

Chatterbox #194 – A Maritimes road trip

Episode description

The Maritime provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island—are known for their simple beauty and rich history. In this episode, Suzanne shares with Andrew memories of her road trip across the Maritimes. Be sure not to miss this gem of an episode!

Fun fact

Green Gables, a farm located in Prince Edward Island, is a wildly popular Canadian landmark. It is the setting of Lucy Maud Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables novels, which tell the story of a red-haired orphan named Anne.

Expressions included in the learning materials

- A gem
- To crash
- To pass out
- Fair enough
- No way, José



Transcript

Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the Detailed Explanations section that follows the transcript.

Andrew: Hey, everybody. My name is Andrew.

Suzanne: And my name is Suzanne.

Andrew: And we are back with another Culips episode.

Hey, Suzanne.

Suzanne: Hey, Andrew! How are you?

Andrew: I am doing very well, thanks. How about you?

Suzanne: I'm doing really great, actually. I feel really relaxed.

Andrew: That is awesome. That's the best way to feel, I think. Relaxed and chill and casual and not stressed, right?

Suzanne: Yeah, moderately stressed.

Andrew: Well, Suzanne, you were gone for a little while and we missed you. I haven't recorded with you for a couple of weeks now but you're back, and today we are going to talk about a little road trip that you took.

Suzanne: Yeah! That's right, I was on vacation and I took a road trip to the Canadian Maritimes.

Andrew: Oh, the Maritimes. So in this episode, we'll talk all about your vacation. And today's episode is a Chatterbox episode. And for the listeners that don't know what that is, well, Chatterbox is the series where we let you listen in to a completely natural English conversation, and if any interesting idioms or expressions come up, then we talk about those as well.

And, of course, if you want the transcript for this episode, along with detailed vocabulary explanations and examples and a quiz, head on over to Culips.com, our website, to sign up, become a member, and download those learning materials.

OK, Suzanne, let's get into it. Tell me all about this trip. You went to the Maritimes. Now maybe we should start by explaining where that is. Where is that?

- Suzanne: Yes, so the Maritimes is a region that's located on the East Coast, so the Atlantic Coast. And Maritimes means of the sea, so it's any land that's surrounded by the sea, usually a part of a country that has a lot of small islands and parts of ... That border the ocean.
- Andrew: Exactly. So the Maritimes is the very East Coast of Canada, and it's made up of three provinces, I believe, right? New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.
- Suzanne: Yes, there's also a small island that belongs to Quebec called Iles de la Madeleine, and that's also a Maritime island. But it's ... Just because it's considered Quebec, and Quebec is more of a mainland province, it's not usually referred to in the Maritimes description. But it is right in between Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.
- Andrew: OK, so if you're at a pub night trivia and somebody asks you what provinces, what Canadian provinces make up the Maritimes? Well, you know the answer now. It's, actually, technically four provinces because Quebec is in there too.
- Suzanne: Yeah! They got in there too.
- Andrew: OK, Suzanne, so you went to Atlantic Canada, with is awesome. I've been there once myself just really quickly, unfortunately. But I had a great time. But I wanna know all about your trip. First of all, how did you get there? Did you drive, did you fly?
- Suzanne: Well, we drove, actually. We just bought a new car and this was our first big drive with the new car, and we drove for almost 10 hours on the first day, from Montreal all the way around Maine and into New Brunswick. And we slept in Moncton, New Brunswick the first night.
- And then we drove about 3 and a half hours from Moncton to Souris, or Souris, PEI, Prince Edward Island. So we got to see a lot of Prince Edward Island on our drive. And then we took a ferry. So if you can imagine 10 hours in the car one day, you sleep, then 3 and a half hours' drive, and then the next day. And then a 5-hour ferry ride from Souris to Iles de la Madeleine.
- Andrew: It's a lot of travelling.
- Suzanne: It's a lot of travelling, and we travelled with our dog. So it was ... The poor dog was stuck in the car and a boat for 2 days.
- Andrew: Suzanne, I'm gonna back it up really quickly here and ...
- Suzanne: Sure.

- Andrew: Ask you an annoying question that my mom would always ask me when I was trying to tell a story. But she would say, "Andrew, who is we? Who did you go on this trip with?"
- Suzanne: Yeah, so it was me, Suzanne, my boyfriend, Olivier, and my dog, Skoshi.
- Andrew: Whoa, Skoshi got to go to Nova Scotia.
- Suzanne: Exactly.
- Andrew: That's awesome.
- Suzanne: He loved it. He didn't wanna leave.
- Andrew: OK, so for the first day you drove for 10 hours. And I think a lot of our listeners probably ... You know, if they're from a small country they find this really hard to believe, that you can drive for so long and ...
- Suzanne: Yeah.
- Andrew: But in Canada, it's a huge place so it's easily possible to drive for this amount of time.
- Suzanne: Yup, and still be in Canada.
- Andrew: And still be in Canada, still be in the same province, even.
- Suzanne: Yeah, it's true. It's the same in the US. You can drive 12 hours and still be in Texas and you're just like, "I have to get out of here. What's happening?" So, but the landscape changes quite a bit from one ... You know, from starting in Montreal, a big city, into smaller towns and villages and seeing mountains and the Adirondacks and all of the different sort of landscape changes. It's beautiful. You see trains and mines, and it's pretty interesting to drive because you get to really see the countryside.
- Andrew: It's a beautiful drive, absolutely.
- Suzanne: Yeah.
- Andrew: And so when you stopped for the first day, what did you do? Did you just **crash** and then continue on your way, or did you spend some time at your first destination?
- Suzanne: We totally **crashed**. I don't even remember anything about the first night. I can't ... We stayed at so many different places throughout this trip that I can't for the life of me remember where we stayed the first night at all. Like I can't even picture it. It's gone from my memory.

Andrew: It's just a blank.

Suzanne: Yeah, it was a bed. It was a place to finally sleep. I think we got some really weird food and then we **passed out**.

Andrew: That's **fair enough**. So why don't we get to the highlights of the trip?

Suzanne: Mmhmm!

Andrew: What were some of the best things about this road trip?

Suzanne: Oh my gosh. So, first of all, we took this ferry to get to Iles de la Madeleine.

Andrew: Mmhmm?

Suzanne: And it's a 5-hour ferry, and it's expensive. It's like, you know, maybe 100 and something dollars per person.

Andrew: Whoa, pricey.

Suzanne: Well, it's a 5-hour boat ride and you have cabins where you can sleep. You have TVs and ... Well, you pull in, you park your car, and we wound up leaving our dog in the car with the windows down because he's not allowed in the main cabins. And for 5 hours, we weren't gonna sit outside 'cause it got kind of cold.

Andrew: Mmhmm.

Suzanne: It gets a little windy in the Maritimes. And they have cafes, lounge areas where you can sit on the couch and have a nice hot chocolate. And there's a place where people have live music. They even have a movie theatre inside this boat.

Andrew: Wow, fancy.

Suzanne: Yeah! It's quite comfortable, it is quite comfortable. And then after that, you drive off onto this little island, and I'm gonna post pictures of ... Or maps or pictures and stuff from the vacation so you guys can see how Iles de la Madeleine is made up of a bunch of islands, but I think about seven or eight of them are actually connected by long pieces of sand, like sand strips.

Andrew: Like sand bars?

Suzanne: Yeah. I mean there's roads built on them but they're really narrow and I mean you're just right ... You can just look to your right and left and you're like, "There's a beach and there's a beach."

Andrew: Wow.

- Suzanne: So it's very ... These long stretches of beach that connect these islands, so it's quite fascinating to see this when you first get off the boat. And they have really sweeping cliffs, these really big cliffs that are really high, that go off into the beach. They just drop off into the beach, and then you have this beautiful, beautiful water that's really cold.
- Andrew: Yeah, it's probably too cold to swim in.
- Suzanne: Right, even in the summer.
- Andrew: Yeah, even in the summer.
- Suzanne: It's pretty cold.
- Andrew: In some areas of Atlantic Canada, you can even see icebergs in the winter.
- Suzanne: Yes.
- Andrew: Yeah, so it's chilly.
- Suzanne: Yeah, it's ... You have to be pretty brave to venture in there.
- Andrew: Mmhmm.
- Suzanne: And you see, when you get off, all of these boats in the marina, and they're all lobster boats.
- Andrew: Wow!
- Suzanne: Because lobster is a big commodity there. Every morning around 3 or 4 a.m., the fishermen go out and they have little markers in the water for each fishing company, and they're buoys, b-u-o-y-s, buoys, and they kinda float above the water so that it indicates where they have their lobster traps located.
- Andrew: That's right, those floating ... They look like floating balls almost, on the top of the ocean.
- Suzanne: Yeah.
- Andrew: They're usually colourful ... Red or orange or yellow.
- Suzanne: Exactly.
- Andrew: Fisherman know to go back to that place.
- Suzanne: Yeah.

- Andrew: Then they stay to catch their lobsters, right?
- Suzanne: Yeah, exactly. So they know, OK, Bob's colour is yellow, so that fisherman is going to go to all the yellow buoys. And then Tom, he knows that his are gonna be red, so this way nobody gets confused and everyone gets their lobster.
- Andrew: Now, did you try any lobster?
- Suzanne: Oh yeah.
- Andrew: Yeah? Awesome.
- Suzanne: Yes, in fact there are so many little places on Iles de la Madeleine where every ... It's very artisanal. So it's very self-sustaining in that they have specialty things that come from this island made by artisans. So there's a big smokery, like a place where they smoke the fish.
- Andrew: OK.
- Suzanne: And it's been there for years. They only do one batch a year 'cause it's such a big place that they ... It takes them months to smoke these fish. And you know, it's ... You meet the people that are doing it, that have been doing it for years. And they take you on a tour of the whole building and the process.
- And Olivier, my boyfriend, asked one of the gentlemen who worked there, "Hey, I'm really interested in going lobster fishing. Do you know of a fisherman who would take me, I'm a tourist, and go out on a boat?" And the guy said ... Now Iles de la Madeleine is Quebec, but in the Maritimes.
- Andrew: Right.
- Suzanne: So it's really French, and they even have their own kind of French accent. It's very different than even mainland Quebec.
- Andrew: OK.
- Suzanne: So they were speaking together and the guy had a really funny accent. It was cute. And the guy said, "Yeah, I have a friend who's a fisherman. He'll take you out, no problem." So he gave Olivier the phone number and Olivier called him, and he went out at 3:00 in the morning ...
- Andrew: Whoa!
- Suzanne: The next day he woke up so early and he said, "Are you sure you don't wanna come?" I said, "No man, I'm sleeping."

Andrew: No, man. **No way, José.**

Suzanne: **No way, José.**

Andrew: Yeah.

Suzanne: Are you kidding me? So he went out so early and he watched and helped them catch all of these lobsters, and he saw a lobster that was almost 2 feet long.

Andrew: Holy!

Suzanne: So big.

Andrew: Wow.

Suzanne: And then he helped put the little rubber bands on the claws.

Andrew: Ah, OK.

Suzanne: Yeah, he got to do that.

Andrew: Just like you see in the supermarket.

Suzanne: Exactly, yeah. And the captain let him take home two lobsters from the day, from the catch and he took it home. Where we were staying, in a motel, there was a small kitchen and I cooked them up that night.

Andrew: Oh.

Suzanne: And Andrew, I have to tell you, it was the best lobster that we've ever had in our lives.

Andrew: Wow.

Suzanne: It was so fresh. Like you couldn't get more fresh, you know, than getting it that morning and cooking it that night.

Andrew: Wow.

Suzanne: Wow! It was so good, yeah!

Andrew: It always tastes better when you catch it yourself, too, right?

Suzanne: Yeah, exactly. And it was free, you know?

Andrew: Right, right, right.

- Suzanne: It was also free lobster, so that's a plus 'cause they can be very expensive.
- Andrew: Very expensive, yeah. So that's awesome.
- Suzanne: Yeah! That was really cool.
- Andrew: Cool, so what else did you do on your trip? Maybe eating the lobster was a highlight? Was there maybe one or two other highlights of the trip you could share with us?
- Suzanne: Yeah, well ... So I also went to Cape Breton.
- Andrew: OK, Cape Breton.
- Suzanne: Should I tell you about that?
- Andrew: I wanna hear all about it because, actually, one of the special things about Cape Breton is there traditionally have been a lot of Scottish and Irish people that settle there.
- Suzanne: Yes.
- Andrew: And so it has a really Celtic feel to it. And since my family is from Scotland originally, I've always been interested in visiting Cape Breton. So I would love to hear about it, yeah. Tell me all about it.
- Suzanne: I really ... Andrew, then, if that's your heritage, you would love going to Nova Scotia and going to Cape Breton. There's so much history there and so much beauty. It's one of the most beautiful places I've ever seen in pictures, in person. It was breathtaking.
- Andrew: Wow.
- Suzanne: So we took a ferry, that same 5-hour ferry from Iles de la Madeleine to PEI, and then we took a ferry from PEI to Nova Scotia. So we had two boats that day. So my dog was really excited about that.
- Andrew: When you were in PEI, did you stop in Green Gables?
- Suzanne: No, I think we drove through it. We drove through, yeah.
- Andrew: I've been watching the Anne of Green Gables. There's a new ... It kind of sounds funny for a man to say this 'cause I feel like traditionally this is a book for little girls. But there's a new Netflix series about Anne of Green Gables that I've been watching, and so I'm a little bit familiar with the scenery 'cause it's filmed on location. And it's amazing! So, such a beautiful area of the world.

- Suzanne: It's really beautiful, and it's very typical Maritimes. You know, those colourful houses on green, green, little sweeping hills and cliffs, with cliffs that drop off onto the beach and the ocean. It's quite beautiful, yeah.
- Andrew: Mmhmm. OK, so you went through PEI on your way to Cape Breton?
- Suzanne: Yes. So Cape Breton, the famous drive is the Cabot Trail. So John Cabot, he settled there. We went to the place where he in fact landed, it was a very nice beach.
- Andrew: He was an explorer way back in the day. He was one of the first Europeans to explore the Eastern coast of Canada.
- Suzanne: John Cabot was an explorer back the day, one of the first explorers to actually land and discover the Atlantic coastline of Canada and the US. He landed in the northeast of North America, mmhmm.
- Andrew: This trail is named after this old-time explorer.
- Suzanne: Yes, and it's this beautiful winding road that goes all along the peninsula coastline of Cape Breton. And it's ... It was really inhabited by a lot of Scottish, Irish, and French actually, Acadians, back in the beginning when that land was kind of first "discovered," even though there were people living there before.
- Andrew: Right.
- Suzanne: Rediscovered, I guess, and it's beautiful. There's the Canadian Highlands National Park that makes up a large part of Cape Breton, so it's preserved. And there's just rolling hills of trees that are surrounded by this road that then drop into cliffs and into the ocean. And it's gorgeous to drive. There's a lot of wildlife, bears and coyotes, and moose. Oh my!
- Andrew: Whoa ...
- Suzanne: I know.
- Andrew: Did you see any wildlife?
- Suzanne: We did. I was so nervous. I was like, "Please God, don't let us" ... I was like, "No, I don't want to see any bears" because a lot of people see bears and moose and stuff, you know?
- Andrew: Mmhmm.
- Suzanne: And we saw a cow moose. So a female moose, so she didn't have the horns. Like her ...

Andrew: The antlers.

Suzanne: Antlers, yeah.

Andrew: Right.

Suzanne: And she was huge, and she was just chewing and eating some food on the side of our trail. And my dog kind of freaked out, and he was like, “Mmrrr, mmrrrr,” making that noise, you know?

Andrew: Mmhmm?

Suzanne: And I had to kind of take him away because Olivier couldn’t take good pictures because the ... He was freaking out the moose. But, yeah, we got some great photos of this moose and I’d love to share some of my pictures. One of the best walks we had was ... Or hikes, was to the Skyline Trail at sunset. It’s an absolute **gem** of a hike. It’s not very hard. It’s probably about 2 hours, 2 and a half hours total.

Andrew: OK.

Suzanne: But it goes all the way down this cliff. Like you go onto this cliff and there are steps and platforms that they’ve built so that you can kind of climb all the way to the tip of this cliff. And the view is just breathing, and it’s like nothing you’ve ever seen. It’s like you’re at the end of the world, you know? You feel like you’re at the ... You’re just ... That’s the end of the world kind of.

Andrew: Wow.

Suzanne: And this massive ocean, and you can see whales. We didn’t see any but usually this is the time of year where you can see whales there.

Andrew: Mmhmm.

Suzanne: Because it’s right where the Atlantic Ocean meets the St. Lawrence River.

Andrew: OK, awesome. Well, that sounds like a really, really great place to visit.

Suzanne: Yeah!

Andrew: And you’re getting me stoked to visit the East Coast again. I’m think I’m gonna have to go back sometime soon.

Suzanne: Yeah! We got to hear some great ... I don’t know if I’m saying this right, ceilid? Ceilid ... Ceilid music?

Andrew: Maybe Celtic?

Suzanne: Well, there's ... But it's in Gaelic?

Andrew: Ceilid.

Suzanne: Ceilid, ceilid, yeah. Ceilid music, where they have the live fiddle player and ... Ah, that was amazing. So if you're of Scottish heritage, Andrew, you have to go there, try the food, the lobster rolls, the amazing ceilid music. Am I saying that right?

Andrew: I think it's ceilid.

Suzanne: Ceilid, sorry. Ah! Ceilid music and see some of the Celtic exhibits and heritage there and the beautiful landscape.

Andrew: Sounds awesome. Well, Suzanne, thanks so much for sharing the details of your road trip with us today.

Suzanne: Yeah, my pleasure.

Andrew: And I want to remind all of our listeners about our website one more time. It is Culips.com and that is the place where you can download the learning materials for this episode, which include the transcript, detailed vocabulary explanations and examples, as well as a comprehension quiz.

And if you want to get in touch with us, the best way to do that is to send us an email at our email address, which is contact@culips.com. And guys, we are also on Facebook and Twitter, of course. And if you check out our Facebook page, Suzanne, you'll post some pictures, right, for everybody?

Suzanne: Yeah, I'm gonna post some pictures and a few facts that I forgot to mention in the podcast, absolutely, good pictures.

Andrew: OK, so let's all look forward to that. I'm excited to see them too. Our Facebook page is [Facebook.com/CulipsPodcast](https://www.facebook.com/CulipsPodcast). Thank you for listening, everybody. We will be back soon with another episode. Bye.

Suzanne: Bye!

Announcer: Do you like listening to Culips? If so, please show your support by leaving Culips a five-star rating and a review on iTunes or Stitcher. This helps new listeners find the show. So don't delay, rate and review today.

Detailed Explanations

A gem

A gem is a precious or valuable stone. **Gems** are often used in jewelry, like earrings or rings, and valued because of their beauty and worth. Therefore, if someone refers to something other than a stone or jewel as **a gem**, they are saying that it has considerable beauty or worth. In other words, **a gem** can also mean a treasure or a wonder.

In this episode, Suzanna mentions that the Skyline Trail, a 7-kilometre hiking trail with a view of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, is **a gem**. Because there is a dramatic and majestic view of a cliff and the gulf, the Skyline Trail is a treasure. That is, because the Skyline Trail offers a beautiful and rare view, it is considered **a gem**.

You can also use **a gem** to refer to someone who is beloved or very special. Typically, if someone is **a gem**, they have good qualities, like being kind or pleasant. For instance, if you have a friend who is helpful, funny, and caring, you could say, "My friend is **a gem**."

So **a gem** can be used to refer to a stone, place, thing, or person that has considerable beauty and worth.

Here are a couple more examples with **a gem**:

Jennifer:	Mira, what a gorgeous necklace!
Mira:	Thanks, it was a gift from my mother. She bought it for me when she travelled to Australia last year.
Jennifer:	What type of gem is at the centre? I've never seen a stone with so many bright colours.
Mira:	It's a crystal opal. Apparently, the mix of colours is what made my mom decide to buy it for me. She said it reminded her of my unique personality!

Ted:	How are things going with Wendy?
George:	Amazing! She's kind, nice, funny, smart, and hot, and even my mom likes her.
Ted:	She sounds like a gem . Your mom doesn't like anybody!
George:	You got that right!

To crash

The expression **to crash** has several meanings, but only three will be covered here: to collide with something, to fall asleep or suddenly lose energy, or to attend an event without an invitation.

First, **to crash** can mean to collide or to hit something or someone with force or intensity. For example, if a car hits another car, causing a car accident, you could say that the cars **crashed**. Because the car hit the other car with force, you can use the word **crash**. If the cars had only bumped each other lightly, the expression **to crash** would not be appropriate.

Second, **to crash** can mean to fall asleep quickly and deeply, or to suddenly lose energy, usually from exhaustion. For example, if a 2-year-old child has a really busy day and falls asleep at the supper table, it would be appropriate to say that they **crashed**. Likewise, if a college student has been up all night partying, and then can barely stand up because they have no more energy left, it would also be appropriate to say they **crashed**.

Third, **to crash** can mean to show up to an event, like a dinner, party, or wedding, without being invited. For example, if your cousin is getting married, and you show up to the wedding without being invited, you are **crashing** the wedding.

Because **to crash** has multiple meanings, pay attention to the cues and context, the surrounding words and subject, of the conversation. These will help you to figure out which meaning of **to crash** is being used.

Here are a couple more examples with **to crash**:

Jimmy:	I am so tired. I didn't sleep well last night, and had such a busy day at work. I'm about ready to crash !
Kimmy:	Why don't you hop in the shower and just go straight to bed?
Jimmy:	That sounds like a good idea. I think that I just might do that.

Vanessa:	Did you hear about Steve's party? He texted me about it this morning, saying it was for guys only, and girls aren't invited.
Bethany:	We should crash and go anyways. He'll be happy to see us once we get there.
Vanessa:	You think? OK, let's do it!

To pass out

The expression **to pass out** means to fall asleep or to lose consciousness, either from exhaustion, injury, illness, alcohol, or drugs.

Typically, in day-to-day conversations, **to pass out** means to fall asleep. In this episode, Suzanne says that she **passed out** after eating dinner. In other words, after eating food, Suzanne fell asleep.

Although you can use to crash and **to pass out** if someone falls asleep quickly and deeply from exhaustion, **to pass out** should be used if someone falls asleep from injury, illness, alcohol, or drugs. For example, if you are at a party and your best friend falls asleep on the couch because she was very tired, you could say, “She crashed” or “She **passed out**.” However, if your best friend falls asleep on the couch because she drank too much alcohol, you could only say, “She **passed out**.”

So the next time that someone you know falls asleep on the couch, be sure to tell them, “You **passed out** on the couch.”

Here are a couple more examples with **to pass out**:

Phil:	Man, what a crazy night! The office party was nuts!
Ian:	I made a complete fool of myself. I ended up drinking too much and passing out in the coatroom.
Phil:	Fail! Maybe you should stay away from the booze at the next office party!
Ian:	That’s probably good advice.

Sanjay:	What’d you end up doing last night?
Norma:	Nothing much. I watched a little bit of TV, and then ended up passing out around 9 p.m. in the middle of a Modern Family episode.
Sanjay:	I’m jealous. I couldn’t fall asleep last night, and ended up reading until about 2 a.m. I’m counting down the hours until the end of the work day so I can go home and sleep.
Norma:	Hang in there, buddy!

Fair enough

The expression **fair enough** means all right. Typically, **fair enough** is used to express agreement or acknowledge the validity of a statement. You can use **fair enough** to indicate that a statement, choice, or action seems reasonable to a certain extent.

For instance, in this episode, Andrew says **fair enough** after Suzanne shares that she passed out after eating some food. By using **fair enough**, Andrew is affirming and acknowledging that what Suzanne said makes sense.

You can also use the expression **fair enough** to put an end to a discussion or an argument. If you are speaking with someone who is very passionate about a topic, and you do not feel like debating or arguing about the topic, you could say, “**Fair enough**” to put an end to the conversation.

Here are a couple more examples with **fair enough**:

Ginger:	Are you planning to go to the kick-off meeting later this afternoon?
Tommy:	No, I have a huge deadline, and I really can't afford to be doing anything else but working towards meeting it. Greg will be filling in for me.
Ginger:	Fair enough. Good luck with your deadline!
Tommy:	Thanks!

Kirk:	Why were you so rude to my mom yesterday? She called me this morning in tears.
Evelyn:	Your mom is crazy. She literally needs to be committed. She was the one who was mean to me. All I said was that if she loves your ex-girlfriend so much, then she should date her. But I only said that after she spent the whole afternoon criticizing me, talking about how much she loves your ex-girlfriend, and saying I'm not good enough to be dating you.
Kirk:	You still shouldn't have been rude to her.
Evelyn:	Fair enough.

No way, José

The expression **no way, José** means no or absolutely not. In other words, **no way, José** is a strong no, a way to emphasize the negative. For instance, the hockey teams the Montreal Canadiens and Boston Bruins have a longstanding rivalry. If you asked someone in Montreal if they are a fan of the Boston Bruins, they would probably answer, “**No way, José**” to emphasize their strong dislike of the Boston Bruins.

No way, José is a slang expression and best used in informal conversations. Typically, you would use **no way, José** in response to a question. Here are a few similar phrases that you can use to answer a question in the negative and that mean the same thing as **no way, José**:

- “I don’t think so!”
- “Not on your life!”
- “Out of the question!”
- “Not in a million years!”

Try using **no way, José** the next time a close friend asks you to do something you really don’t want to do!

Here are a couple more examples with **no way, José**:

Lewis:	Hey, did you hear that they rereleased Close Encounters of the Third Kind in the theatres for the 40th anniversary?
Harvey:	I heard, but let’s get something straight right off the bat. I am not going to see that movie with you.
Lewis:	Come on! It’ll be fun. Do it for me. What do you say?
Harvey:	No way, José!
Lewis:	Fine. You’re missing out.

Jasmine:	Can you watch my dog for the weekend?
Peter:	No way, José! There is no way that you are going to convince me to watch your dog. Last time he stayed with me, he barked all night long.
Jasmine:	Thanks for nothing.

Quiz

- 1. True or false: To pass out means to suddenly lose energy and have trouble standing up.**
 - a) true
 - b) false

- 2. Which of the following is the best example of a person who is a gem?**
 - a) Véronique, who always wears sparkly earrings
 - b) Christine, who always wears opals
 - c) Jordan, who is thoughtful, charming, and pretty
 - d) Sabrina, who is selfish, rude, and ugly

- 3. Mary ate chocolate ice cream for lunch, and then spent hours running around and playing outside. Towards dinnertime, Mary _____ and fell asleep on the grass.**
 - a) crashed
 - b) fainted
 - c) passed
 - d) awakened

- 4. Which of the following means the same thing as no way, José?**
 - a) not on your life
 - b) not about your life
 - c) not on a question
 - d) not about a question

- 5. True or false: Fair enough means absolutely not.**
 - a) true
 - b) false

Quiz Answers

1.b 2.c 3.a 4.a 5.b

Episode credits

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