



Cultural Linguistic Services  
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# English Learning Newsletter

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

## New words of the week:

UW-Madison is **phasing in** (slowly increasing) more in-person activity on campus during the next **phase** (time period) of the semester.

We have **bent the curve** (lowered the number) of positive COVID-19 **cases** (infections).

We must **strictly** (very carefully and exactly) follow public health **measures** (rules) about masking, distancing, and cleaning.

The university will continue to **track** (watch and record) infections.

## Phrases for Conversation:

Use these phrases to **offer condolences** (comfort someone who has had a friend or relative die):

- I'm so sorry for your loss.
- You have my sympathy.
- My heart goes out to you.
- My thoughts are with you.
- You are in my prayers.
- My heartfelt condolences.

- Adapted from **Perfect Phrases for ESL Conversation Skills** by Diane Englehardt

## Video of respect:

Watch this short video of people **paying their respects** (showing honor) to U.S. Supreme Court **Justice** (judge) Ruth Bader Ginsberg. She died on Sept. 18 and is the first woman to **lie in state** (have her body in a coffin) at the U.S Capitol:

<https://www.npr.org/2020/09/25/915637415/video-saying-goodbye-to-rbg>



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## Proverb:

**The pen is mightier than the sword** = writing can be more powerful and influential than an army with weapons.

- Justice Ginsberg will be remembered for her writings about the law. Her **pen was mightier than the sword!**