

Social Inferences

Idioms & Perspectives

FREE UNIT!



Emily trembled, feeling as if she were coming apart at the seams. How could her friend have done that? She picked a fight with her in the middle of the lunch room, in front of everyone. Now they were all going to make fun of her and she would never live it down! She needed to pull herself back together, go in there and face them all.

Discussion Questions

1. Describe Emily's body language.
2. If Emily is trembling, how big does her problem feel?
3. What does 'feeling like you are coming apart at the seams' mean? How can you help yourself?
4. What is the difference between picking a fight and getting into a fight?
5. Would a real friend do this? What is a better way to solve a problem?
6. What does 'never live it down' mean?
7. How does Emily feel since this happened in front of everyone?
8. Do you think people will always remember the fight? Why or why not?
9. What does 'pull herself back together' mean?
10. Did you ever have to pull yourself back together? What happened?
11. How is picking a fight different from getting into a fight?



A Friend Picks a Fight

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Underline words in each sentence. Then rewrite the sentence to explain the idiom dictionary page if you need help.

Emily was coming apart at the seams. She was sitting apart at the seams. She was in the middle of the lunch room, in front of everyone.

1. What would Emily have been thinking in this photo? Write in the thinking bubble, then explain your answer.

2. Describe Emily's body language. What does it tell you?

3. Why would Emily be covering her face?

4. What does 'coming apart at the seams' mean?
a. about to lose control b. to die
c. forget it d. take decisions e. always

Do you remember this problem? Explain it.

Answer these questions to explain the problem.

Who? _____
What happened? _____
Where? _____
Feeling? _____
Cause? _____
Effect? _____
Tell this in a sentence. _____

Solution 1: _____
What would happen next? _____
If she _____
then _____
might feel _____

Solution 2: _____
What would happen next? _____
If she _____
then _____
might feel _____

the people involved in this problem?
How is Emily trying to solve it?
to accomplish this?
her solution.
the solution.
problems?
after.



Teen topics that build language skills

A Friend Picks a Fight



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A Friend Picks a Fight

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Underline the idiom in each sentence. Then rewrite the sentence to explain what it means in the story. Use the idiom dictionary page if you need help.

1. Emily trembled, feeling as if she were coming apart at the seams.

2. She picked a fight with her in the middle of the lunch room, in front of everyone.

3. Now they were all going to make fun of her.

4. She would never live it down!

5. She needed to pull herself back together.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer these questions to explain the problem.

Who? _____

What happened? _____

Where? _____

Feeling? _____

Cause _____

Effect _____

Tell this in a sentence. _____

A Friend Picks a Fight



Emily

Solution 1: _____

What would happen next? _____

If she _____

then _____

might feel _____

Solution 2: _____

What would happen next? _____

If she _____

then _____

might feel _____

I think she should _____

because _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Friend Picks a Fight



Do you remember this problem? Explain it.

Remember to think about all of the people involved in this problem!

1. What outcome to the problem is Emily hoping to have? _____

2. What is one thing she could do to accomplish this? _____

Name a positive outcome/pro for this solution. _____

Name a negative consequence/con to this solution. _____

3. What else can she do to solve this problem? _____

Tell a positive outcome/pro for this solution. _____

Tell a negative consequence/con for this solution. _____

4. Which is the best solution? Why? _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Friend Picks a Fight



Emily

1. What could Emily have been thinking in this photo?
Write in the thinking bubble, then explain your answer.

2. Describe Emily's body language. What does it tell you? _____

3. Why could Emily be covering her face? _____

4. What does 'coming apart at the seams' mean?

- a. about to lose control b. be alone c. rip your clothes

5. What does 'never live it down' mean?

- a. forget it b. hide downstairs c. always be embarrassed about

6. Describe a time that someone picked a fight with you. What did you do? _____

7. Do you think it is better for Emily to hide from her school mates or face them after the fight? Why? _____

8. What do true friends do when there is a problem? _____

9. What qualities make a true friend? _____

10. How is picking a fight different from getting into a fight? _____

A Friend Picks a Fight

Discussion Questions-Possible answers as many are acceptable

1. Describe Emily's body language. *She moved away from everyone, so is covering her face with her hands, so she is embarrassed.*
2. If Emily is trembling, how big does her problem feel? *Trembling means she is having strong feelings and thinks she has a big problem.*
3. What does 'feeling like you are coming apart at the seams' mean? How can you help yourself? *Feel like you are losing control of your emotions- varied answers like take deep breaths, find a friend, etc.*
4. What is the difference between picking a fight and getting into a fight? *Picking a fight means it was planned, not just happened.*
5. Would a real friend do this? What is a better way to solve a problem? *Real friends would talk to you privately, not cause a public scene.*
6. What does 'never live it down' mean? *They won't forget, will keep bringing it up and she will always be embarrassed by it.*
7. How does Emily feel since this happened in front of everyone? *Embarrassed and angry*
8. Do you think people will always remember the fight? Why or why not? *No, time moves on and people find other things to talk about.*
9. What does 'pull herself back together' mean? *Feel like your emotions are under control- you won't cry or fight.*
10. Did you ever have to pull yourself back together? What happened?

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Problem Worksheet Answer Ideas

Outcome: Emily wants to go back into school and have everyone act like nothing happened.

Solution 1: Go back into school and scream at your so-called friend, having a bigger fight.

+ : Sometimes expressing anger can make people feel better.

- : You will be making the fight bigger and drawing more attention, not solving the problem.

Solution 2: Go back in calmly, like nothing happened, and see if your 'friend' apologizes later.

+ : You will have to face everyone sooner or later. Being calm helps them see that you were the person who was wronged and you may get support.

- : You may need to re-think what qualities you want in a friend. This friendship is in trouble.

Best: #2 You only increase your problems if you retaliate by screaming and fighting more.



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Social Inferences and Problem Solving- Idiom Cards

coming apart at the seams

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losing control of your emotions

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picked a fight

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started a fight on purpose

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make fun of

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tease or mock

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Social Inferences and Problem Solving- Idiom Cards

live it down

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stop being teased and
embarrassed about a
mistake

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pull yourself together

@Looks-Like-Language

get in control of
your emotions

@Looks-Like-Language

don't know how to
face them

@Looks-Like-Language

have a hard time talking
to someone after a
mistake

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Emily's Friend Picks a Fight

Thanks to my favorite clip artists:



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- Page 4: Problem Solving- Cause/Effect
- Page 5: Applying Problem Solving Skills
- Page 6: Comprehension Questions
- Page 7: Idioms Worksheet
- Page 8: Discussion Guidelines
- Pages 9-10: Idiom Task Cards

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