



Misaeng (An Incomplete Life) is the story about corporate office workers in the fictional trading company One International, a story which deeply resonated with its viewers and became a cultural phenomenon for its vivid portrayal of the corporate world. This series revolves around the protagonist Jang Geu-Rae (Yim Si-Wan), as he and other employees at the company tread their way through the grueling world of corporate life as "Misaeng".
Let's learn English through Misaeng!

By Soo-Kyung Lee (AllThatEnglish.com) Copyright CJ E&M tvN Misaeng

Misaeng Episode 5.

In the following scene, Assistant Manager Kim shares his concern with Jang Geu-rae about their boss, Manager Oh's preference for risky projects and disregard for his performance appraisal.

Assistant Manager Kim Anybody can do the easy projects, so he tends to go for the difficult and risky items. I guess he gets an adrenaline rush from it.

Jang Geu-rae So he thrives on* challenges?

Kim I wish he would let go of that attitude and play it safe. Honestly, how many people hold a manager's position at his age? He's too indifferent to his performance appraisal. He should be taking on projects that will boost his performance record.

* thrive on ~ (남들은 별로 좋아하지 않을 일을) 즐기다, 잘 하다

1. Today's Expression

Today, we will take a look at the expression "let go". It is a simple expression, but its varied uses make it useful in everyday conversation and therefore worth learning in detail. In a sentence, you can say "let go of something or someone", "let something or someone go", or simply "let go" with the object omitted.

- » The first meaning is "to stop holding on to something or someone". For example, if someone is grabbing you, you can say "Let me go" or "Let go of me".
- » Another commonly used meaning is "to allow someone to leave or escape". So if you say, "He let me go," it means "He let me leave."
- » Also, "let go" can mean "to accept that you cannot change something and stop thinking or worrying about it". For example, you can say something like "Just let it go. Forget about it."
- » "let go" is also a colloquial expression for terminating someone's employment. Instead of saying, "The company fired him at the end of the month", you can use this expression to say, "The company let him go at the end of the month".
- » Another way to use the expression is with a reflexive pronoun ? "let oneself go". This expression is interesting because it has two meanings: first, "to act in a very free open way, without inhibitions" (For example, "I have a hard time relaxing and letting myself go."); second, "to fail to take care of oneself" (For example, "I was so depressed at the time and totally let myself go.")."

"Let go"

(내려놓다, 보내주다)

2. Special Tip!

Performance appraisal is a systematic and periodic* process of evaluating an individual employee's job performance and productivity. It is also referred to as a performance review, performance rating, and performance evaluation.

"Performance appraisal"

(인사 고과)

A performance appraisal puts into consideration an employee's competencies* and contributions in relation to the pre-established* criteria and objectives of the organization, as well as that employee's accomplishments, potential for future improvement, strengths and weaknesses. The results of a PA may be applied to compensation*, performance improvement, promotions, termination, etc.

* periodic: 주기적인 / competency: 능력, (특정한 일을 하는 데 필요한) 기능 / pre-established: 미리 확립된 / compensation: 보상, 보수 (compensation package: (급여와 복리후생을 포함한) 보수)