from what the words actually mean. For example, "to be on the moon" doesn't actually mean that a person is on the moon, it is an idiom that people say when someone is very distracted. All languages have idioms, and sometimes it can be difficult for people who are learning a new language to understand the meanings behind them.

Discussion

1. What were some of the big ideas of this podcast?

- ✓ An idiom is a group of words whose literal meaning is different than the actual meaning of the expression.
- ✓ The origins of many idioms can be traced to an event or custom, but the origin of many idioms is unknown.
- ✓ Most languages have their own idioms, and an unfamiliarity with the language can lead to misunderstandings of intended meanings.
- 2. People use idioms all the time in their everyday conversations.
 - a) What are some common idioms that you or people you know use regularly?
 - ✓ Suggestions: Cat got your tongue, actions speak louder than words, barking up the wrong tree, bite off more than you can chew, can't judge a book by its cover, etc.
 - b) What do you think the history of those idioms might be?
 - Example: Can't judge a book by its cover...maybe a person looked at the cover of a book and thought it was one they wouldn't like, only to later read it and find out it was one of their favorites.
- 3. Idioms can be difficult for individuals that are trying to learn a new language.
 - a) Do we need idioms in our language?
 - ✓ Suggestion: Idioms can be funny, express a great deal of information in a few words, help paint a picture in our minds, create a sense of community, etc. However, they can be confusing and frustrating to people learning a new language.
 - b) Why is it important to be considerate of people who speak a different language when we are communicating?
 - ✓ Suggestion: Respect is important in any situation, and when people are making an effort to learn a new language, it's important to appreciate and encourage their efforts.

Health Check

- 1. When you walk, your heart pumps faster and more oxygen-rich blood circulates around your body.
 - A) True B) False
- 2. Scientists have proven that exercise puts people in a bad mood.
 - A) True B) False