



American Expression E0459 Just around the corner

IOTS Publishing Team  
International Online Teachers Society  
Since 2011

"Just around the corner" is an idiom used to describe something that is very close or imminent, suggesting that an event, opportunity, or change is about to happen in the near future. The phrase originated from the idea of being physically close to a corner, with the anticipation of what lies beyond it. It is commonly used in everyday conversations to express hope, optimism, or excitement for what is coming next.

When someone says, "It's just around the corner," they often refer to an event or milestone that is expected to occur soon. This can be something positive, like a promotion at work, a long-awaited vacation, or a celebration such as a birthday or holiday gathering. On the other hand, it can also refer to challenging or difficult times that may be approaching, like an impending deadline or an upcoming medical procedure.

In a broader sense, "just around the corner" is a reminder that life is full of uncertainties and surprises. It encapsulates the idea that change is constant and that new opportunities or challenges can emerge unexpectedly. This phrase encourages individuals to stay hopeful and resilient, even in the face of adversity, as better things may be awaiting them just beyond the present moment.

Moreover, "just around the corner" can serve as a motivational phrase, urging people to persevere and work towards their goals because success or breakthroughs may be closer than they realize. It instills a sense of optimism and the belief that hard work and determination will eventually pay off, leading to brighter prospects in the future.

The idiom can also be used in a figurative sense to describe the progression of society or technology. For instance, when discussing advancements in science or innovation, someone might say, "A cure for that disease could be just around the corner," implying that significant breakthroughs are on the horizon and progress is steadily moving forward.

"Just around the corner" also holds relevance in terms of perspective and time perception. Different individuals may have contrasting interpretations of what is considered near or distant in time. For someone eagerly awaiting a long-awaited event, even a few days may feel like an eternity, whereas, for others, it may feel like the event is just moments away.

In conclusion, the phrase "just around the corner" is an idiom used to express the idea of something being very close or imminent in time. It conveys a sense of hope, optimism, and anticipation for what lies ahead. Whether referring to positive events or challenges, the idiom reminds us that life is dynamic, and change is a constant aspect of our journey. It encourages individuals to stay positive, work towards their goals, and maintain resilience as they navigate through life's uncertainties. Ultimately, "just around the corner" serves as a motivational reminder that opportunities, successes, and surprises may be waiting for us just beyond the present moment.

#### Questions for Discussion

1. What are some examples of situations in your life where you felt that something positive or challenging was "just around the corner"? How did that anticipation affect your attitude and decision-making during that time?
2. In a rapidly changing world, how do you cope with the uncertainty of what might be "just around the corner"? What strategies do you employ to maintain a positive outlook and stay adaptable in the face of unexpected events?
3. When it comes to setting goals and pursuing dreams, how do you balance being patient and persistent with the desire for quick results or immediate gratification? How does the concept of "just around the corner" impact your approach to achieving long-term objectives?
4. Think about significant technological advancements or societal changes that have occurred in recent years. How have these developments exemplified the idea that progress is always "just around the corner"? How do they shape our expectations for the future?
5. How can the phrase "just around the corner" be used to motivate and inspire others during challenging times? Share examples of how you have seen or experienced the power of hope and optimism when faced with difficult situations.