VOCABULARY · EPISODE 192

Weekly English Recap: Rain, Luck & Clear Choices — 38 Shadowing Pairs

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

14 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

a dry spell

DEF

A period with little or no rain.

Used for weather and figuratively for a period without something expected.

The garden suffered during a long dry spell.

After the dry spell, everyone welcomed the rain.

2

an earthy smell

DEF

A natural smell like damp soil after rain.

Earthy often suggests soil and a natural, fresh quality.

Rain brought an earthy smell into the garden.

I love the earthy smell after a summer storm.

3

take shelter

DEF

Move to a protected place because of weather or danger.

Take shelter is more specific than simply go inside.

We took shelter under a tree during the shower.

The walkers took shelter when the wind became strong.

4

a stroke of luck

DEF

An unexpected piece of good fortune.

It usually describes a helpful event that was not planned.

Getting two tickets was a stroke of luck.

Finding my keys was a real stroke of luck.

5

beginner's luck

DEF

Success that happens when someone is new to an activity.

It can be playful and does not deny that the person may improve later.

Her first win may have been beginner's luck.

I got it right on my first try, perhaps through beginner's luck.

6

leave something to chance

DEF

Depend on luck rather than making a plan.

Usually used negatively when preparation is wiser.

Do not leave the result entirely to chance.

We checked the route instead of leaving it to chance.

7

fine

DEF

Acceptable or satisfactory, but not necessarily excellent.

Fine can sound less enthusiastic than great.

Tuesday is fine with me.

The plan is fine, but it could be better.

8

doomscrolling

DEF

Continuing to read upsetting news online for too long.

An informal digital-culture word with a negative feeling.

I started doomscrolling after a worrying headline.

He stopped doomscrolling before bed.

9

a dramatic claim

DEF

A striking statement that may need context or evidence.

Dramatic can describe the style of a claim, not proof that it is true.

The headline made a dramatic claim without context.

Check a dramatic claim before you share it.

10

hold on to

DEF

Keep something firmly or refuse to let it go.

It can be literal or figurative.

The traveller held on to his cloak.

She held on to the old photograph.

11

persuade

DEF

Make someone agree or do something by giving reasons or encouragement.

Persuade is gentler than force.

The Sun persuaded the traveller with warmth.

She persuaded me to try the course.

12

good value for money

DEF

Worth the price because of its quality or usefulness.

It compares benefits with cost, not simply a low price.

The coat was good value for money.

This course is good value for money.

13

quiet quitting

DEF

Doing the duties in a job description without regularly taking on extra work.

It does not literally mean resigning.

Quiet quitting does not usually mean leaving a job.

They discussed quiet quitting and workplace boundaries.

14

set clear boundaries

DEF

Make limits and expectations known.

Often used about work, time and relationships.

Set clear boundaries before extra work becomes expected.

We set clear boundaries about weekend messages.