

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.

I miss my family, of course.



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, yes, I really do. (NOT *of course*.)

In conversations

Of course is one of the top 50 expressions.

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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...

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.

- Why is she living away from home?
- What has been challenging for her?
- What has been going well?
- 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.

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

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 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.

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

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. Explain why it's important and what it means. Read your classmates' articles. Did any of them use the same proverb?