

Time to Speak

Review Idioms¹

have the floor If you have the floor, you have the right 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 Story²⁻⁴

8 Have you ever **spoken** in front of a
16 group of people? If so, you've had the
24 floor. To have the floor means to have
32 the **right** to speak. Jill **raised** her hand
39 to speak at the **meeting**. The **chairman**
48 called on her, and she had the floor for
55 two minutes. She told the **group** her
56 **ideas**.

56 If you have the floor, you might give
64 your two cents. In America, if someone
71 says, "I'll give you my two cents," do
79 not **expect** two **pennies**. Instead, expect
85 to hear the person's **opinion**. To give
92 your two cents means to say how you
100 feel or what you think about a **topic**.
108 You might give your two cents to

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

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

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

words read _____

- errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

- errors _____ = _____ goal _____
hot score expression date passed

Answer the Questions

Applying the common 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

Focusing on a detail⁶

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

Getting meaning from the context⁷

3. What does the word **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.

Writing a response⁹

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

Developing vocabulary¹⁰

6. Write a bold-faced word or phrase from the story that means the same as the bold-faced word or phrase in each sentence.
 - 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?

advice²³

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.*

careful²⁶

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

chairman¹⁶

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

controversial³⁰

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

cooperate²⁹

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.*

election²⁴

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

expect¹⁹

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.*

gentle²⁸

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

group¹⁷

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

ideas¹⁸

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.*

meeting¹⁵

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.*

offend³¹

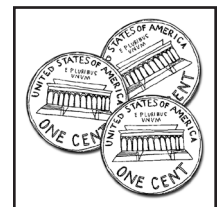
Offend means to hurt someone's feelings or to make someone feel angry or upset. *If you say that cats are not good pets, you may offend someone who has a pet cat.*

opinion²¹

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

pennies²⁰

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.*



raised¹⁴

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.*

right¹³

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.*

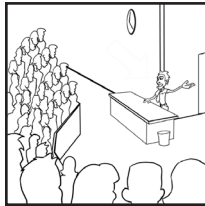
scold²⁷

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.*

speech³²

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.



spoken¹²

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

topic²²

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

touchy²⁵

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.*