

#1 Friends - Monica's New Roommate (Part 1)

Glossary of Idioms and Cultural Vocabulary

Totally naked: Completely without clothes.

Had that dream: Refers to having a common or typical dream, implying others have had similar experiences.

I wanna kill myself: An exaggerated phrase used to express extreme frustration or embarrassment, not meant literally.

Grabbed my small intestine... tied it around my neck: A humorous exaggeration representing intense emotional pain.

To hell with her: Expresses anger or frustration towards someone, implying you don't care about them anymore.

Cleansing my aura: Refers to a spiritual practice of "cleansing" energy around the body, used humorously here.

Strip joint: A club where people perform stripteases.

Turned on: Slang for feeling sexual attraction.

Drifted apart: An idiom describing two people who have lost emotional closeness over time.



Activities

1. Listening Comprehension:

Objective: To practice listening skills and identify key details.

- **Task:** Listen to the Friends clip and answer the following questions:

1. Why does Chandler find it strange that the phone is ringing?

2. What makes Ross feel like someone tied his intestine around his neck?

3. What did Rachel realize before leaving her wedding?

2. Reading Comprehension:

Objective: To improve reading comprehension and understanding of characters' emotions.

- **Task:** Read the transcription of the Friends episode and answer the questions below:

1. What does Joey suggest Ross do to feel better?

2. Why is Ross upset with Carol?

3. How does Rachel describe the moment she decided not to marry Barry?

3. Writing Practice:

Objective: To develop writing skills by expressing emotions and using language creatively.

- **Task:** Write a short response to the following prompt:
 1. Imagine you are Ross, and your wife has just left you. Write a letter to a friend explaining how you feel and what you plan to do next.

4. Speaking Activity:

Objective: To practice speaking fluently and using idiomatic expressions in a conversational context.

- **Task:** Role-play in pairs:
 - **Student A:** You are Ross, sharing your feelings about your divorce with a friend.
 - **Student B:** You are the friend, trying to console Ross using some of the idioms and phrases from the episode.

Role-play situation:

Ross (Student A):

I just don't get it... I thought everything was fine, and then, boom, she leaves me. I feel like someone reached down my throat, grabbed my small intestine, pulled it out of my mouth, and tied it around my neck.

Friend (Student B):

Wow, that's... vivid. But hey, Ross, I know you're hurting, but maybe this is for the best? It's like Chandler said earlier—sometimes I wish I was a lesbian. Did I say that out loud?

Ross (Student A):

I just don't understand. I never saw it coming. And everyone keeps fixating on the fact that she left me for a woman! How was I supposed to know she was a lesbian?

Friend (Student B):

Yeah, that's gotta sting. But listen, Ross, you're single now. Joey always says, "C'mon, you're single! Have some hormones!" Maybe you should try that strip joint idea Joey suggested.

Ross (Student A):

I don't want to be single. I just want to be married again.

Friend (Student B):

And I just want a million dollars! Look, I know it's hard right now, but you'll get through this. We're here for you. Just... don't forget, things have a way of working out. Plus, no one's cleansing your aura, right?

Ross (Student A):

Yeah, you're right. No aura cleansing... but I still can't believe she left me.

Friend (Student B):

Well, to hell with her, Ross. She left you! You deserve better.

Ross (Student A):

I guess... but it still hurts.

Cloze Exercises:

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct words:

- a) Chandler: "Alright, so I'm back in _____, I'm standing in the middle of the _____, and I realize I am totally _____."
- b) Joey: "This guy says hello, I wanna _____ myself."
- c) Monica: "Let me get you some _____."
- d) Ross: "I just want to be _____ again!"
- e) Rachel: "I realized that I was more turned on by this _____ boat than by Barry!"

2. Complete the sentences with the appropriate expressions from the glossary:

- a) Ross feels like someone tied his small _____ around his neck.
- b) Chandler says, "Sometimes I wish I was a _____."
- c) Joey suggests Ross go to a _____ to deal with his pain.
- d) Phoebe tries to cleanse Ross's _____.

e) Rachel realizes she has drifted _____ from Monica.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does Chandler's reaction to the ringing phone in his dream suggest about his relationship with his mother?

- a) He is surprised because they have a close relationship.
- b) He feels uncomfortable with his mother calling him, which indicates a strained relationship.
- c) He feels relieved that his mother is calling him.
- d) He is confused because his mother calls him frequently.

2. Why does Ross feel like "someone reached down [his] throat, grabbed [his] small intestine, and tied it around [his] neck"?

- a) He is physically ill after seeing Carol move out.
- b) He is devastated emotionally because Carol leaving signifies the end of their relationship.
- c) He is angry and feels betrayed by Carol's actions.
- d) He is confused and unsure why Carol left him.

3. In the conversation about Carol being a lesbian, why is Ross upset that people keep "fixating" on that detail?

- a) He feels that Carol's sexuality is irrelevant to why their relationship ended.
- b) He believes that it makes his friends uncomfortable.
- c) He is trying to protect Carol's privacy.
- d) He thinks that Carol's sexuality is not the reason for their divorce.

4. What is the significance of Joey suggesting Ross go to a strip joint after his breakup?

- a) Joey is trying to distract Ross from his emotional pain by encouraging a carefree and impulsive activity.
- b) Joey believes that this is the best way for Ross to move on and forget Carol.
- c) Joey wants to help Ross feel more masculine by engaging in stereotypically "male" behavior.

d) Joey is joking and doesn't expect Ross to take his suggestion seriously.

5. What realization does Rachel have when she looks at the gravy boat before the wedding?

- a) She is more attracted to the gravy boat than to Barry, indicating doubts about her feelings for him.
- b) The gravy boat reminds her of her childhood, making her question her life choices.
- c) She feels trapped and realizes she doesn't want to get married to Barry.
- d) The gravy boat represents materialism, which causes Rachel to rethink her priorities.

Transcript:

Chandler: Alright, so I'm back in high school, I'm standing in the middle of the cafeteria, and I realize I am totally naked.

All: Oh, yeah. Had that dream.

Chandler: Then I look down, and I realize there's a phone... there.

Joey: Instead of...?

Chandler: That's right.

Joey: Never had that dream.

Phoebe: No.

Chandler: All of a sudden, the phone starts to ring. And it turns out it's my mother, which is very-very weird, because- she never calls me!

[Time Lapse, Ross has entered.]

Ross: Hi.

Joey: This guy says hello, I wanna kill myself.

Monica: Are you okay, sweetie?

Ross: I just feel like someone reached down my throat, grabbed my small intestine, pulled it out of my mouth and tied it around my neck...

Chandler: Cookie?

Monica: Carol moved her stuff out today.

Monica: Let me get you some coffee.

Phoebe: Ooh! Oh!

Ross: No, no don't! Stop cleansing my aura! No, just leave my aura alone, okay?

Ross: I'll be fine, alright? Really, everyone. I hope she'll be very happy.

Monica: No you don't.

Ross: No I don't, to hell with her, she left me!

Joey: And you never knew she was a lesbian...

Ross: No!! Okay?! Why does everyone keep fixating on that? She didn't know, how should I know?

Chandler: Sometimes I wish I was a lesbian... Did I say that out loud?

Joey: Alright Ross, look. You're feeling a lot of pain right now. You're angry. You're hurting. Can I tell you what the answer is?

Joey: Strip joint! C'mon, you're single! Have some hormones!

Ross: I don't want to be single, okay? I just... I just- I just wanna be married again!

Chandler: And I just want a million dollars!

Monica: Rachel?!

Rachel: Oh God Monica hi! Thank God! I just went to your building and you weren't there and then this guy with a big hammer said you might be here and you are, you are!

Waitress: Can I get you some coffee?

Monica: Decaf. Okay, everybody, this is Rachel, another Lincoln High survivor. This is everybody, this is Chandler, and Phoebe, and Joey, and- you remember my brother Ross?

Rachel: Hi, sure!

Ross: Hi.

Monica: So you wanna tell us now, or are we waiting for four wet bridesmaids?

Rachel: Oh God... well, it started about a half hour before the wedding. I was in the room where we were keeping all the presents, and I was looking at this gravy boat. This really gorgeous Lamauge gravy boat. When all of a sudden - Sweet 'n' Lo? - I realized that I was more turned on by this gravy boat than by Barry! And then I got really freaked out, and that's when it hit me: how much Barry looks like Mr. Potato Head. Y'know, I mean, I always knew he looked familiar, but... Anyway, I just had to get out of there, and I started wondering 'Why am I doing this, and who am I doing this for?'. So anyway I just didn't know where to go, and I know that you and I have kinda drifted apart, but you're the only person I knew who lived here in the city.

Monica: Who wasn't invited to the wedding.

Rachel: Ooh, I was kinda hoping that wouldn't be an issue...