

2 Strategy plus *of course*

Of course usually means, "This idea is not surprising. It's what you expect."

You can also use *Of course* in responses to show you agree or understand.

A I *really* miss my family.
B Of course.



Help note

Be careful when you use *of course*. It can sound abrupt or rude as an answer to a question.
A Do you miss your family?
B Of course, I really do.
(NOT *Of course*.)

In conversation
Of course is one of the top 50 expressions.

A Read the conversations. Which response is more polite? Circle a or b.

1. Do you think living in another country would be exciting?
a. Of course it would.
b. Absolutely. Of course, I'd probably feel homesick at times.
2. Would you learn all about a country before you went?
a. Well, I guess I'd like to know all about its culture. And, of course, its traditions.
b. But, of course. You really should learn something.
3. Would you take something with you to remind you of home?
a. Of course.
b. Probably. Maybe a photo of my cat. Of course, I couldn't take the cat with me, but ...

Ahead B Pair work Ask and answer the questions above, giving your own answers. Use *of course* in your answers, but be careful how you use it.

3 Listening and strategies Away from home

A 4.1 Listen to Val talk about her experience. Answer the questions.

1. Why is she living away from home?
2. What has been challenging for her?
3. What has been going well?
4. How does she keep in touch with family? When?

B 4.1 Listen again. What would Val's friend say about her experience? Check (✓) the sentences.

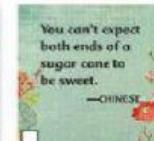
1. To tell you the truth, Val's host sister is pretty unfriendly.
2. To be honest, she hasn't gotten to know many people.
3. She's definitely learning about the culture.
4. Of course, she doesn't like having to be home all the time.
5. She's certainly homesick. In fact, she wants to go back home right now.

Ahead C Group work Think about a time you were away from home. Who and what did you miss? How did you keep in touch? Talk about your experience.

"When I was an exchange student, I missed my friends. Of course, I missed my family, too."

2 Listening and speaking Favorite proverbs

A Can you guess the meaning of the proverbs below? Discuss with a partner.



B 4.1 Listen to four people talk about their favorite proverbs. Number the proverbs above 1 to 4. What do they mean? Did you guess the meaning correctly?

C 4.1 Listen. Match each proverb above with a similar English proverb below. Write the numbers. Then listen again as someone comments on each proverb, and check your answers.

- a. You can't have your cake and eat it, too. _____
- b. Every cloud has a silver lining. _____
- c. If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. _____
- d. Beggars can't be choosers. _____

Ahead D Pair work Which of the proverbs above is your favorite? Why? When would you use it? "Beggars can't be choosers" is used a lot in our house. My mom is always saying it. It's great because ..."

3 Writing Explain a proverb

A Read the article below. Find the useful expressions from the Help note, and underline them.

Just one watermelon at a time!
One of my favorite Arabic proverbs is "You cannot carry two watermelons in one hand." It's often said when a person is taking on too much work or too many challenges. It means that you need to focus on one important task at a time and do it well. A similar proverb in English is "Don't bite off more than you can chew." I like the proverb about watermelons because it's an excellent metaphor. Whenever I have to decide about a new project, I can see myself trying to carry two watermelons, and I stop and think about how much work I can handle.

Help note
Useful expressions
One of my favorite proverbs is "...". It's often said when ... it means that ... A similar proverb in English is "...". I like it because ...

B Write a short article about your favorite proverb. Say how usually it's used in conversations. Then read your classmates' articles. Did anyone use a similar proverb?

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