
M: Hello English learners! Welcome back to **EnglishPod**! My name is **Marco**.

E: And I'm **Erica**.

M: And today we're gonna have a fun... funny lesson.

E: That's right. So, I think this lesson's gonna be a little bit different than most of our lessons, right?

M: Right, today we're gonna be looking at **jokes**, which is a very important part of English speaking culture.

E: Yeah, so, we're actually... we're gonna teach you a few, um, pretty **hilarious** jokes.

M: Hehe.

E: But we're also gonna teach you some language related to jokes, funny things and, um, that sort of stuff.

M: Alright, so, in order for us to understand a little bit better the jokes that we're gonna be looking at, why don't we take a look at "**vocabulary preview**"?

Voice: Vocabulary preview.

E: Two of these words you'll hear in the dialogue, but one you won't, but you still need to know this word, so you can understand the jokes.

M: Alright, so, the word that we're talking about is not really a word, it's a sound.

E: Yeah.

M: **Moo**.

E: Moo.

M: So, moo is the sound that cows make.

E: That's right, M-O-O.

M: Right, they go "moooo".

E: Very nice, Marco.

M: Uh, I could do a good cow.

E: Yep. Alright, so, we all know now that that's what cows say.

M: Exactly, so, it's gonna be important for the joke and you'll see why.

E: Okay, now, another word that you need to understand is a **dam**.

M: So, a dam.

E: A dam.

M: A dam is, uh, is... is like a big wall, right?

E: Well, it's a wall in water that stops the river from flowing.

M: Okay, so, usually they'll build dams in rivers and then the water can pass or not.

E: Yeah, it's something that you use to generate electricity, right?

M: Very good, but there's another word that sounds exactly the same way, but it's just spelled a little differently.

E: That's right and... and we might hear someone say "Oh, damn!"

M: And that's an **interjection** which basically means...

E: "Oh, no!"

M: Right.

E: "That's terrible!"

M: Aha.

E: Yeah.

M: Damn... I can say "Damn, I forgot my keys".

E: Uhu. "Damn, we're late for the movie".

M: Okay, so, it's an interesting **interjection** and we'll also see it in one of our jokes. And now, let's move on to our last word.

E: **Nostrils.**

M: Okay, nostrils.

E: Nostrils.

M: So, a nostril or your nostrils...

E: Are the two holes in your nose.

M: Right, you breathe through your nostrils.

E: Uhu.

M: Alright, so, now that we've taken a look at these three words, why don't we listen to our comedian for the first time and then we'll come back and talk a little bit more.

DIALOGUE, FIRST TIME

E: Okay, so, some pretty hilarious jokes, huh?

M: I don't think the crowd really enjoyed them **all that much.**

E: Okay, well, maybe, um, I'm just a fan of really terrible jokes.

M: Hehe. Well, they were pretty funny, but I guess the crowd just didn't appreciate his, uh, sense of humor.

E: But you know what, they did use quite a lot of really interesting language, so why don't we look at that now in "**language takeaway**"?

Voice: Language takeaway.

M: On language takeaway we're gonna be looking at six words today, so let's get started. The announcer welcomed everyone and said that, uh, it's **open mic night**.

E: Open mic night.

M: So, an open mic night.

E: Okay, well, we know **mic** is short for microphone, right?

M: Uhu.

E: Now, an open mic night is a chance for anyone can come up and talk into the microphone.

M: So, you can come up and sing or you can tell jokes, you can do anything, basically.

E: Yep.

M: Alright, open mic night.

E: So, it's not for professionals, but for people who maybe want to be professionals.

M: Right, **amateurs**.

E: Uhu.

M: So, it was open mic night and he said they had a lot of great**comics** there.

E: So, comics.

M: A comic.

E: A comic.

M: So, basically, a comic is a person...

E: Uhu.

M: That **makes a living** by making people laugh.

E: Yeah, someone who... who stands up on stage and tells jokes.

M: Alright, would you say a clown is kind of like a comic?

E: No, they're different.

M: They're different, right?

E: A... a comic doesn't wear a red nose and a crazy...

M: A costume.

E: Yeah.

M: Alright, yeah, cause I hate clowns! Hehe.

E: We **do know** that about you.

M: Alright, so, a comic. And, well, what comics do is they perform **stand-up comedy**.

E: Stand-up comedy.

M: Stand-up comedy.

E: Okay, so, stand-up comedy is... is really exactly what its name suggests, right?

M: Right, you stand up in front of, uh... an audience and you tell jokes and... or you make them laugh.

E: Yeah, tell funny stories.

M: It's a very popular form of entertainment in the United States and the UK.

E: That's right, um, and I think we'll talk a little bit more about that at the end of the lesson. But why don't we move on to our next word which is **routine**.

M: A routine.

E: So, the guy says "I've been working on my routine".

M: So, what does he mean by **his routine**?

E: Well, I guess a... a routine is like a series or a collection of jokes or maybe movements that you use in a performance.

M: Alright, a routine.

E: So, you can talk about a dance routine.

M: Or in this case a comedy routine.

E: Uhu.

M: So, the series of jokes he's gonna tell.

E: That's right, that he practices again and again and again.

M: Alright, and in his routine he said he's got a lot of **zingers**.

E: Zingers.

M: A zinger.

E: So, what's a zinger?

M: Basically, a zinger is like a strong, maybe a little bit rude joke.

E: Yeah, but like, uh, kind of a **one line joke**, right?

M: Right, exactly.

E: Yeah.

M: And the people that were in the crowd and they were **booing** him, they were like "Boo".

E: Mm.

M: Those we call **hecklers**.

E: Exactly and that's our last word – a heckler.

M: A heckler.

E: Hecklers.

M: So, let's listen to some hecklers in action.

The sound of booing hecklers.

E: Alright, well, I think that's pretty clear. Those are definitely hecklers.

M: Right, they're very annoying.

E: Uhu.

M: So, now that we finished looking at all the words that are related to comedy and performances, let's, uh, take a look at the jokes now in "**fluency builder**".

Voice: Fluency builder.

E: Okay, well, we're not really focusing on... on new phrases for you here, but we thought it would be helpful to, um, talk a little bit about the jokes to help you understand them, right? Cause they are, well, I think pretty funny.

M: Yeah, they're pretty funny, but maybe sometimes they're kind of hard to understand. So, why don't we start with the first joke? So, he said **where do you find a one-legged dog?**

E: What's a... a one-legged dog?

M: Basically, it's a dog that has one leg.

E: Uh, okay, and the **pronunciation** here's... is important, right?

M: **One-leggEd.**

E: Not, **one-leggeD.**

M: No.

E: **One-leggEd.**

M: So, you can say "A one-legged dog, a two-legged dog or a three-legged dog".

E: Six-legged dog?

M: A six-legged spider, maybe lost two legs in, you know... in a war.

E: Oh, dear. Okay, so, uh, the dog obviously didn't go anywhere and so that's why **you find it where you left it.**

M: Exactly, so, that's why it's kind of funny.

E: Okay.

M: Alright, so, then he said **what do you call a sheep with no legs?**

E: I don't know.

M: A **cloud**. Basically, because, you know, sheep are fluffy and they're white, so if you take away their legs, they look like a little cloud.

E: Boo.

M: Alright, let's look at the next one. He asked **what do cows do for entertainment?**

E: And then the answer was **they rent mooovies**.

M: Exactly, so, it's kind of funny, because he's relating this word **movies** with what the... with the sound that cows make, which is **moo**.

E: Right, and actually, um, there are a million jokes in English following the same pattern, right?

M: Yeah, exactly. So, I'm sure you can find a lot more of them and you can share them with us.

E: Now, my personal favorite joke is the guy says **what does a fish say when it runs into a wall?**

M: So, to run into a wall, basically, is to crash against the wall.

E: Yeah.

M: So, what does a fish say?

E: **Dam!**

M: So, why is this funny? Why does he say "Dam"?

E: Well, cause it's... I mean if you... if you... if you a person and you run into a wall... Damn! Like the... you know, just like "Oh, no!"

M: Ouch... ouch.

E: Ou... yeah. But a fish is swimming under the water and like we saw a **dam** is actually like a wall in the water.

M: So, he's saying like "Oh, a wall".

E: Yeah, yeah, yeah. So, it's that... I like that one.

M: Hehe. Alright, the last one was pretty good. **Why do gorillas have big nostrils?**

E: Okay, so, the big holes in their nose.

M: Right, and basically it's **because they have big fingers**.

E: So, they can put their fingers in the nose?

M: Yeah, exactly! How...

E: Oh, dear.

M: If the gorilla didn't have big nostrils, he wouldn't be able to pick his nose.

E: Maybe he'd have to use a stick.

M: Yeah, but that wouldn't be convenient, see?

E: Alright.

M: So, that's why those jokes are funny. They're very short jokes. Some... of course, some of them are not actually really funny, but, uh... it's just a little bit of **a taste of** short American jokes.

E: Okay, well, I think we need to hear them one more time in context, so, um, you can all know how funny or maybe not so funny they are.

DIALOGUE, SECOND TIME

E: And now, if you have any, uh, good jokes of your own, uh, why don't you come to our website and tell us about them?

M: Right, come to englishpod.com, share with us any jokes. Of course, they have to be clean. Don't come and...

E: No... yeah, no swears.

M: No swearing in the... in the jokes.

E: Yeah.

M: Alright, so, we'll see you guys there and until next time...

E: Thanks for listening and... Good bye!

M: Bye!
