

The Truman Show | Everyday Phrases

Vocabulary Breakdown

Hollywood English Club

1) "I Can't Stand You"

■ To say "I can't stand you" means to strongly dislike someone, to the point that being around them is unbearable.

✓ A very emotional phrase, used in arguments or moments of high tension. Much stronger than "I don't like you."

- ▶ *"He stormed out, shouting that he couldn't stand her anymore."*
 - ▶ *"She tried to stay calm, but the truth was she couldn't stand him."*
-

2) "Fix You Some..."

■ In casual American English, to fix someone something means to prepare food or drink for them.

✓ Common in informal speech, especially in the American South. "Fix" here means prepare, not repair.

- ▶ *"She fixed me some breakfast before I left."*
 - ▶ *"Can I fix you some coffee? You look exhausted."*
-

3) "Nervous Breakdown"

■ When someone struggles so much emotionally that they can no longer cope with everyday life.

✓ Often caused by extreme stress or emotional pain building up over time. Not a clinical term, but widely understood.

- ▶ *"Too much pressure at work can eventually lead to a nervous breakdown."*
 - ▶ *"She was close to a nervous breakdown before she finally asked for help."*
-

4) "You're Part of This"

■ An accusation meaning someone has been involved in something secret or dishonest.

✓ Carries a strong sense of betrayal, especially when directed at someone trusted.

- ▶ *"She stared at her best friend through tears and whispered: you were part of this the whole time."*
 - ▶ *"Don't look surprised. You're part of this too."*
-

5) "Break Character"

■ To stop pretending, to drop the act and show your real thoughts or feelings.

✓ Originally a theatre term, now used in everyday English for any moment someone stops playing a role.

- ▶ *"He tried to stay calm during the prank, but broke character the moment he saw her face."*
 - ▶ *"She broke character and started laughing halfway through the serious speech."*
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6) "Thank God!"

■ Used to express strong relief or gratitude, usually because something bad was avoided.

✓ Used by many people as a general expression of emotion, not necessarily religious. "Thank goodness!" is a softer version.

- ▶ *"Thank God I didn't miss the train. I ran all the way to the platform."*
 - ▶ *"Thank God that's over. I've been dreading it all week."*
-

7) "Carry On"

- To keep going or continue doing something, even when the situation is difficult or frustrating.
 - ✓ Often signals resilience or stubbornness. Very common in British English.
 - ▶ "*Despite everything falling apart, the team carried on and finished the project.*"
 - ▶ "*She had every reason to quit, but she just carried on.*"
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Learn NATURAL English with The Truman Show

Student Worksheet Hollywood English Club

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part 1: Vocabulary Match

Match each phrase on the left with its correct definition on the right.

Phrase	Definition
_____ 1. I Can't Stand You	A. To keep going even when things are difficult
_____ 2. Fix You Some...	B. An expression of strong relief or gratitude
_____ 3. Nervous Breakdown	C. To strongly dislike someone to the point of not being able to bear them
_____ 4. You're Part of This	D. To stop pretending and show your real feelings
_____ 5. Break Character	E. To prepare food or drink for someone
_____ 6. Thank God!	F. To be accused of being involved in something secret or dishonest
_____ 7. Carry On	G. When someone can no longer cope emotionally with life

Part 2: Fill in the Blanks

WORD BANK

I can't stand	fix you some	nervous breakdown	part of this	break character	thank God	carry on
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1. She told her roommate: "I _____ you sometimes, but I still love you."
2. He offered to _____ a hot drink before the long drive.
3. The doctor warned her that if she didn't rest, she could have a _____.
4. When the plan was exposed, she looked at him and said: "You were _____ all along."
5. The actor tried to stay serious, but he _____ and started laughing.
6. "_____ you're okay! I was so worried when you didn't call."
7. Even after losing the first two sets, she decided to _____ and fight for the match.

Part 3: Rewrite in Your Own Words

Rewrite each sentence using the phrase in brackets. Keep the same meaning.

"I really dislike being around him. It feels unbearable." [I can't stand]

"She was so stressed that she completely lost the ability to cope." [nervous breakdown]

"He stopped acting and just said what he really felt." [break character]

Part 4: Multiple Choice

1. If someone says "I can't stand you," how do they feel?
 - A. Confused and unsure.
 - B. Deeply uncomfortable being around that person.
 - C. Excited and happy.
 - D. Calm and forgiving.

2. "Fix you some coffee" means:
 - A. Repair your coffee machine.
 - B. Give you a coffee coupon.
 - C. Prepare a coffee for you.
 - D. Order coffee from a cafe.

3. Which best describes a nervous breakdown?
 - A. Getting very angry in an argument.
 - B. Falling asleep from exhaustion.
 - C. Being unable to cope emotionally with life.
 - D. Forgetting an important appointment.

4. "You're part of this" is most likely said when:
 - A. Someone is being praised for their work.
 - B. Someone is being accused of being involved in a secret plan.
 - C. Someone is invited to join a fun event.
 - D. Someone is asked to help with a task at work.

5. What does "carry on" mean?
 - A. To give up and go home.
 - B. To complain loudly.
 - C. To continue despite difficulties.
 - D. To carry something heavy.

Part 5: True or False

1. "I can't stand you" is a polite, formal way to say you dislike someone.

Answer: _____

Correction (if false): _____

2. "Fix you some..." means to repair a broken object.

Answer: _____

Correction (if false): _____

3. A nervous breakdown is related to emotional overload and an inability to cope.

Answer: _____

Correction (if false): _____

4. "Break character" means to stop pretending and show your real feelings.

Answer: _____

Correction (if false): _____

5. "Carry on" is only used in sports contexts.

Answer: _____

Correction (if false): _____