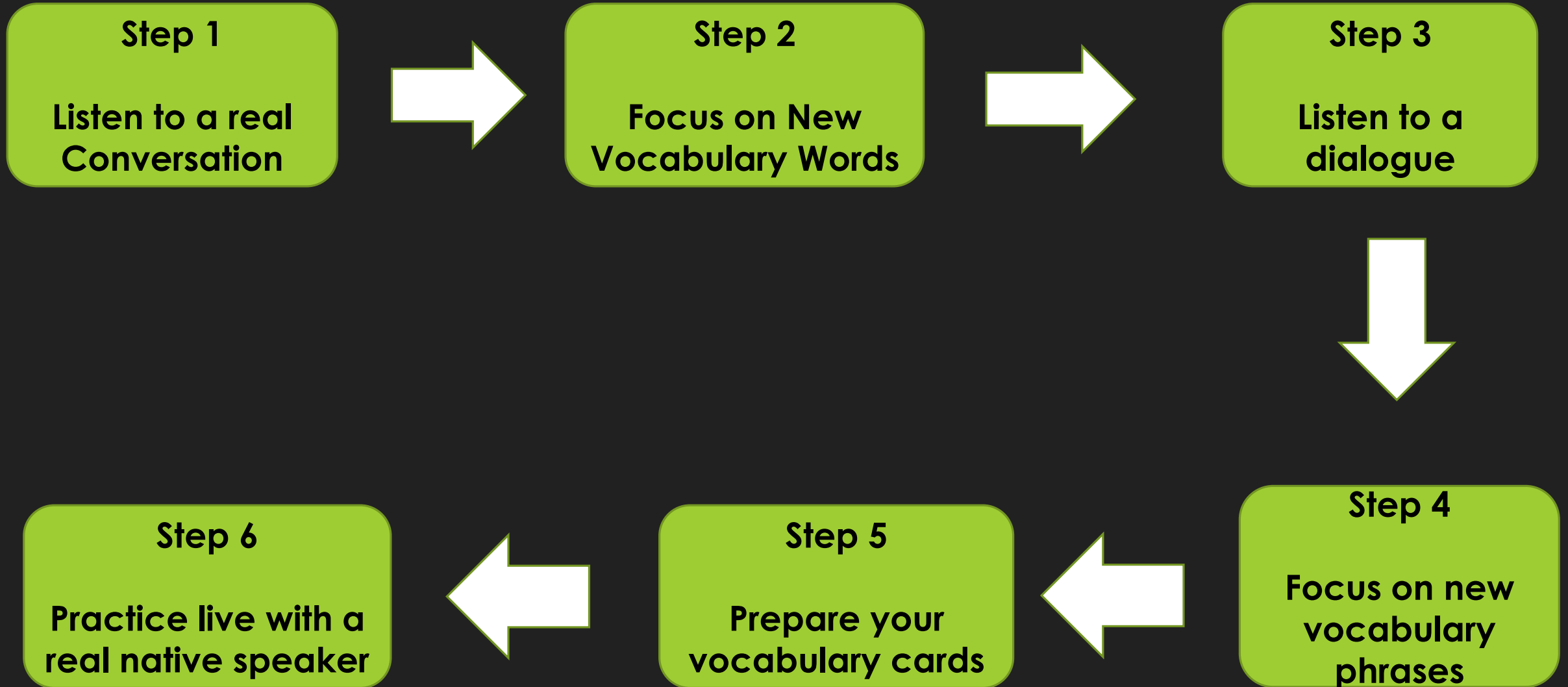




# How to Talk to Americans About Baseball

## A Vocabulary Lesson

# Our Method



# Step 1: Listen to a Real Conversation



Please open  
Audio Step 1: A  
Day at Fenway



In this conversation, Lindsay and Vin talk about traditions in American baseball. What it is like to go to a game? Why is it important for Americans? Find out here...

Please open Transcript Step 1- A Day at Fenway



## Step 2: Focus on New Vocabulary Words

**Overpriced**

**Anticipation**

**Tradition**

**Seventh  
Inning  
Stretch**

**Team Spirit**

**To run for**

**The Wave**

# Overpriced

adjective



**Meaning: Too expensive, higher price than it's worth**

***"Tickets to Fenway are a bit overpriced these days."***

# Team Spirit

expression



**Meaning: A feeling within a group of wanting to succeed**

***“There is so much team spirit at Fenway. It’s incredible.”***

# Anticipation

noun

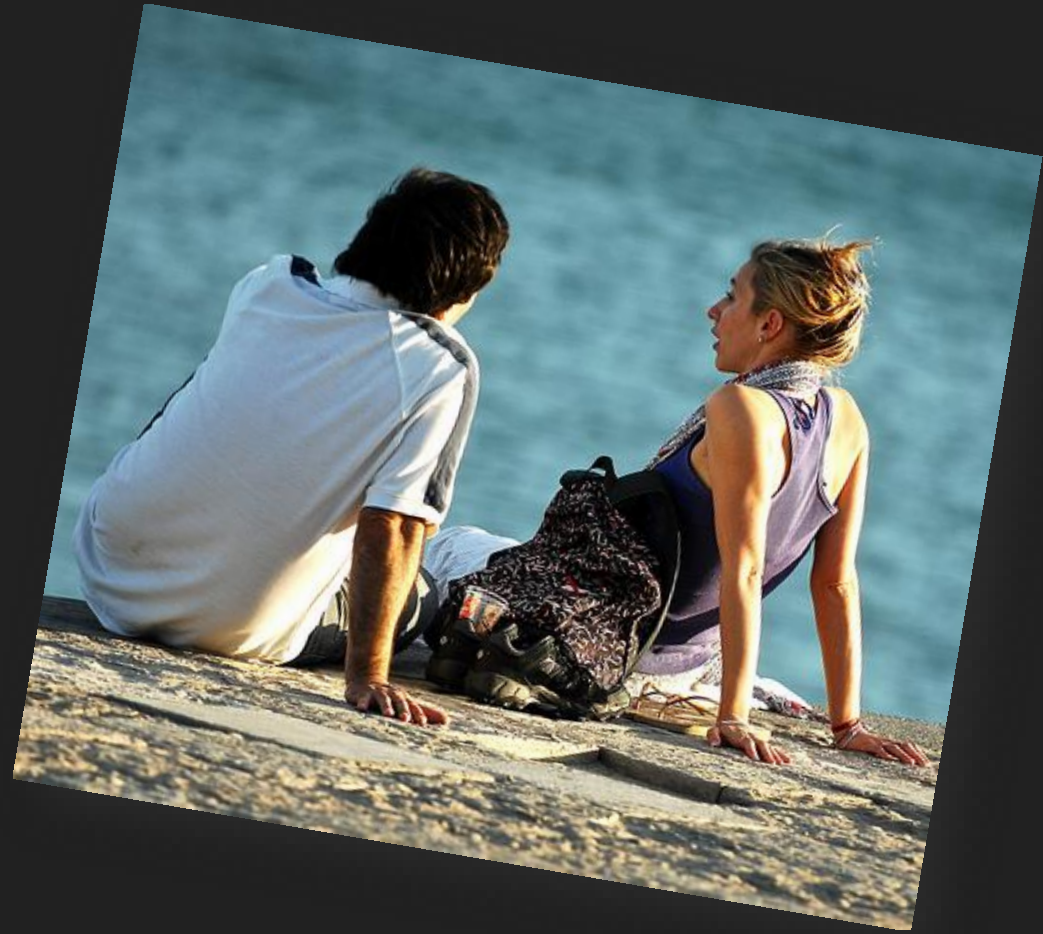


**Meaning: A sense of excitement, looking forward to something**

***“You can feel the anticipation in the air when you walk into the stadium.”***

**To run for**

**Phrasal verb**



**Meaning: To cost, to be priced at**

***“How much do Fenway Franks run for these days?”***



# Tradition

noun

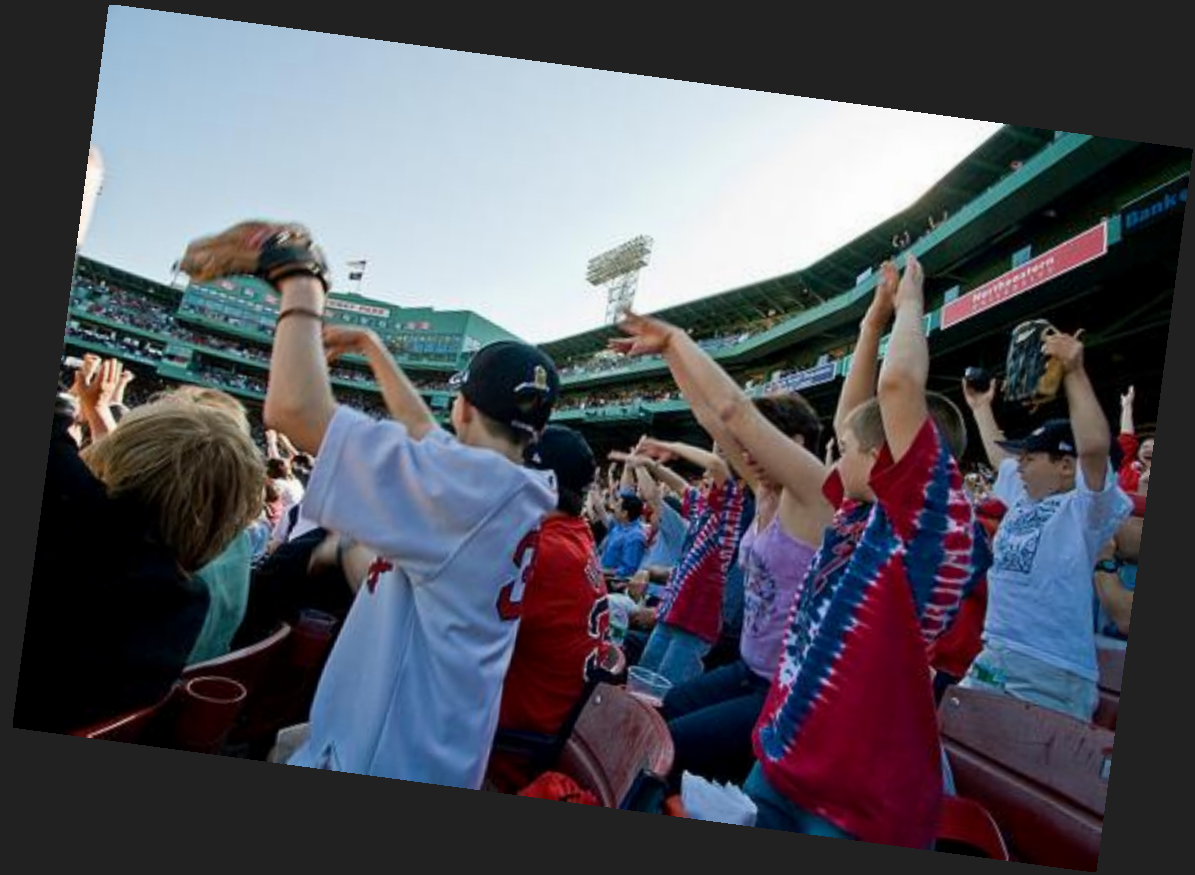


**Meaning: An event or ritual that has happened for many years in the past and continues into the present**

***“As a tradition, sometimes a special guest throws the first pitch.”***

# The Wave

expression



**Meaning: When baseball fans in the stadium simultaneously stand up and raise their hands to support the team**

***“I like to participate in the wave every time I go to the game.”***

# Seventh Inning Stretch

expression



**Meaning:** A break that happens in the middle of the seventh inning when fans have time to get up and stretch and get food

*“Let’s get some snacks during the seventh inning stretch.”*



## Step 3: Listen for the Main Idea

Is it getting too expensive to go to a baseball game these days or is it still worth it?

Find out in this conversation.

Please Listen to the conversation.

Please see Audio Steps 3 and 4 –Overpriced Tickets





## Step 4: Listen for Vocabulary Phrases

Please listen again and pay  
attention to the vocabulary  
phrases

Please view Transcripts Steps 3  
and 4- Overpriced Tickets



# Bonus! Say It Another Way!

Learn new ways to say the vocabulary phrases!

Please click on the link called "Say it Another Way"



# Step 5: Prepare Your Vocabulary Cards



**Team Spirit**



**To run for**



**Tradition**



**Overpriced**



**The wave**

**Anticipation**



**Seventh  
Inning  
Stretch**



# Step 6: Practice with a Native Speaker

- Is baseball popular in your country? What other sports are popular? Why do you think those sports are popular? How much do the tickets **run for**? Are they **overpriced**?
- What **traditions** exist for the most popular games in your country (such as soccer, basketball, etc.)

**Bonus Dialogue 1 - Please use the expressions from “Say It Another Way” to complete the dialogue:**

A: (student): Hey while I am in Boston I want to catch a game, how much do the tickets \_\_\_\_\_ (run for)?

B: Oh man they are so \_\_\_\_\_ (overpriced) these days. Maybe \$60 per ticket.

A: Yeah, I know, but I have heard a lot about Fenway \_\_\_\_\_ (traditions) like the Seventh Inning Stretch and it sounds like a cool atmosphere.



# Answers for Bonus Dialogue 1

**Bonus Dialogue 1 - Please use the expressions from “Say It Another Way” to complete the dialogue:**

*A: (student): Hey while I am in Boston I want to catch a game, how much do the tickets cost?*

*B: Oh man they are so expensive these days. Maybe 60 \$ per ticket.*

*A: Yeah, I know, but I have heard a lot about Fenway rituals like the Seventh Inning Stretch and it sounds like a cool atmosphere.*

# Step 6 Continued

- Have you ever been to an American baseball game? Did you participate in the **wave**? What did you do during the **Seventh Inning Stretch**?
- If you were a coach of a baseball team, how would you create a sense of **team spirit** for both the people on the team and for the fans?

**Bonus Dialogue 2- Please use the expressions from “Say It Another Way” to complete the dialogue:**

A: (student): What's your favorite part about an American baseball game?

B: I like \_\_\_\_ (the wave). When everyone gets up it feels like there is so much \_\_\_\_ (team spirit).

A: Personally I like the \_\_\_\_ (Seventh Inning Stretch). It's always fun to get up and grab a hotdog and a beer.

# Answers to Bonus Dialogue 2

**Bonus Dialogue 2- Please use the expressions from “Say It Another Way” to complete the dialogue:**

*A: (student): What's your favorite part about an American baseball game?*

*B: I like it when everyone puts their arms up at the same time. When everyone gets up it feels like there is such a sense of unity on the team.*

*A: Personally I like the break that you get during the Seventh Inning. It's always fun to get up and grab a hotdog and a beer.*

# Step 6 Continued

- Do you usually feel a strong sense of **anticipation** before you go to a sports game? Why or why not? What other events make you feel a sense of anticipation?
- If you have been to a baseball game in the US, what was your experience like overall? What do you remember about it?
- Why do you think people become fans of a team? Why does winning become so important to them?
- Does fan behavior ever get out of control in games in your country? What kinds of things do the fans do? (commit violent acts, cause destruction of property)



# Step 6 Continued

- Have you ever played on a sports team? What was that experience like?
- Do you think kids should play sports from a young age? In what ways can playing sports as a kid help build character or other values?
- Would you rather watch a game or play a game?
- How much money do professional athletes earn in your country? Do you think it's not enough? Or too much? Why or why not?

# Step 6 Continued

- Are there any sports that you would never allow your child to play? Which ones and why?
- Do you think that professional athletes are role models for kids? Can they be blamed for making poor decisions in their personal life because so many kids are watching them closely? (for example- Lance Armstrong and steroid use)
- Is it better to teach a kid a sport that he can enjoy when he is young with a team (baseball, soccer) or a sport that he can enjoy his whole life with just one partner (tennis, golf)- why?

# Credits

- Overpriced: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/68751915@N05/>
- Red sox fan: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/keithallison/>
- The wave: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/andrewmalone/>
- Pay money- run for: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/quazie/>
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