You say one thing but you mean another..

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Comprehension and discussion activities to develop your vocabulary and understanding.
Learn and practice new idiomatic expressions, phrases and polite expressions.



Activity One - **Discussion**..

1. Do you ever say one thing when you mean another?
2. If so, when and why?
3. When was the last time you did this?
4. Do you know people who say one thing when they mean another?
5. What do they hope to achieve by doing that?

Activity Two - Here's a Bob Dylan song which contains the famous line 'don't think twice it's alright'. In fact, it's not alright…
Listen to the song, follow the lyrics and then let's discuss:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ey990aV_sxk



1. How do we know it's not alright?
2. What's the song about?
3. Where does Dylan 'cheat' with grammar in order to make the lyrics rhyme?

Bob Dylan - Don't think twice.

It ain't no use to sit and wonder why, babe
If you don't know by now
An' it ain't no use to sit and wonder why, babe
It'll never do somehow
When your rooster crows at the break of dawn
Look out your window and I'll be gone
You're the reason I'm travelin' on
But don't think twice, it's all right

And it ain't no use in turnin' on your light, babe
That light I never knowed
An' it ain't no use in turnin' on your light, babe
I'm on the dark side of the road
But I wish there was somethin'
You would do or say
To try and make me change my mind and stay
But we never did too much talkin' anyway
So don't think twice, it's all right

So it ain't no use in callin' out my name, gal
Like you never done before
And it ain't no use in callin' out my name, gal
I can't hear you any more
I'm thinkin' and wonderin', walking down the road
I once loved a woman, a child I'm told
I give her my heart but she wanted my soul
But don't think twice, it's all right

So long, honey babe
Where I'm bound, I can't tell
But goodbye's too good a word, babe
So I'll just say farewell
I ain't sayin' you treated me unkind
You could have done better but I don't mind
You just kind of wasted my precious time
But don't think twice, it's all right

Activity Three - **Sarcastic**!
What's the difference in meaning between the following two words?

Sarcasm - Irony

People often say the opposite of what they think in order to be humorous.

Let's read the article: (Source huffington post - http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/julian-tan/british-humour_b_4013114.html).

British Humour

Irony and heavy sarcasm are the bedrock of British humour. If it were pouring outside, the joke would be to comment on the lovely weather (an extremely stale English classic). Morsels of unpalatable quality could invite commentary of gratitude and amazement. It is as if it is 'Opposite Day' every day in Britain. To make matters even more confusing, the delivery of British humour is almost always deadpan which means that there will be no sign in red neon lights telling you 'This Is The Joke'. There is a lot of reading between the lines to be done and so as result of this, you might find yourself in situations where you just cannot tell if it was harmless banter or a serious conversation that you were having with a British friend. They are a breed that express abhorrence for something by saying it is "a bit much for their taste", so a little ambiguity in their dealings is to be expected.

Finally, subjects of humour typically involve mockery of failure, both yours and theirs but mostly yours. It might seem insensitive and if you were anywhere outside Britain, you would probably be right. But joking about your dead grandfather or your cousin's dyslexia is completely acceptable in the country of tea and scones, so long as it is done in jest. Why else would you have an extra 'u' in humour if not for the fact that the joke is most often on you?

All this can be very frustrating, particularly to someone who has probably watched one too many episodes of his fair share of Friends and who's fed on American pop culture his entire life. But there are actually many things that I really admire British humour for. For one, it teaches you not to take yourself too seriously through its strong theme of self-deprecation (a harsh way to learn this, but effective nonetheless), which I feel is very important in this day and age. It also makes light of tough situations, which is a good thing because when things look grim, it definitely helps to laugh. But most of all, I like that the very nature of British humour does not encourage over-sensitivity or self-entitlement, two things our generation, Generation Y could learn to live without.

Comprehension questions:

1. What is the bedrock of British humour?
2. Give an example of British humour from the text?
3. What difficulties does the author experience?
4. What advantages does he cite?
5. What could his generation learn to live without?



Activity Four - **Say one thing and mean another**.

Sometimes we don't say what's on our minds. This is often to be polite. We tell a 'white' lie. This is an accepted form of deception. Here are some examples of when we say one thing but mean another… can you think of any more?

- How are you? I'm fine.
- What's wrong? Nothing, I'm fine, honestly!
- How are things going? Fine.
- Did you like your meal? Yes it was lovely, I'm just not very hungry.
- I love how you've cut my hair.
- I'll let you go.
- I'd be happy to help.
- We'll see.
- Sorry I lost the connection.
- The traffic was really bad.
- Sorry, I totally forgot!
- Yes, I'm listening.
- I'm only joking.
- I'll call you later.
- You look great.
- Oh, you gained weight? I can't tell.
- You look great in that outfit.
- I'm sorry.

Activity Five - **C**ommon polite expressions.. the following expressions are very commonly used in order to smooth things over. They are sometimes true, sometimes little white lies… let's review the language…

- **I'm sorry, could you give me a minute, I just need to finish this.**
- **Could you let me know when you are ready?**
- **You could be mistaken.**
- **Actually, I think you will find that..**
- **I'm not so sure that's a good idea.**
- **To be honest…**
- **I'm not too fond of… I'd rather…**
- **May I suggest that..**
- **I beg your pardon…**
- **I was wondering if I could..**
- **I'm afraid I can't…**
- **I would love to but I'm afraid…**
- **That sounds great but…**
- **I understand but..**
- **Yes that's true but…**
- **Don't worry, It doesn't matter.**

Activity Six- **Role plays/ dialogues.**
With your partner/teacher, act out the following situations using expressions from activity five:

1. Your mother in law is waiting for you at a restaurant for lunch. You are late because you had an argument with your husband. When you arrive she has a new haircut which looks really weird. Also she wants to invite you and your husband to a restaurant you hate this weekend.

2. You have a meeting with your boss. She is sure that her new idea for a project you are working on will be great, however you are sure it won't.

3. You are just having a sandwich and a quick look at Facebook at your desk, when a colleague arrives wanting to talk to you about something she is working on.

Activity Seven - **Video** - **Monty Python** - The man who is alternately rude and polite



Watch the video. This shopkeeper is saying what he really thinks, sometimes.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1IeDAwjtto

Activity Eight - **Perfecting your Sarcasm.**
Here are some examples of sarcastic comments, with your partner or teacher try to find more …

- I'm trying to imagine you with a personality.
- Well, this day was a total waste of makeup.
- "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go." - Oscar Wilde
- "I never forget a face, but in your case I'll be glad to make an exception." - Groucho Marx
- "The trouble with her is that she lacks the power of conversation but not the power of speech." - George Bernard Shaw

Sarcasm sometimes depends on the tone of voice. These examples of sarcasm are replies to people or situations and would only be sarcastic with a sarcastic tone of voice, let's practice saying them…

- When something bad happens - That's just what I need, great! Terrific!
- When you expected something to happen, especially after warning someone about it - Well what a surprise!
- When someone says something that is very obvious - Really Sherlock.
- When someone does something wrong - Very good, well done, nice!
- When something happens that you don't want or need - That's just what we need!

