

International Conversation Cafe

Lifestyle Topic: The Problem of Evil

This is how the Free Dictionary by Farlex defines, "evil." Read the definitions, examples, and add some examples of your own.

1. That which is morally bad or wrong; wicked: *an evil tyrant.*
2. Causing ruin, injury, or pain; harmful: *the evil effects of a poor diet.*

Consider the following quotes.

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing. ~ Edmund Burke (1729-1797)

1. *Put this quote in your own words.*
2. *Give an example of when evil triumphed.*
3. *Tell how good people stopped the advance of evil.*
4. *Where does evil come from, in your opinion?*
5. *What evils do you see in the schools, the workplace, and in homes?*
6. *How do these evils cripple society?*

The lack of money is the root of all evil. ~Mark Twain

1. *What evil comes from the lack of money?*
2. *Twain's quote is a twist on the quote in the Bible that says, "The love of money is a root of all evil."*
 - a. *What evil comes from the love of money?*
 - b. *What desires do people have that give rise to evil?"*
3. *Do you think that evil is stronger than good? Explain.*
4. *Why do you think it is so difficult for people to do good?*

Here are some idioms and slang using the word, "evil." Read the phrase and make up your own sentence.

lesser of two evils- the less bad thing of a pair of bad things.

I didn't like either politician, so I voted for the lesser of two evils. Given the options of going out with someone I don't like and staying home and watching a boring television program, I chose the lesser of the two evils and watched television.

a necessary evil- something that you do not like but which you know must exist or happen
He considers taxes a necessary evil.

See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil- *rov.* Ignore any evil that you come in contact with; be virtuous even though there is evil around you. (Often represented by three monkeys, one of which is covering his eyes, one his ears, and one his mouth.)

Jill: Do you have any idea why Fred is staying in the office so late every night? Jane: Not me. Like the three little monkeys, I see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil.

