

Everything Taking Too Long

Level: Intermediate & Up

Objective: To recognize and use expressions for impatience and frustration. To practice the use of “too” for problems.

Procedure: Show the students the pics from the article. Ask them how they think the people feel. Ask the students about times when they get impatient or about things that take too long.

Option1: Have the students read the article and answer the questions. After reading the article have the students tell about a time in their own life when things took too long or have them explain things in life that generally makes them impatient.

Option 2: Split the class into two groups. Group 1 finds expressions dealing with impatience. Group 2 finds body language. The groups should put these on then come together to put the info on the board. Then tell a story from your life. Students from each group have to do an action when you use one of their points. You can make students stand up, hit the desk, shout time, whatever. Students then tell each other a story and try to incorporate the language. They could then repeat their partner’s story to the class or a 3rd person.

Expressions	Body Language
This is ridiculous!	Eye Rolls
I don’t have time for this.	Sighs
For crying out loud!	Repeated Glances at wall clocks
It’s taking so long it’s not even funny.	Staring at a watch
Hurry the hell up!	Drumming fingers
They’ll be left with no other choice but to scream.	
You’ve got to be kidding me.	
Come on.	
It’s taking f-ing forever.	
We’re not getting any younger.	
They don’t understand what the big holdup is.	
They couldn’t go any slower if they tried.	

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MARCH 24, 2009 | ISSUE 45•13 THE ONION



People across the country were forced to put up with this maddeningly slow bullshit all week.

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ENLARGE IMAGE

At this rate, Americans reported, it would've been faster to take the goddamn stairs.

Between eye rolls, sighs, and repeated glances at wall clocks, a majority of Americans are reporting that the nation badly needs to pick up the pace. In some cases, including those where things are taking so long that it's not even funny, citizens urged all present to hurry the hell up.

According to the latest time estimates, if everything continues to move along at this intolerable pace, Americans will be left with no other choice but to scream.

"You've got to be kidding me," San Francisco market researcher Tim Martin told reporters while waiting for ESPN.com to load on his desktop computer. "Come on."

A CBS News/*New York Times* poll revealed Tuesday that Americans are split into three separate camps when it comes to the growing national frustration: Those who think everything is taking too long; those who think everything is taking too goddamn long; and a third fringe group that believes everything is taking f-ing forever.



Millions of Americans can just forget about the f-ing bus ever showing up when it's f-ing supposed to.

Further analysis revealed that 54 percent of respondents are not getting any younger over here. Nearly 10 percent don't understand what the big holdup is. And 23 percent are not only ready, but have been ready for the past half hour, so let's go already.

Several thousand respondents hung up their telephones before answering all of the poll's questions.

While citizens said that a few things, such as lunch, dinner, and sleep, could afford to go on for much longer, everything else reportedly needs to get moving pronto as people have places to be.

A Department of the Interior report released Wednesday stated that there are 6 trillion such instances that could not possibly go any slower if they tried, some of which include budget meetings, shaving, the act of waiting, upward mobility, microwaving that lasagna, settling down and starting a family, walking from one place to another, searching for a misplaced item, returning to the place you initially walked from, air travel, 2009, and the time it takes for a sent e-mail to arrive in someone's inbox.

"Nope," said 37-year-old Glenn Costabile, who entered and then immediately exited a crowded emergency room in downtown Detroit. "No f-ing way."

At a press conference, President Obama offered little comfort to the impatient nation, claiming that the number of things that take all freaking day is only expected to rise.

"I've spoken to leading scientists and efficiency experts and unfortunately we're just going to have to deal with this," Obama said before staring down at his watch, drumming his fingers on the podium before him, and muttering something inaudible under his breath. "Look, in my opinion, these press conferences take way too long. But am I going to flip out just because some dumb reporter asks a bunch of pointless and infuriating questions? No, of course not. And do you know why I'm not? Because this is a goddamned civilized society. That's why."

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Aux. Vocab. – Necessary - overwhelming, to engulf, an eye roll, a sigh, a pace, to mutter, to infuriate

Unnecessary – a commute, a fringe group, intolerable

Context – to hang out, a podium, inaudible, to flip out

Answer Key – Relative Clauses (Total 15) and adverb clauses (3)

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1. What are some expressions that indicate impatience?
2. What are some things Americans do when they are impatient?
3. What are some things that Americans think take too long?
4. What are some things that don't go on long enough?
5. Will the situation improve in the future?

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Answer Key – Noun Clauses (Total 9)

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Answer Key – Appositives (3)

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