

Aug 28 2020~ Anger vs Encouragement on Facebook (Lesson 148c)

Phrases/terms in the article:

Remember: **sth = something; **sb** = somebody.

get over sth or sb = recover from (or stop feeling bad about) sth bad that happened to you

will be out = will be unable to participate (because of an injury or illness)

leave sb or sth alone = stop bothering sb; stop focusing on sb or sth

move forward = forget about the past and focus on the future

get sth behind you = overcome a problem

(put sth behind you = stop thinking about a problem or bad experience)

it goes without saying (that) = everybody should already know (that)

the door is open = the opportunity is there

sth or sb is on sb's mind = sb is currently thinking about sth or sb

whenever/when the mood strikes = whenever/when you suddenly feel like doing sth or saying sth

scar: the mark left after a cut or a wound heals

criticize: to forcefully scold or "strike back at" sb who did sth that you were unhappy about

Wife of Major League Baseball Star Jonathan Lucroy Gets "Hate Mail" on Facebook

A top Milwaukee Brewers baseball player recently broke his right hand when a suitcase fell on it. Not only will Jonathan Lucroy need surgery to fix his broken hand, he and his wife will also need time to get over the abuse she has endured on Facebook. Angry that their favorite hitter will be out for six weeks, fans have been sending hateful messages on social media, blaming Lucroy's wife, Sarah, for the accident.

"It's been hard for me personally, because my wife is being deeply hurt by the hate mail. She feels guilty enough already, so I really wish people would just leave her alone, leave us alone. Just let us move forward and get this behind us."

It goes without saying that connecting with anyone via social media can be a wonderful thing. Most people encourage and inspire with helpful comments, pictures, scriptures, jokes, etc. However, the door is always open for abuse because people can so easily communicate whatever is on their minds without thinking about the impact, whenever the mood strikes. Had Lucroy broken his hand during a game, would fans be angry or encouraging? Encouraging words heal, while hateful words can leave deep scars.

"Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger." That ancient advice from James 1:19 is as helpful today as ever. Few of us would harshly criticize someone about an accident if face-to-face. Remember that the next time you are tempted to say something hateful on social media. Harsh words may not break bones like a falling suitcase, but the emotional pain of angry words can take a long time to heal. A few seconds of thought BEFORE you type can turn criticism into encouragement. Isn't that what you'd prefer to read in *your* inbox?

Questions:

1. Share something that has been on your mind a lot lately. Also, why has it been on your mind so much?
2. To you, what is the best thing about social media, and what is the worst thing? How has your use of social media changed during the pandemic?
3. If you don't mind, share about a time you had to get over some bad treatment or a big disappointment. How did you get it behind you (or put it behind you)?
4. Two students should role-play a conversation between Sarah Lucroy and a friend. How would you help her to get over this and move forward?
5. *"Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger."* Restate this in other words. What do you think of this advice? Can you think of related advice that is well-known in your culture?
6. Share something **good** or **encouraging** that happened because of social media. It can be a personal example, something that happened to someone you know, or something that was in the news.
7. In your opinion, does social media's advantages outweigh its disadvantages? Explain.

Grammar point

G5c. *Not only...but also**

Using this grammar pattern correctly can be tricky. Firstly, using “not only...but also” implies that the reader already understands your first point, and it is difficult to know if this is true! Furthermore, sometimes the main verb comes before *not* and sometimes it comes after *only*; sometimes a pronoun is required between *but* and *also*, while sometimes it is not. You normally need a comma before *but*, though you can omit it in a few cases. When in doubt, look here and be sure your sentence fits one of these structures (or find an easier way to express your idea).

(A) subj + V + not only + adjective, but + (optional pronoun+V) + also + adjective...

- ◆ Students are not only young, but they are also open-minded.
- ◆ Students are not only young, but also open-minded. (“they are” is optional)

(B) subj + not only + (V+adv) but + (optional pronoun) + also + (V+adv)

- ◆ Kids not only play hard, but they also study hard.
- ◆ Kids not only play hard but also study hard. (the comma is optional when “they” is omitted)

(C) Not only + V + subj + adj, but (required pronoun+V) + also + adj...

- ◆ Wrong: Not only are students young, but ^ also open-minded. (this sentence needs “they are”)
- ◆ Right: Not only are students young, but they are also open-minded.

(D) Not only + V + subj + (V+adv), but (required pronoun) + also + (V+adv)...

- ◆ Wrong: Not only do kids play hard, but ^ also study hard. (this sentence needs “they”)
- ◆ Right: Not only do kids play hard, but they also study hard.

====lower level classes can omit the Grammar point and the red type=====

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