

Lesson 8: Happiest People in The World

Lesson Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- ✓ Identifying "happiness" and "social progress"
- ✓ Things that make tourist happy;
- ✓ social progress
- ✓ common idioms and collocations
- ✓ word stress

For many decades, the progress of society was always associated with economic or material elements. A society was considered advanced if it is able to reach a certain level of income. Nowadays, that assessment is starting to shift. Happiness has begun to be considered a proper measure of social progress.

Likewise, in the tourism industry, the happiness of visitors or tourists is a measure of the success of the tourism business. Tourist satisfaction during a visit to our tourist site is a major concern. So, what are the factors that can make a tourist happy? How do you know if the tourists are happy with the services and facilities we provide?

The main purpose of traveling is to pursue happiness. In general, things that make a tourist happy are beautiful views, a comfortable place to stay, good food, and hospitality. To be able to find out whether the tourists are happy, we can ask their impressions of spending time at our tourist sites. In order to enrich our vocabulary related to happiness, we need to learn about idioms that lead to the meaning of happiness.

Idiom is a group of words in a fixed order that have a particular meaning which is different from the meanings of each word understood on its own. Thus, idioms cannot be taken literally. In expressing happiness, you can use these idioms.

Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
Have a whale of time	To have a very good time or have an exciting
Over the moon	Extremely pleased and happy
Feast your eyes on	To take great pleasure in looking at someone or something
Blow away the cobwebs	If something blows away the cobwebs, it makes you feel more lively and refreshes your ideas
Happy Camper	A person who is completely satisfied with his life or with a certain situation in life. He/she never complains, and he/she simply enjoys life.
Paint the town red	A person is very happy and is going to go celebrate something with friends or relative by going out to a bar or having party.
On top of the world / on cloud nine / in seventh heaven	Someone is extremely happy or a state of perfect happiness
Walking on air	It describes that you are so happy that you feel like you are floating
As happy as clam	This can be considered as the time when people are most happy
Like a dog with two tails	It describes someone who is quite happy
Grin from ear to ear	It describes a person's broad smile that shows extreme happiness.

Tickled pink	Denotes a person being so pleased by something that they glow with happiness.
Music to your ears	Describe the situation when the information you come to know of makes you very happy.
Be a barrel of laughs	To be fun, funny, and pleasant
Chill out	Do something that helps them to calm down and relax for a while
In one's element	In a situation which is entirely suitable, familiar, or enjoyable
Full of the joys of spring	Very happy, enthusiastic and full of energy
Guilty pleasure	Enjoying something which is not generally held in high regard, while at the same time feeling a bit guilty about it, is called a guilty pleasure.
Happy-go-lucky	If you are a happy-go-lucky person, you are cheerful and carefree all the time
Have a ball	To have a very enjoyable time
Take it easy	When you relax, or do things at a comfortable pace, you take it easy.
Let's one's hair down	If you suggest that someone should let their hair down, you are telling them to relax and enjoy themselves.
More fun than a barrel of monkeys	A very good time; a pleasant occasion

Using idiom in conversations can show that we have deeper understanding of English. Another way to improve our English-speaking skill is learning about collocation. A collocation is two or more words that often go together. These combinations just sound “right” to native English speakers, who use them all the time. On the contrary, other **combinations** may be unnatural and just sound “wrong”. So, we have to be careful in placing words. Here is an example of a collocation for the word “happy”

Collocations

Collocation for the word “happy”	
Part of Speech	Example
Verb: appear, be, feel, look, seem, make, keep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new married couple appears happy. • Her smile always makes me happy. • He cleans the guest house regularly to keep the guests happy.
Adverb: extremely, only too, particularly, really, very, completely, perfectly, quite, genuinely, truly, fairly, pretty, reasonably, relatively, just	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was extremely happy when she got an A for English. • They were truly happy to have a vacation in Lombok. • I’m just happy to see you again.
Preposition: about, for, with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My parents are not too happy about my exam. • I was quite happy with the way things went.

Beside idiom and collocation, our English-speaking skill can be improved by understanding the word stress. What is word stress? Why word stress is important in English speaking skill?

The word stress means pronouncing one syllable of a multisyllabic word with greater emphasis (stress) than the other syllables in the word. It’s important to stress the correct syllables in each word because mistakes in word stress are a common cause of misunderstanding in English. In another word, if you are wrong in emphasizing a word, there is a risk that the other person will misunderstand your meaning which means communication failed. Therefore, learning about word stress is a need in English speaking.

Here are four general rules about word stress:

	Rule	Example
1. Stress the first syllable of	Most two-syllable nouns	CLimate, KNOWledge
	Most two-syllable adjectives	FLIPpant, SPAcious
2. Stress the last syllable of:	Most two-syllable verbs	reQUIRE, deCIDE
3. Stress the second-to-last syllable of:	Words that end in <i>-ic</i>	ecSTATic, geoGRAPHic
	Words ending in <i>-sion</i> and <i>-tion</i>	exTENSion, retriBUtion
4. Stress the third-from-last syllable of:	Words that end in <i>-cy</i> , <i>-ty</i> , <i>-phy</i> and <i>-gy</i>	deMOCracy, unCERTainty, geOGRAPHy, radiOLOGy
	Words that end in <i>-al</i>	exCEPTional, CRItical

Exercise

1. After getting a red rose from him, I was _____.
 - A. walking on the moon
 - B. walking over the sun
 - C. over the moon
 - D. over the cloud
2. Welcome to Madakaripura waterfall. _____ the wonderful scenery here.
 - A. Feast your mouth on
 - B. Feast your ears on
 - C. Feast your head on
 - D. Feast your eyes on
3. I'm stuck. I have no idea to continue my writing. I think I need a break and _____.
 - A. have a whale of time
 - B. over the moon
 - C. feast your eyes on
 - D. blow away the cobwebs
4. I love the music performance. It was more fun than _____.
 - A. a barrel of monkeys
 - B. a barrel of dogs
 - C. two tails of dogs
 - D. one's element
5. Caroline was _____ when she heard that she got the first prize.
 - A. on top of the cloud
 - B. on cloud nine
 - C. on cloud seven
 - D. in ninth heaven

6. I cannot deny that gossiping is trashy but doing it with close friends is my _____.
- A. tinkled pink
 - B. happy camper
 - C. guilty pleasure
 - D. music to your ears
7. It's weekend, John. Relax yourself. Let's _____ and enjoy the show.
- A. your head down
 - B. my hair down
 - C. my head up
 - D. your hair down
8. Donna got a new car for her birthday. She is such a _____ right now.
- A. a happy dog
 - B. a barrel of monkey
 - C. a happy camper
 - D. a ninth cloud
9. Ryan is grinning _____ since he finally got the job.
- A. as happy as clam
 - B. from ear to ear
 - C. to the seventh heaven
 - D. in one's element
10. I'm lucky to have a friend like Lucy. She is a _____ girl who is always in good humor.
- A. tickled-blue
 - B. happy-luck
 - C. tickled-lucky
 - D. happy-go-lucky