



Episode 23: Coffee Break 2 – Would You Rather...?

Hi! If this is your first time listening to our podcast, this is an opportunity for upper level English learners to practice listening skills and learn new vocabulary by listening to authentic conversations.

This is the second installment of our new series we are calling Coffee Break. Each episode will be a short discussion about a topic, a quick Q&A or a fun game. Because these are short conversations that we will be sprinkling in with the regular episodes, the show notes will also be brief – just focusing on a few key words and phrases used in our discussion that we think may be helpful to explain. In today’s episode, Donielle and Khrystyna are having a short discussion based on the party or icebreaker activity Would You Rather. We hope you enjoy it!

Vocabulary: Words and Phrases Used in the Conversation

rather	used to indicate a person’s preference, especially when given or discussing two options.
icebreaker	a game, joke, or story that makes people who do not know each other feel more comfortable together. Comes from the phrase “break the ice” meaning: do or say something to relieve tension or get conversation going at the start of a party or when people meet for the first time.
that’s a tough one	we often use the word “tough” to describe something that is difficult to do. (e.g. It was a tough exam.) The phrase, “that’s a tough one” is usually used to say that a question is difficult to answer or that a problem is difficult to solve.
hippie	from the famous subculture of the 1960s, a usually young person who rejects the mores of established society (as by dressing unconventionally or favoring communal living) and advocates a nonviolent ethic.
in the grand scheme of things	when you put things in perspective, taking everything into account, sometimes what has previously been considered significant isn’t quite significant
mind-blowing	surprising, shocking, and often difficult to understand or imagine
preconceived	describing an opinion formed before you have all the information
“work, shmirk”	This is a language construction called Shm-reduplication and is often used with a noun, as a response to a previously-made statement to express the respondent’s lack of interest or dismissive attitude toward the topic. In this example when Khrystyna refers to work, Donielle responds with “work, shmirk” as to say, that’s not important; forget about that.
legit	conforming to the rules; legal
I’ll stick with	continue using, doing, or choosing something
[something is] a stretch	describing something beyond what is true, likely, or logical
I’m going to go with...	A way to indicate which item or situation you would select amount given choices

You can also read the [transcript](#) for this episode.

Thanks for checking out our podcast!

We are enjoying these discussions, and we hope that you are finding them helpful!



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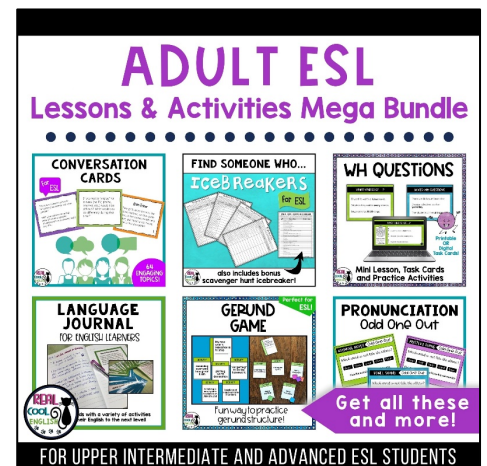

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