



Unit 20 Love at first sight

Before you read

Think about this question. Would you move to another country to be with the person you love?

Read the story

Falling in Love

Janet had just finished college. It was the first day of her new job in Palo Alto, California. She walked around the office with her boss, and he introduced her to all the other employees. They stopped at the door of a small office. A man was sitting at a computer with his back to the door.

"Janet, this is Nitesh," said the boss. "He's from India. He's working here in our office for a year, and then he's going back home." Nitesh turned around and smiled. Janet thought he was very handsome. She smiled back.

A few months went by, and Janet and Nitesh got to know each other better. Janet realized Nitesh wasn't just handsome. He was really nice. She wanted to go out with him, and she waited for him to ask her out. But he never did. "Doesn't he like me?" she thought. Finally, she told herself, "I'm going to ask him out myself. If he doesn't want to go, he'll just say no." So she sent him an email. "Would you like to go to the movies with me?" she asked.

Hours passed, and Nitesh didn't answer. Janet got depressed. "He doesn't like me," she thought. But then suddenly, her phone rang. It was Nitesh. "OK," he said, "Let's go to the movies together."

Janet and Nitesh began to date, and they started to fall in love. But after a few months, it was time for Nitesh to return to India. Janet was very sad. She didn't want to lose Nitesh. So one day, she asked, "Can't you stay here in the United States with me?"

Nitesh didn't know what to do. It was not part of his plan to stay in California. He loved India, and he knew that his parents were waiting for him to come back there to live. They wanted him to marry an Indian woman and start a family. But he loved Janet. And he also enjoyed living and working in the U.S. Should he stay with Janet, or should he go back and try to forget her?

Nitesh needed some time by himself to think. He decided to drive all the way to an amusement park near Los Angeles. It was eight hours away. When he got there, he rode the roller coasters all day. He thought and thought. Back in Palo Alto, Janet waited for him to give her his answer.

Two days later, Nitesh knocked on Janet's door. She opened it. "Yes, I want to stay here with you," he said. "Will you marry me?"

Nitesh and Janet got married in California. At first, Nitesh's parents were very sad about his decision. But soon they realized that Nitesh was happy with his new life in the U.S., so they were happy for him.

Janet and Nitesh recently had a little boy, Jay. They took Jay to India to visit. Nitesh's parents fell in love with their new grandson at first sight. They proudly showed him to all their friends and relatives. At that point, Janet knew that they accepted her and welcomed her into their family.



Build your reading skills: Scanning

Read the story again quickly. Answer the questions. Circle the letter of the answer.

1. Where did Janet meet Nitesh?
 - a. at work
 - b. at a party
2. What happened after a few months?
 - a. Nitesh asked Janet to go to the movies.
 - b. Janet asked Nitesh to go to the movies.
3. Why did Nitesh decide to stay in the United States?
 - a. He didn't like India.
 - b. He wanted to be with Janet.
4. How did Nitesh's parents feel when he stayed in the United States?
 - a. At first sad, then happy.
 - b. At first happy, then sad.

Check your comprehension

Read the sentences. Write *T* (true) or *F* (false) after each statement.

1. Janet is a young woman from India. _ *F* _
2. Nitesh didn't want to go out with Janet. _____
3. Janet and Nitesh fell in love. _____
4. Nitesh always knew that he wanted to stay in the United States. _____
5. Nitesh's parents were proud of their new grandson. _____