



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



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### Misaeng Episode 11.

*In order to convince the board members of the viability of his project, Senior Manager Oh begins his presentation in an unconventional way? Criticizing the avoidant culture of the company.*

**Senior Manager Oh:** A culture that sweeps problematic projects under the rug, that is the path our company has chosen to walk on. So, the businesses we discarded and passed up, do you have any idea what has happened to them?  
The information you’re about to see is the profits other companies have gained by pursuing those very projects.

**[Presents numbers]**

The aforementioned businesses are on-going and generating revenue. Please take a look at our company’s projected revenue for those business deals. The actual revenues match our original predictions.

“sweep ~  
under the rug”  
(~를 숨기다)

## 1. Today's Expression

To sweep something under the rug means “to hide something damaging or unpleasant and try to keep it secret”. You can visualize the expression “sweep ~ under the rug” by picturing someone hiding something unpleasant by lifting the rug and sweeping it under the rug so that nobody can see it. You can say something like the following:

- » He tried to sweep it under the rug.
- You can also use the word “carpet” in place of “rug”.**
- » He tried to sweep it under the carpet.

Let’s take a look at other expressions related to concealing or hiding the truth.

To “keep something under wraps” means it is held secret and not revealed to anybody until sometime in the future. You often use this to talk about a project or plan that few people know about, that is meant to be revealed later. You can use the expression as follows:

- » We need to keep this plan under wraps.
- » This project will be kept under wraps until further notice.

“Hush-hush” is another good expression to use when you are talking about confidential information or a highly secret official plan or project.

- » There’s a hush-hush political investigation.
- » This plan is very hush-hush.

## 2. Special Tip!

A projection is an estimate or prediction of a future situation, based on a study of present situations. As such, projected revenue refers to the estimated amount of money that a company will generate during a specific accounting period. This accounting period may be monthly, quarterly, or annual.

It is important to note the difference between revenue and profit, which many people confuse. Revenue refers to all the money a company receives from its business activities, such as the selling of its goods and/or services. It includes other sources of funds, such as investment gains, the sale of assets, amount received by way of rent, etc. Profit is the net amount that is left with after you deduct all expenses and taxes from the revenue.

**Simply put, revenue - expenses & taxes = (net) profit**

Another useful terminology is (net) profit margin, which is a measurement of profitability. It is the net profit represented as a percentage of the revenue.

**In other words, net profit / revenue = (net) profit margin**

“Projected Revenue”

(예상 수익/매출)