

3. ANGELA'S PROBLEM

What do you see in the picture?

Where are the man and the woman?

What are they doing?

Why are they angry?



Read the story silently.
Underline words you don't understand. Your teacher will help you with new words.

Angela and her husband Ivan had a big fight yesterday. Angela was angry because Ivan sent his parents and brothers \$500 again. Their savings account is now empty.

Angela and Ivan both have jobs. Ivan is a welder and Angela cleans houses. Their three children attend school. When Angela went to work two years ago, she hoped to save some money to buy new furniture, a new car and maybe even a house.

Now she knows that they will never be able to save any money because Ivan's family always asks for money and Ivan sends it to them. He says that they are his family and if they need money he must help them. He never asks Angela if he can send the money, he just does it. Angela thinks that this is not fair, because Ivan sends the extra money that she earns.

If all the extra money she makes will go to Ivan's family, then Angela does not want to work. She would like to stay home and be a homemaker and mother. None of the women in Ivan's family have jobs. Why should her money go to them? She thinks that Ivan's family is taking advantage of them.

A. COMPREHENSION CHECK.

Listen to your teacher read the sentences and answer yes, no or maybe.

1. Angela and Ivan had a fight.
2. Angela sent some money to her family.
3. Ivan has a job.
4. Angela does not have a job.
5. Angela and Ivan have lots of money in the bank.
6. Ivan's family is poor and needs money.
7. Ivan thinks he must help his family.
8. Angela wants to save money for furniture, a car and a house.
9. Ivan asks Angela if he can send his family money.
10. Angela does not like to work.

B. WHAT'S HAPPENING?

First answer the questions orally. Then write down the answers.

1. What did Angela and Ivan do yesterday?

2. Why was Angela angry with Ivan?

3. How much money did Ivan send to his family?

4. How much money do Ivan and Angela have in the bank now?

5. What kind of work does Ivan do?

6. Does Angela have a job? What does she do?

7. How long has Angela been working?

8. What does Angela want to do with the extra money they have?

9. Who decides how the extra money will be spent, Angela or Ivan?

10. Why does Angela think this is not fair?

11. What might Angela do if Ivan sends all the extra money to his family?

C. TALK IT OVER.

Discuss the questions with your teacher and classmates. Talk about your personal experiences. Compare your country and the United States. What is the same? What is different?

1. Are you married or single? Do you have a job? Is your spouse (husband or wife) earning money, too?
2. What do you spend your money on every month?
3. Do you have any money left after you pay the bills? If yes, what do you do with the money?
4. Do you think people should save some money every month? If yes, what should they save money for?
5. Do you think married sons and daughters should help their parents and brothers and sisters? Why? Why not?
6. Where is your family? Do they need help? Do you help your family? How?
7. Do both the husband and the wife earn money in your country? Who decides what they should spend their money on?
8. Do married couples in your country fight about money sometimes? What are the fights about? What are the problems?
9. Do you think Ivan is doing the right thing when he sends their savings to his family? Why? Why not?
10. Do you think Angela has a good reason to be angry about the money? Why? Why not?

D. WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Tell your teacher all the problems in the story. Your teacher will list the problems on the chalkboard.

With your classmates, choose one problem you want to discuss today. Write down the problem.

Find some solutions to this problem. Talk about the consequences of each solution.

What can be done about the problem? Write down some possible solutions.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What might happen if you do that? Write down a possible consequence of each solution.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

In small groups, discuss the solutions and consequences. Choose the one solution you think is best. Each group should share its solution with the class. Tell your teacher and classmates why you think this is the best solution. Can your class agree on one solution?

E. WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Help Ivan and Angela. They are your friends. Give them some advice. Tell Ivan and Angela what to do. Write down what you would say to them. Would you talk to both of them or to just one of them? Who would you talk to?

_____, I think you should _____
(name)