

## Vocabulary and Idioms from “Episode 1: The Accents Among Us”

**Part I.** Did you hear these idiomatic expressions in Episode 1? Listen to the clips below, read the text from the transcript, and see if you can guess the meaning of each phrase in the matching activity. Scan the QR Code below or go to

<https://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/jtbc/vocabulary-and-idioms-from-episode-1/> for audio clips.

1. “have a stake in”
2. “an off-color joke”
3. “a two-way street”
4. “with respect to”
5. “quackery”



**Match the vocab to its meaning:**

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|---------------------|--|
| 1. have a stake in  | A. a situation in which everyone involved should participate |
| 2. off-color joke   | B. relating to   |
| 3. a two-way street | C. be invested in  |
| 4. with respect to  | D. inappropriate   |
| 5. quackery         | E. methods used by people who pretend to be experts          |

**Part II.** Decide which of the 5 words/phrases should be used in each of the sentences below.

1. Most people know not to make \_\_\_\_\_ in a professional setting.
2. A relationship should be \_\_\_\_\_; if one person is selfish, the other won't want to continue being in the relationship.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ the success of my neighborhood in the city, so I volunteer as often as I can.
4. Any advice that guarantees you'll lose 10 pounds in a week is probably just \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ the point you made earlier, I really don't see its connection to my argument.

## Answer Key

### Part I Answers:

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. B
5. E

### Part II Answers:

1. Most people know not to make **off-color jokes** in a professional setting.
2. A relationship should be a **two-way street**; if one person is selfish, the other won't want to continue.
3. I **have a stake in** the success of my neighborhood in the city, so I volunteer as often as I can.
4. Any advice that guarantees you'll lose 10 pounds in a week is probably just **quackery**.
5. **With respect to** the point you made earlier, I really don't see its connection to my argument.

### More examples of these words and phrases:<sup>1</sup>

1. My sister's new boyfriend is loud, tells **off-color jokes** – and is coming to our Thanksgiving dinner this year.
2. The song has got the idea that relationships are a **two-way street** and you've got to do your share and you can't expect somebody to do something that you're not doing.
3. The implications of these findings are discussed **with respect to** student-faculty relationships, classroom compliance gaining, and student evaluations of faculty.
4. They spent 30 years ridiculing Robert Atkins, accusing the Manhattan doctor of **quackery** and fraud, only to discover that Atkins was right all along.
5. Show your company you really **have a stake in** its bottom line by asking your boss to set a goal based on a critical corporate target.

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<sup>1</sup> Davies, Mark (2008). *The Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA): 520 million words, 1990-present*. Available online at <https://corpus.byu.edu/coca/>.