

TRANSCRIPT · EPISODE 57

Six Minutes of Words in Action

Full episode script · English

89 lines

Your English Toolbox

Part one: The atmosphere killer.

Imagine you are at a great party with music and laughter.

The energy is high, and everyone is smiling.

Suddenly, one person starts complaining about the volume of the music or the price of the drinks.

You can feel the joy leaving the room immediately.

Welcome to Your English Toolbox, your slow English podcast, where we train your ears step by step.

I am Martin.

And I am Julia.

Today, we are going to explore the social vocabulary of the people who ruin the fun.

We will share two stories to help you remember these colorful slang expressions.

By the end, you will know exactly how to describe that one person who always brings the mood down.

If you stay until the end, you will gain three great benefits for your English.

First, you will master natural social slang that native speakers use every weekend.

Second, you will improve your ability to follow fast conversations about people and personalities.

Also, if you watch TV shows and movies in English, you will find these words again and again.

Third, you will learn how to use these words naturally without sounding like a textbook.

Part two: The Friday night disaster.

Let us start with a little story from last Friday night.

I was so excited to go to the new jazz club downtown.

I remember you were looking forward to that for weeks.

Exactly!

But my friend brought his cousin along, and honestly, he was such a buzzkill.

Oh, no.

Did he kill the buzz immediately?

He really did.

A buzzkill is someone who destroys the excitement or the buzz of a situation.

He kept saying the music was too loud, and the chairs were uncomfortable.

That sounds like a total wet blanket.

He was.

A wet blanket is a great expression because it suggests someone putting out a fire with a cold, wet cloth.

They dampen the spirit of everyone around them.

I hate it when people do that.

It makes me feel like I have to apologize for having fun.

He was a complete killjoy, always finding a reason to moan about the service.

So he literally killed the joy of the evening?

Yes, and then he decided to leave early, but not before being a party pooper.

A party pooper is someone who refuses to join the fun or leaves early, making others feel bad.

It sounds like he was just a stick-in-the-mud who did not want to try anything new.

That is the perfect description.

A stick-in-the-mud is someone who is old-fashioned and resists having any fun.

And let me guess, he was a bit of a Debbie Downer, too?

Absolutely.

He kept talking about the bad economy while we were trying to dance.

Part three: The vocabulary breakdown.

These words are so useful for describing social situations.

They really help us name the feelings we have when someone is being difficult.

You mentioned buzzkill first.

Is that different from a killjoy?

They are very similar, but a buzzkill often feels more sudden.

One negative comment can be a buzzkill.

A killjoy is often someone's permanent personality trait.

That makes sense.

And what about the wet blanket?

It sounds quite physical.

It is.

Think of a bright, warm fire of conversation.

The wet blanket person comes and sits on the fire, and everything turns to gray smoke.

I love that image.

What about party pooper?

It sounds a bit funny, does it not?

It is a bit informal and childish, but very common.

We use it when someone does not want to participate in a game or a dance.

And stick-in-the-mud feels like someone who is just boring.

Exactly.

They are unadventurous.

Finally, a Debbie Downer is specifically for someone who brings up sad or negative topics during a happy time.

Part four: The office party recap.

To finish, let us look at another scene to see if you can recognize the words.

Last week at the office party, everyone was celebrating a big success.

Oh, I heard about that!

Most of us were having a great time, but the accountant was such a stick-in-the-mud.

He refused to wear a party hat and just sat in the corner.

What a party pooper!

He really was.

Then, our manager started a toast, but Sarah became a real Debbie Downer.

She started talking about the company budget cuts next year.

Wow!

Talk about a buzzkill.

It was a total killjoy moment.

She was acting like a wet blanket, making everyone feel nervous about their jobs instead of celebrating.

It is so important to know when to be serious and when to just enjoy the moment.

I agree completely.

Life is too short to be a buzzkill.

Thank you for listening.

We hope you enjoyed our special short episode about words in action.

We think that giving words a context is the best way to learn.

If you liked this episode, please leave a comment.

See you soon.

Bye bye!
