

It's Just a Little White Lie

Vocabulary

1. **Chief** - The head or leader of an organized body of people or the person highest in authority.

Sample sentence: **Percy smith was appointed chief of police by the executive.**

2. **Copper** - A metallic reddish brown.

Sample sentence: **A nine carat ring, in particular, contains more copper than gold.**

3. **Court** - A place where justice is administered.

Sample sentence: **In the first six months of 2001 alone, there was a 37.5 % increase in employee fraud cases passing through the criminal courts.**

4. **Deal** - to be able to handle competently or successfully; cope (followed by with).

Sample sentence: **I can't deal with your personal problems.**

5. **Lawyer** - A person whose profession is to represent clients in a court of law or to advice or acts for clients in other legal matters.

Sample sentence: **His father was a lawyer.**

6. **Prosecute** - to conduct criminal proceedings in court.

Sample sentence: **Recipient fraud is generally left to local district attorneys to prosecute.**

7. **Routinely** - a customary or regular course of procedure.

Sample sentence: **However, madam herself stated that aim personnel files are routinely falsified.**

8 **Transaction** - the act of transacting or the fact of being transacted.

Sample sentence: **The number of transactions decreased and the exchange rate plummeted.**

It's Just a Little White Lie

Let's read

Irene was angry at her boyfriend Rory. She was trying to make a business deal. Rory was not a business man. But she needed Rory's help because she was a woman, and a business man, she knew businessmen routinely lied to women.

"All you have to do is tell Mr. Lo that you are the sales manager for my company. What's the big deal? It's not like you're in court raising your right hand and swearing to God. You're just telling a sales manager that you also are a sales manager. He doesn't want to deal with someone who is 'lower' than him. You must be his equal. Then he will have respect for you, and he will tell you the truth. I need to know if he can ship 10 tons of copper to Long Beach every month. He told me he could ship only five. I think he is lying to me, because I'm a woman and he won't lie to a man."

"Ha! You think men don't lie to other men? Of course they do. But that's beside the point. I am not going to misrepresent myself in what could be a huge business transaction-that's fraud."

"It's not fraud; it's a little white lie. Don't be such a chicken!"

"I'm not a chicken, for crying out loud. I just don't want to go to jail. You don't know the laws, and neither do I. All I know is that I'll be misrepresenting myself; you can call it a little white lie, but the lawyers who prosecute me will call it fraud. Maybe we can think of another title for me that isn't a lie."

"You want another title instead of sales manager? You want a title that isn't a lie? I have a title for you-when you call him up, introduce yourself as my company's Chief Executive Chicken!"

It's Just a Little White Lie

Discussion A

1. Do you think you could lie and beat a lie detection test?
2. What do you think of liars?

Discussion B

1. What would you do if someone spread lies about you?
2. Have you ever cheated on or lied to a partner?
3. Who lies more, men or women?