

Daily English 54

Asking and Giving Opinions

1. Expressions to Learn

- a. *Good read*
- b. *So-called*
- c. *No offense meant*
- d. *If you don't mind*
- e. *Burst your bubble*
- f. *Where I come from*
- g. *My two cents worth*
- h. *Hoopla*
- i. *Hook, line, and sinker*
- j. *Bookworm*

2. Dialogue:

Desmond: You're with the Book Club, right?

Sally: Yeah. Why do you ask?

Desmond: I don't have anything much to do on weekends so I thought why not read a good book? What do you recommend for a good read?

Sally: The Da Vinci Code is a good read. It should interest you a lot. It covers very interesting points about Christianity, stuff that you won't hear from the leaders of the faith. Quite controversial points if you ask me.

Desmond: I heard about that too. They say the book contains some truth about

the so-called 'Holy Grail', apparently a woman who they say is the wife of Jesus Christ. Interesting, indeed!

Sally: I hope you don't mind me giving a bit of an advice before you start reading the book.

Desmond: Not at all.

Sally: Ok, I don't want to burst your bubble of excitement, but it is my responsibility to tell you that it is just a book, a novel to be more exact. Something to be enjoyed and to learn from, but not to believe in – that's my two cents worth.

Desmond: But didn't the author make a claim of the truthfulness of his book? Isn't that the whole point of the book?

Sally: Well, wouldn't that kind of statement sell more copies? No offense meant to the others who took the book hook, line, and sinker, but where I come from, it's a work of fiction. A really good work of fiction, I might add. I hope that what I'm telling you now won't dissuade from reading the book. Again, it's a good book. But it's definitely not "The Good Book", not even close.

Desmond: I'm actually very happy to hear your thoughts about the hoopla on this book. I'll keep these things in mind. Besides, you know more about books than I do. Thanks very much for the suggestion, and for clearing up some issues. Let's talk again soon.

Sally: Oh, that's nothing. I'm happy you thought of doing some weekend reading. I think we're going to have a new bookworm around here.

3. Let's Practice!

- A. Answer the following questions related to the story above:
1. Why did Sally see it fit to give Desmond an advice about the book?
 2. What is Sally's personal thought about the book?
 3. Did Sally's remark about the book dissuade Desmond from reading it?
- B. How was "I'll remember" expressed in the story? What other ways of expressing "I'll remember" do you know?
- C. Use each of the following expressions or phrases in a sentence:
1. No offense meant
 2. Hook, line, and sinker
 3. If you don't mind
 4. My two-cents worth
 5. Hoopla