

Time to Speak

Review Idioms ¹

have the floor

If you have the floor, you have the right or a specific time to speak, usually to a group.

give your two cents

If you give your two cents, you say what you think or how you feel.

weigh your words

If you weigh your words, you are careful about what you say.

Write a Prediction



Read the Story ²⁻⁴

7 Have you ever **spoken** in front of 117
 15 a group of people? If so, you've had 124
 23 the floor. To have the floor means to 131
 30 have the **right** to speak. Jill **raised** 133
 37 her hand to speak at the **meeting**. 139
 44 The **chairman** called on her, and she 146
 51 had the floor for two minutes. She 153
 56 told the **group** her **ideas**. 159
 63 If you have the floor, you might 165
 70 give your two cents. In America, if 173
 77 someone says, "I'll give you my two 180
 83 cents," do not **expect** two **pennies**. 186
 89 Instead, expect to hear the person's 187
 95 **opinion**. To give your two cents 194
 103 means to say how you feel or what 199
 110 you think about a **topic**. You might 205
 give your two cents to someone who 210
 211

asks you for **advice**. You might give your two cents about who should win an **election**.

When you give your two cents about a **touchy** topic, you might have to weigh your words. To weigh your words means to be **careful** about what you say. The babysitter needed to **scold** the child, but she wanted to be **gentle** with him. She weighed her words when she told him to **cooperate**.

At the meeting, Jill spoke about a **controversial** topic. She did not want to **offend** people, so she weighed her words during her **speech**.

words read _____
- errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____
- errors _____ = _____
hot score expression

Answer the Questions

Applying the main idea⁵

1. When are the idioms in this story most likely to be used?
 - a. when a person buys a new house
 - b. when a person talks to a group
 - c. when a person gives away money

Recalling a fact⁶

2. Who called on Jill to speak at the meeting?
 - a. the babysitter
 - b. the chairman
 - c. the group

Getting meaning from context⁷

3. What does **touchy** mean in this story?
 - a. likes to touch people
 - b. emotional or moving
 - c. likely to bother some people

Making connections within the text⁸

4. Why did the babysitter weigh her words?
 - a. She wanted to scold the child but be gentle.
 - b. She only had two cents to give the child.
 - c. She did not have the right to speak to the child.

Processing information⁹

5. What did Jill do when she had the floor?

Developing vocabulary¹⁰

6. Write bold-faced words from the story that mean the same as the bold-faced word or words in each sentence below.
 - a. When I use a knife, I am always **being cautious and paying attention**.

 - b. The **person who controls the meeting** tells me to raise my hand if I have a question.

 - c. The boss gave a **talk to a group of people** at the company dinner.

Applying information¹¹

7. a. What does a person do when he or she has the floor?

- b. Why might someone give his or her two cents?

- c. When might you have to weigh your words?

Number Correct: _____

Time to Speak

Learn New Words

advice¹²

Advice is ideas or thoughts about what someone could do in a certain situation. *Ted gave Nancy advice about how she could do the homework.*

careful¹³

If you are careful, you pay attention and try not to make mistakes. *Tina was careful when she took care of the little baby.*

chairman¹⁴

A chairman is a person who controls a meeting. *The chairman made sure everyone had a chance to talk.*

controversial¹⁵

Controversial means causing disagreements or arguments. *Betty started talking about a controversial movie, and soon everyone was arguing.*

cooperate¹⁶

Cooperate means to behave nicely or to get along well with others. *My young cousin did not cooperate at dinner; he threw his food on the floor and made a mess.*

election¹⁷

An election is when people vote to choose someone for a job. *Tommy won the election and became the new class president.*

expect¹⁸

Expect means to think a certain thing will probably happen. *There are lots of dark clouds in the sky, so I expect that it will rain.*

gentle¹⁹

Gentle means kind, mild, or easy. *The boy was gentle with the little chick; he held it carefully and petted it softly.*

group²⁰

A group is more than one or two of something. *The group of girls played softball together.*

ideas²¹

Ideas are a person's thoughts or plans. *Mom told me her ideas about what kind of cookies we could make for the bake sale.*

meeting²²

A meeting is when people come together to talk about things. *When Grandpa got sick, we had a family meeting to talk about how to help him.*

offend²³

Offend means to hurt someone's feelings or to make someone feel angry or upset. *If you say that cats are not good pets, you may offend someone who has a pet cat.*

Learn New Words, Continued

opinion²⁴

An opinion is what a person thinks about something. *In Ellen's opinion, art class is more fun than gym class.*

pennies²⁵

Pennies, or cents, are the smallest value of money in the United States. *I can't buy a candy bar today, because I only have a few pennies in my pocket.*



raised²⁶

Raised means lifted something up or held something up in the air. *Nomar raised his hand to show the teacher that he wanted to speak.*

right²⁷

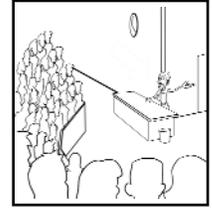
A right is something that is fair for you to have or do. *She had the right to play with the toy she brought to the playground.*

scold²⁸

Scold means to tell a person that he or she has done something wrong. *Julie is late for work again, and she is afraid that her boss will scold her.*

speech²⁹

A speech is a talk given to a group of people, often using words that have been planned or written down.



Max gave a speech about volcanoes to the other students in the class.

spoken³⁰

Spoken means said something out loud. *I have spoken to my grandmother twice this week.*

topic³¹

A topic is something people talk, think, or write about. *The new movie was the topic of our conversation.*

touchy³²

If something is touchy, it might easily bother or upset someone. *Many people do not like to talk about illness or death, because they can be touchy topics.*