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## **Episode #028**

# **THE WORD BEAR**

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Today I'm going to talk about the word **bear**.  
And with a mini-story, you will practice your English conversation skills.

Hi! I'm Georgiana, founder of [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com).  
My mission is to help you speak English fluently.

Before we start, get the transcript at [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/podcast](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/podcast)

Very well. Let's get started!

The word **BEAR** is normally used as a noun when we're referring to a large furry animal that likes eating honey. In the second part of this podcast, you'll meet two funny bears, Yogi and Boo-Boo.

**The word BEAR** can also be a **verb**. In that case it has several meanings:  
A few of them are: **to hold, to support, to exhibit, to stand, or to give birth to.**

For example, if I say that "**I can't BEAR**" something, I mean that I can't tolerate it or stand it. It's just too much, or it makes me very unhappy.

Here are some more **examples**:

Usually, we use the verb to **BEAR** when **we need to accept, or tolerate something, especially something unpleasant:**

**Examples:**

"The pain was almost more than Jason could **bear**."  
"How can you **bear** to eat that food?"

There are some other similar expressions. Instead of saying, "**I can't bear it,**" you could say I can't **stand** it, or I can't **put up with** it.

**Example:**

"I love going to the beach, but my sister can't **stand** it."  
"I just can't **put up with** my friend's dog."

We can use the word **BEAR** in many different ways.

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For example, when you need to **deal with something painful**, we say that you **BEAR the pain**:

**Example:**

"Sometimes it's hard to **bear the pain** of being lonely."

Other times, you need to take responsibility for the negative effects of your actions. It's when we say that you **BEAR the consequences**:

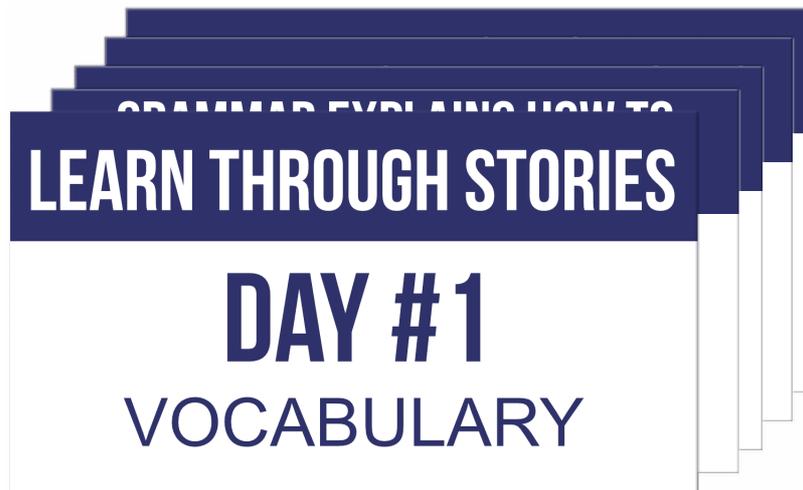
**Example:**

"She's quitting her job anyway, so; she won't be here next month to **bear the consequences**."

That's it for now. I hope you enjoyed learning new expressions with the word BEAR.

Ok! If you want to know how to **speak English** using the proper techniques, visit [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com) and [subscribe](#) to my mailing list. I will send you my **video course for free**. So you can **learn how to speak English fluently once and for all!**

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Now let's continue with a mini-story.

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# Mini-Story

## (Practice your speaking)

*What's a mini-story?*

*A mini-story is very simple. I give you information using phrases, and then I ask you questions.*

*After each question, there will be some seconds of silence: it's your turn to answer the question!*

*Try to give an easy and short answer. Not a complex one.*

*After your answer, I will give you the correct answer.*

*And just like that, I'll tell a story with questions and answers.*

Are you ready? Let's start!

**Yogi and Boo-Boo were two bears who lived in Jellystone Park.**

**Were Yogi and Boo-Boo tigers?**

No. No. They weren't tigers. They were bears.

**Were they sheep?**

No. No. Yogi and Boo-Boo were bears.

**Did they live in Jellystone or a zoo?**

Not a zoo. They lived in Jellystone Park.

**Where did the two bears live?**

In Jellystone Park. They two bears lived in Jellystone Park.

**Yogi was a grizzly bear, and he used to say he was smarter than the average bear.**

**Was Yogi a polar bear?**

No. Not a polar bear. He was a grizzly bear.

**Was Yogi smart or dumb?**

Smart. Not dumb. He was smarter than the average bear.

**Yogi always came up with a plan to steal the tourist's picnic baskets.**

**Did Yogi sometimes come up with a plan?**

No. Not sometimes. He always came up with a plan.

**What was his plan?**

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He planned to steal the tourist's picnic baskets.  
**Whose baskets did Yogi want to steal? Boo-Boo's Baskets?**

No. No. Not Boo-Boo's baskets. He wanted to steal people's picnic baskets.

**His friend Boo-Boo always tried to stop Yogi from getting in trouble.**

**Did Yogi's friend try to stop him?**

Yes. Yogi's friend, Boo-Boo, always tried to stop him.

**Who tried to stop Yogi?**

Boo-Boo. Yogi's friend tried to stop him.

**Yogi tried to stop Boo-Boo, right?**

No. No. Not Yogi. It was Boo-Boo who tried to stop Yogi. Not the other way around.

**Boo-Boo couldn't bear Yogi stealing picnic baskets. So he often asked his friend to hunt for food.**

**What couldn't Boo-Boo bear?**

He couldn't bear Yogi stealing picnic baskets.

**Boo-Boo asked Yogi something about hunting.**

**Right?**

Yes. He asked Yogi to hunt for food instead of stealing picnic baskets.

**Yogi's friend wanted him to steal baskets, right?**

No. No. Boo-Boo didn't want Yogi to steal anything. He wanted him to hunt for food.

**Yogi used to say hunting is for losers, and a picnic basket had everything a bear needed.**

**Did Yogi say that hunting was for losers or winners?**

For losers. He said that hunting is for losers. Not for winners.

**Was the picnic basket everything a bear needed?**

Yes. According to Yogi, the picnic basket was everything a bear needed.

**Yogi couldn't bear the consequences of stealing. So he always ran away from the forest ranger.**

**Did Yogi bear the consequences of stealing?**

No. He didn't bear the consequences. So, he ran away from the forest ranger.

**Why did Yogi run away? To avoid the consequences of stealing?**

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Yes. He ran away to avoid the consequences of stealing. He didn't want to bear the consequences of his actions.

**So Boo-Boo ran away from the ranger, right?**

No. No. Not Boo-Boo. Yogi! He ran away from the ranger.

Perfect! It's the end of this mini-story. And as you can see, through questions and answers, you can practice and improve your speech just like in a **real conversation**.

It is one of the techniques that I use in my [premium courses](#).

I recommend you to you take a look at:  
[SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses](https://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses)

Ok! We have reached the end of this episode.

Remember to listen to it several times. It will help you with your English. See you soon! Bye! Bye!



*Georgiana*

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