

WHY ARE YOU AFRAID?

INTERMEDIATE CONVERSATION
SEMESTER 6, LESSON 001



“OUR DEEPEST FEAR IS NOT THAT WE ARE INADEQUATE. OUR DEEPEST FEAR IS THAT WE ARE POWERFUL BEYOND MEASURE. IT IS OUR LIGHT, NOT OUR DARKNESS THAT MOST FRIGHTENS US.”

-MARIANNE WILLIAMSON

DIRECTIONS:
Explain and interpret the quote.



TABLE TOPIC

Discuss the first question for 5 minutes. Then create conversation questions of your own.

What's your biggest fear? Are you afraid of the night? Are you afraid of disappointing your parents? Are you afraid of failing in life?

Now, create one table topic of your own. Think of something creative, fun, and thought-provoking.



USEFUL WORDS

Read and practice the vocabulary and idioms below.

fear: an emotion that indicates that you are afraid of something

I have a fear of dogs. When I was young, I was chased by a pit bull.

afraid: to fear something; a negative emotion brought on by the threat of danger

I'm so afraid of disappointing my parents. They are so important.

terrified: extremely afraid

I'm terrified of seeing my ex-boyfriend in public. That'd be terrible!

frightened: afraid and anxious (less severe than fear, afraid, and terrified)

I'm frightened of small spiders and bugs.

petrified: so terrified that you cannot move

I went camping and saw a wolf. I couldn't move at all. I was petrified.

spooked: to be shocked and frightened

I heard a loud noise in my house last night. I was so spooked. But luckily it wasn't a burglar. It was just my cat!



USEFUL WORDS

Read and practice the vocabulary and idioms below.

courageous: extreme bravery' the ability to overcome difficulties or fear

I've always thought that soldiers are so courageous because they risk their lives in battle.

grit: strong character; the ability to overcome difficulties

Of course, I'm afraid of embarrassing myself. But I must stand up for what's right. My father taught me to have true grit.

conquer my fears: to overcome your fear

When I was younger, I was **terrified** of dark nights, but I conquered my fears when I was a teenager.

fight through it: to persevere

I had to fight through my fears of public speaking to become a manager.



GREAT IDIOM

Read and practice this useful idiom. It's great to use with this topic.

face my fears: to confront your fears

I have avoided going to the doctor for 5 years. I'm terrified that I might have cancer or another serious illness. But I finally faced my fears and went.



ROLEPLAY

Using the prompts below, create a roleplay situation with a clear resolution.

SITUATION

"Robert" has discovered that his boss is stealing money from his company. He doesn't know what to do. He risks his job if he exposes his boss, and if not, his company will go bankrupt.

ROLES

Robert: You're not sure what to do! So you are going to listen to the advice of your coworkers.

Coworkers: Your job is to give advice to Robert on how to handle the situation. Use all of your English skills to advise him. Make sure you use all of your new vocabularies.

****SPECIAL NOTE:** This topic is a bit taboo in some cultures. If you are not comfortable discussing this, please insert your own activity here. Or continue on to Lesson 002.

