

Ellipsis: Using Proverbs

Work with a partner. Take turns reading texts aloud. Find the appropriate ending for each proverb your partner starts.

STUDENT A.

(1) I'm not used to eating pizza with a knife and a fork, but when I looked around the table and saw everyone else eating this way, I decided to do the same. You know how it is. When in Rome...

(2) Two of our coworkers were out sick, but we still had to finish our project by Friday. The rest of us agreed to put in more effort and get it done. That's just what you have to do in a situation like this. When the going gets tough...

(3) My sister is waiting for all her college acceptance letters to come. She checks her email a hundred times a day. I tell her to be more patient. It's like they say, "A watched pot..."

never boils.

join them.

the tough get going.

don't fix it.

spoil the broth.

do as the Romans.

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STUDENT B.

(1) My new coworker wants to change things around the office, but I warned her it's too soon for her to be suggesting new ways. Besides, you know, if it ain't broke...

(2) Our family reunion was fun, but sometimes it was chaotic. My mother and my two aunts were each trying to run the show telling everyone what to do. Geez. It's like too many cooks...

(3) My whole family has decided to give up processed foods, and they complained about my unhealthy diet. I tried to fix my own dinners for about month, but then I decided it was too much work. You know, if you can't beat 'em...

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