



All About

Top 5 Phrases Your English Teacher Will Never Teach You

13

Grammar Points

2

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Phrases Your Teacher Might Never Teach You

1. "Ain't"

"Ain't" stands for "hasn't," "haven't," "aren't," "isn't," "am not," "don't," "doesn't," and "didn't." You'll hear people replace all those words with "ain't." The word came after a contraction of "am not," which changed to "an't," then finally to "ain't." This word is good to know rather than to use, since people may view someone as uneducated if he or she uses it with the wrong company. However, people use it from time to time, so next time you hear it, you'll understand its meaning.

For Example:

1. "Say it ain't so!" meaning "Say it isn't so!"
2. "We ain't done yet" meaning "We aren't done yet."

2. "My Bad"

"My bad" is a light apology and means the same as "I'm sorry." Since it's less serious, we often use it casually.

For Example:

1. A: "Stop playing around!"
B: "My bad."
2. A: "You stepped on my foot!"
B: "Oops, my bad."

3. "Call"

This word in this case has nothing to do with a telephone call and does not mean to shout out to somebody. Instead, it means "decision."

For Example:

1. "Good call" means "Good decision"
2. "It's your call" means "It's your decision"

We can also use it to mean that something almost happened but didn't.

For Example:

1. "That was a close call!"

4. Words to Call a Friend or Partner

There are many words to call a friend. These are only a few: "buddy," "pal," "mate" (one person), "Bonnie and Clyde," "partners in crime," and "better half" (in a couple).

For Example:

1. "He's my mate from high school."
2. "Where's your partner in crime tonight?"

5. "Cool"

We use "cool" very often in casual conversations and it has several meanings. We can use it as a response to a question or as an adjective meaning "nice," "yes," or "good." Don't use this word if you're in polite company if you want to be safe.

For Example:

1. "Cool apartment" meaning "Nice apartment"
2. "She's cool" meaning "She's a good person."
3. "What do you think of the painting?" "It's cool" meaning "It's nice."

We use many more slang terms in everyday conversation; however, these five are common and are useful to know.