

By: Azam Jannati Ataei

(Ph.D student in TEFL)

A: Hey there! It's been (41) since we've seen each other. How have you been? B: Hey! I'm doing great, thanks! I've been really busy with work, but I'm making the most of it. How about you? A: Pretty good! I'm just trying to (42) around a busy work schedule and find some time for myself. It's hard to juggle everything, but I'm managing. What have you been up to lately? B: Oh, you know, the usual. Just trying to stay (43) and keep a positive outlook. How about you?

41-choice 2

"It's been ages" is sometimes a form of greeting, when you haven't seen the person in a long time, or used when you haven't done something in a while. I need to go to the gym. It's been ages since my last visit.

42- choice 1

find a/(one's) way around (someone or something): To evade or avoid something.

have a lot on my plate: Have a great deal (or too much) to cope with.

catch some/a few rays: to sit or lie in the sun/to relax outside on a sunny day.

Pull strings: to control someone or something often in a secret way.

43- choice 4

On to things: having done or discovered something important, special, etc.

A straight face: a blank or serious facial expression, especially when trying not to laugh.

Laugh it up: To laugh uproariously, hysterically, or uncontrollably.

To stay on top of things: In full control of a situation.

44- choice 3

Get down on:

To have or express negative or overly critical feelings toward someone or something.

Look up to: have a great deal of respect for someone; appreciate.

Make do with: to manage to live without things that you would like to have or with things of a worse quality than you would like.

put myself across: to cause (oneself) to appear to be (a particular type of person). Example: He tries to put himself across as a nice guy.

45- choice 2

Nuts and bolts: (Informal)the basic practical details.

