

Warm Up

In October of last year, four individuals used a lift truck and some grinding tools to break into the Louvre Museum in Paris and steal a number of historic crown jewels. The heist was over in less than eight minutes, and the thieves were able to get away on scooters they had parked near the base of the lift truck.

Unfortunately for the criminals, they left a number of fingerprints and DNA evidence at the scene of the crime. As a result, the police were able to track them down and arrest them.

Activity

With a partner, pretend you are a burglar. You are going to steal valuable jewels from a museum. What are some things that you **need to do** so that you don't get caught? Similarly, to avoid being caught, what are some things that you **should** and **shouldn't** do?

Examples

- We **need to** wear Halloween masks to hide our faces.
- We **should** steal the jewels just before the museum closes.
- We **shouldn't** tell anyone about what we are going to do.

Useful Expression

In today's scene, John says, *From now on, I'm sticking to plumbing.* He says this because he learned plumbing while he was in jail. Upon his release, John had planned to give up on crime and work as a plumber, but he let his brother Andrew talk him out of that idea.

We use this expression when we are committing to something. So, in other words, John is going to return to plumbing and never give up on it again. He is going to stick to it.

Activity

With a partner, look at the following situations and try making sentences about each one that uses the expression above.

Example

You are a whiskey drinker, but last night, you went out with friends and drank two beers, a glass of wine, some Japanese sake, and a martini. Today you have a bad hangover.

- **From now on, I'm sticking to whiskey.**
- **From now on, I'm going to stick to drinking whiskey.**

Situations

1. Your friend loves shopping online. She is always buying things from Amazon and has never had a problem receiving the items she has bought. Last month, though, she decided to try using Temu, a different online shopping site. She ordered three items. One arrived broken, and the other two still haven't been shipped.

You say to your friend, **Maybe you should** _____.

2. You are an avid runner. For many years, you have only used Nike running shoes, but two days ago you were at Xebio Sports, and you found a nice pair of Adidas running shoes on sale for 3,000 yen. The price was too good to be true, so you bought them. Yesterday, you ran your regular 10 km loop. Today, your feet are in a lot of pain.

You tell your friend, **From now on, I'm** _____.

3. You and your sales team have an established plan. It works well. Your team is always on your company's top 3 high sellers list. One day, one of your team members tries something new, and it doesn't work. In fact, the results are terrible.

You tell your friend, **Next time,** _____.

4. You are being questioned by the police about a jewelry heist. You keep telling them the same story, but they don't believe you. They ask you more and more questions.

You tell the police, **I've told you my story, and I'm** _____.

5. Try making some original sentences with this expression.

Today's Scene

John, Stan, and Andrew are in Andrew's apartment with Andrew's wife and child. It is the day after the three men attempted to steal a large diamond from a New York City Museum. I say attempted to steal because, although they did steal the diamond, they don't know where it is. Allan, the other person that they robbed the museum with was caught by the police and arrested. Let's watch today's scene and see what the three men talk about.



Role Play

There are three characters in today's scene, but they take turns speaking in such a way that we can easily act this scene out with two people. One person can play the role of Andrew. The other person, please play the roles of John and Stan. As always, do your best to impersonate the facial expressions, gestures, and speaking styles of each character.

Conversation

Recall an act of mischief you did in your teenage years or your early twenties and tell your partner about it. Try to add as many details as you can to your story. If you are listening, try to ask as many questions as you can.

Example

When I was 13 or 14 years old, I was in an advanced level math class. As a result, when most of the students in my school were taking their final math tests in the school gym, three of my friends and I had the day off. As we were riding our bikes around town, one of us had the idea to light some fireworks and throw them into the school. You would think that one of us would have realized this was a bad idea, but none of us did. Excited by our plan, we quickly rode our bikes to the school, lit a pack of Black Cat fireworks, and threw them through the open door of the gym. Then we quickly raced away on our bikes, laughing all the while.

Fortunately, nobody got hurt, and we never got caught.