



PENGUIN ACTIVE READING

LEVEL 2

Another World

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1.1 What's the book about?

 Discuss the picture on the front of the book.

- 1 What is the building?
- 2 Where are the young people going?
- 3 What are they carrying?
- 4 What do their clothes tell us about them?
- 5 Which words in the box describe these people? Circle them.

young	tall	fat	happy	beautiful
bored	old	thin	quiet	clean
intelligent	ill	dirty	sad	short
				stupid

- 6 What is strange about the people in the picture?

1.2 What happens first?

- 1 Look quickly at page 1.

- a Which word can you see six times?
- b Look at the word at the bottom of the page. Which of these sentences can you use it in? Write it in the sentence.

i I am so

ii is good for you.

- 2 Look at the picture on page 1. Circle the right word. What do you think?

- a These young people are in a ...

bus	train	car
-----	-------	-----

- b They are going to a ...

hospital	shop	school
----------	------	--------

- c They are all ...

shouting	crying	singing
----------	--------	---------

- d This story is about people ...

today	in the past	in the future
-------	-------------	---------------

‘Happy is Good’

*Every student on the bus turned to the nearest person
and repeated: ‘Have a nice, nice day!’*

The School for Higher Studies in **Happiness** was about five kilometres outside Eden City. Every day, a bus took the students from the centre of town to the school. On the way, the students sang. There were a lot of students on the bus and the noise was wonderful.

*I’m H-A-P-P-Y,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y,
Every day, in every way,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y.’*

Student BZXY741 sat behind the driver. His singing was louder than the other students’. He sang well and he liked to sing.

*‘Happy is good
And sad is bad,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y.’*



happiness /'hæpɪnəs/ (n) Happiness is a happy feeling.



He really was very happy. He was the best student of the year, the winner for the Best Smile. Every student and every teacher at the school liked him. He looked out of the window at the white streets of Eden City, at the red and blue buildings, at the flowers and trees. The city was beautiful in the sunlight – not **real** sunlight, of course. There were no people on the streets. It was Work Time.

'I'm happy when I work.

I'm happy when I play.

Tomorrow I'm going to be happier,

Happier than today.'

In Eden City, some people worked and some people studied. But workers weren't different from students. Everybody was happy.

The bus drove through the streets and into the gardens of the school. Flowers of every colour turned their heads and watched. The birds in the trees sang: *'Have a nice day!'* Every student on the bus turned to the nearest person and repeated: *'Have a nice, nice day!'* They always did this. It was School **Procedure**.

real /rɪəl/ (adj) Something is *real* when it is really there.

procedure /prə'si:dʒə/ (n) When you follow a *procedure*, you do everything in the right way.

BZXY741 turned to the girl on his left.

He thought, 'She's different. How is she different? Of course! Her eyes ... it's the colour of her eyes!'

They were grey eyes, not blue. But everybody in the school had blue eyes. Why did she have grey eyes? Grey wasn't a good colour. He remembered Lesson 836: *Grey is a sad colour. The colour of cold days. The colour of dark skies. It is an old colour.*'

'Have a lovely day,' said BZXY741.

She didn't answer him. There was a question in her strange grey eyes. And BZXY741 didn't understand, because in his world there were no questions. In the world of Eden City, there were only answers.



2.1 Were you right?

Look at your answers to Activity 1.2 on page ii. Then answer these questions. Write the names.

- 1 Which city do these students live in?
.....
- 2 What is the name of their school?
.....
- 3 What is the young man's name?
.....

2.2 What more did you learn?

These students' home city and school are strange in many ways. Finish the sentences about some of them.

- 1 The school has a winner for
- 2 The buildings are all
- 3 The sunlight is not
- 4 There are no people on the streets when it is
.....
- 5 In this city everybody is
- 6 The birds sing,
- 7 Everybody's eyes are (but not the
eyes of the girl on the bus).
- 8 They have a lesson at school (Number 836) about
.....

2.3 Language in use

Look at the words in the box. Then write about the pictures.

'She's different ... it's the colour of her eyes!'

- 1 All these flowers are tall and blue.

No, the flower in the middle is different. It is short and yellow.



- 2 These birds all have green heads and small feet.

.....

.....

.....

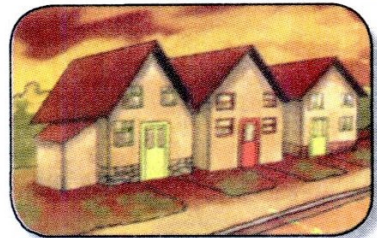


- 3 These houses all have three windows and a yellow front door.

.....

.....

.....

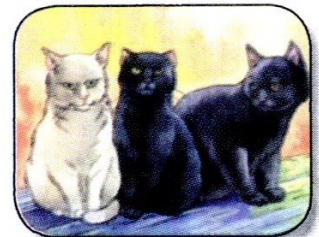


- 4 These cats are all thin and black with short ears

.....

.....

.....



- 5 These cars are all new and clean.

.....

.....

.....



2.4 What's next?

What do you think? Write Yes or No.

- 1 Will BZXY741 see the girl with grey eyes again?

.....

- 2 Will she tell him her name?

.....

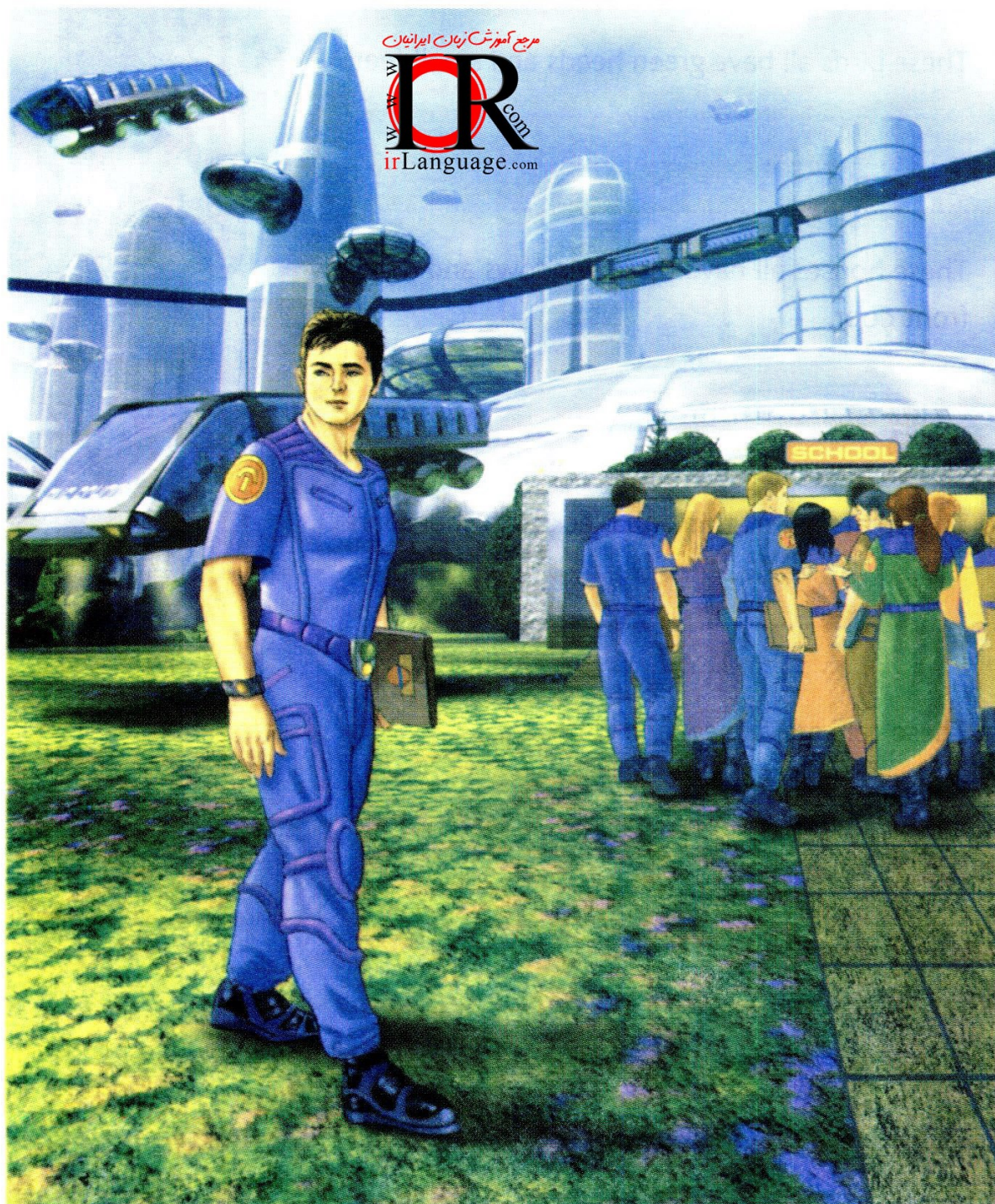
- 3 Is she different from the other students?

.....

‘Be a Good Friend’

BZ didn't understand. Didn't she know School Procedure:

‘Always say yes’? ‘No’ wasn't friendly.





The bus stopped outside the front of the school and the students got off. BZXY741 looked for the girl. He wanted to say, ‘Enjoy your lessons’, but he couldn’t see her. He followed the other students into the building and walked slowly to his classroom. He thought about the girl with grey eyes.

‘What was that look in her eyes? Who is she? Perhaps she’s new here.’

Some of his friends turned round and called to him, ‘BZ! You’re going to be late.’

‘I’m coming,’ he answered, ‘I’m coming.’

The first three hours of lessons that morning were Life Studies: ‘*Be a Good Friend*.’ Then there were two hours of ‘*Do People Like You?*’ BZ really enjoyed these lessons, so he stopped thinking about the girl on the bus.

At midday, the students had lunch in the Flower Garden. BZ sat down at a table under a big tree with beautiful flowers. It was a warm day and the **smell** of the flowers was strong. The birds sang the menu: ‘Hamburger or sandwich, chicken with **salad**, chocolate ice cream. Enjoy your lunch!’

BZ took a drink from his glass of cold green **juice**. Wonderful. He closed his eyes and thought for a minute about his future. It was a good future.

‘I’m going to be on The **Team**,’ he thought. ‘I *know* that I’m going to be on The Team.’ The Team worked for The People’s Happiness. People were happy because they made the **laws**. The Team’s work was important. They were the most important people in Eden City. That was BZXY741’s future and he felt very happy about it ...

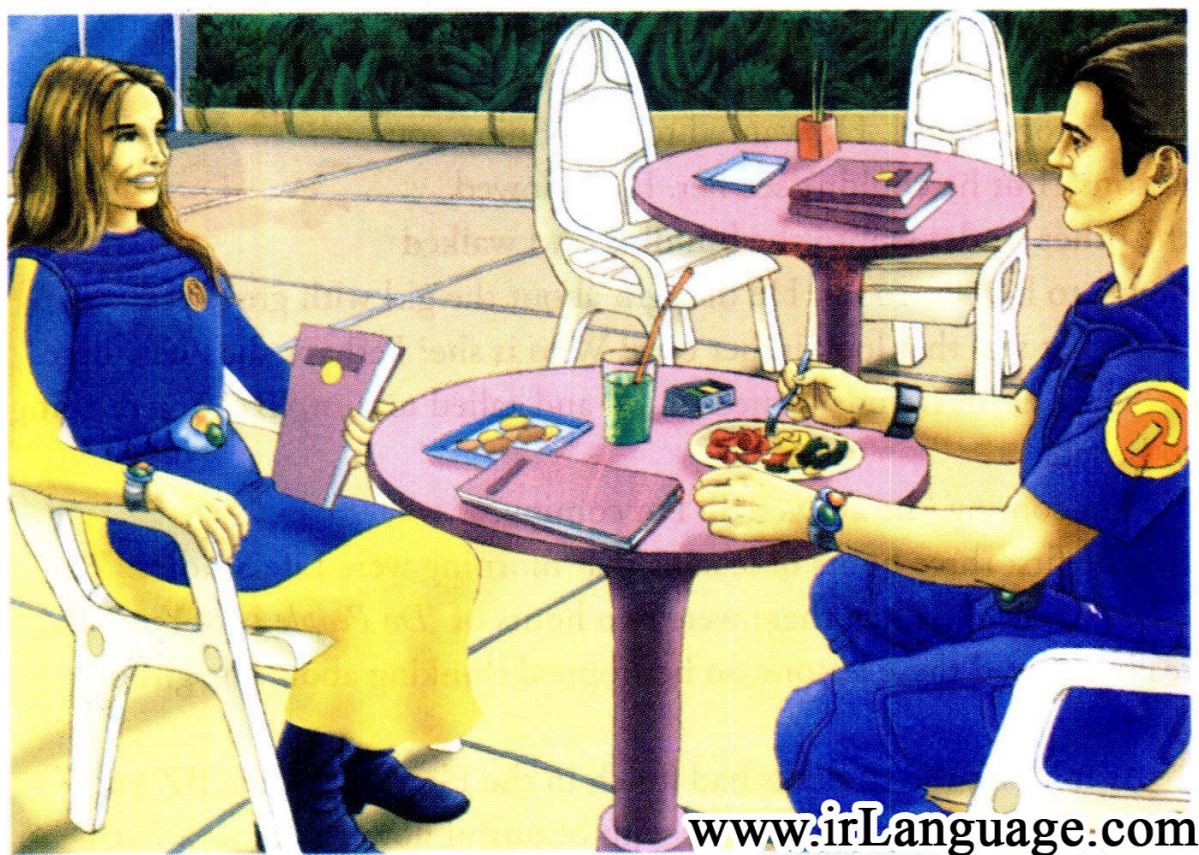
smell /smel/ (n/v) *Smells* can be good or bad. You use your nose when you *smell* something.

salad /ˈsæləd/ (n) When you make a *salad* from vegetables, you don’t cook them.

juice /dʒuːs/ (n) *Juice* is a drink from fruit or vegetables.

team /tiːm/ (n) When people are in your *team*, they help you with work or in a game.

law /lɔː/ (n) A *law* is an important rule for the people in a country. When you study *law*, you study the rules.



When he opened his eyes, he saw the girl with grey eyes at his table.

‘Hi, BZ!’ she said.

‘Hello.’ He said, and then he remembered his first lesson of the morning: *‘Be a good friend. Give something nice to somebody.’* So he pushed his plate across the table to her.

‘Please have some of my salad. It’s very good.’

She said. ‘No, thanks. I don’t like the school food.’

BZ didn’t understand. He started to feel strange. Didn’t she know School Procedure: *‘Always say yes’*? ‘No’ wasn’t friendly.

‘BZ! Don’t look so worried. I like the word. I often say it. No, no, no, no! The sky doesn’t fall on my head!’

‘I don’t understand.’

‘It’s OK. Forget it. Listen, BZ,’ she said quietly, ‘I know everything about you. I think you’re a wonderful

person. I want to help you. And I think that you can help me. And a lot of other people, too.'

BZ looked at her carefully for a minute. 'I think I understand now,' he said slowly. 'This is a *Friendly Joke*. Of course – yes! It's very strange, but very funny!' And he laughed very loudly.

'It's not a joke. I want to tell you something. Something very important. It will change your life. And perhaps the lives of everybody here in Eden City.'

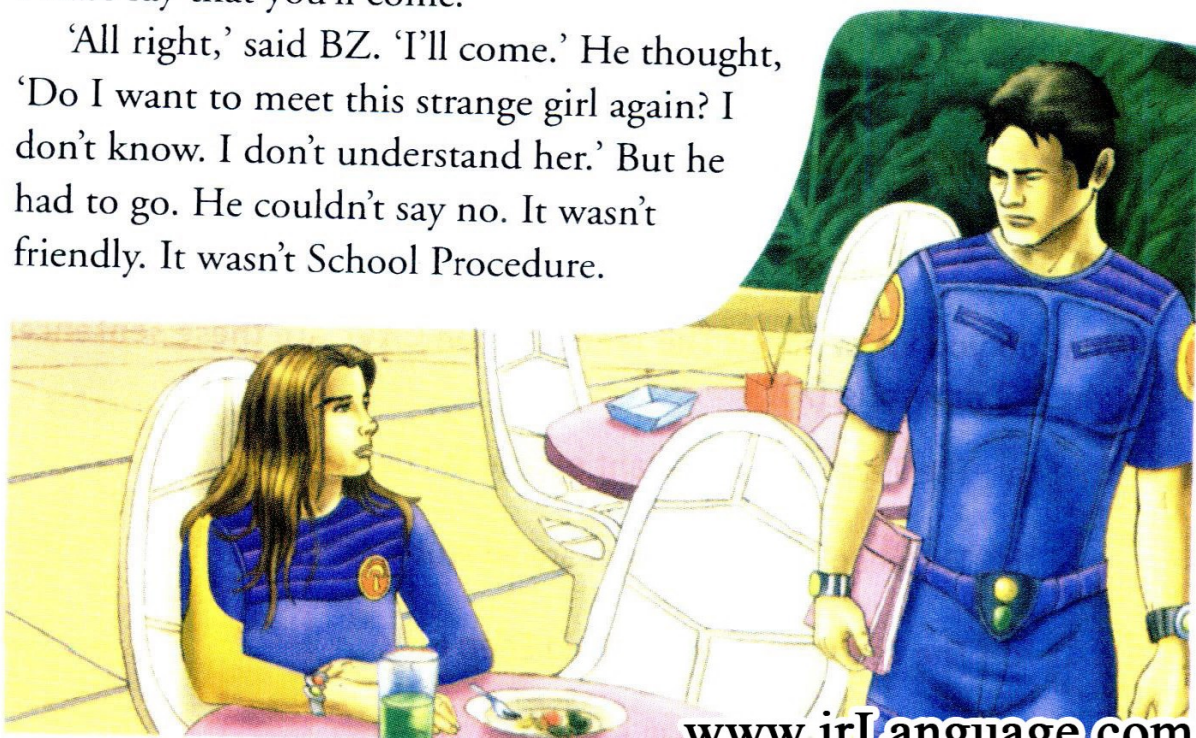
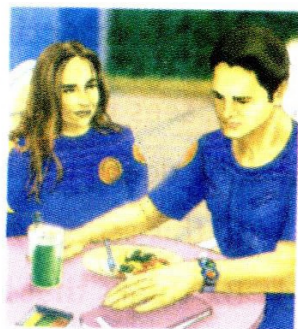
Then the birds sang, '*Go back to work, boys and girls. Back to work.*'

The students in the Flower Garden stood up. BZ stood up, too.

'I'm sorry. I don't understand this conversation. It's very interesting, but I don't understand it.' He smiled his best smile. The girl didn't smile back at him.

'Listen,' she said, 'there's a circus tonight at the House of Happiness. I'll see you there. Please come. It's very, very important. For you and me. Please say that you'll come.'

'All right,' said BZ. 'I'll come.' He thought, 'Do I want to meet this strange girl again? I don't know. I don't understand her.' But he had to go. He couldn't say no. It wasn't friendly. It wasn't School Procedure.



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joke /dʒəʊk/ (n) A joke is a funny story.

3.1 Were you right?

Look back at Activity 2.4. Then finish these sentences.

- 1 BZ sees the girl again when he is having
- 2 She doesn't tell him her
- 3 In this school you always have to answer to a question.
- 4 BZ thinks that her strange talk is a
- 5 She invites BZ to a at the House of Happiness.
- 6 BZ has to say yes because it is School

3.2 What more did you learn?

1 What happens first? Number the sentences, 1–7.

- ☐ a The girl says that she wants to help BZ.
- ☐ b The girl wants to meet him again that evening.
- ☐ c At midday the students have lunch in the Flower Garden.
- ☐ d BZ thinks about his future on The Team.
- ☐ e BZ stops thinking about the girl because he enjoys his lessons.
- ☐ f BZ goes back to his lessons.
- ☒ 1 g When BZ gets off the bus at the school he cannot see the girl.

2 What do you know about The Team in Eden City? Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- ☐ a The Team are important people in Eden City.
- ☐ b The people on The Team are all students.
- ☐ c The Team make the laws in Eden City.
- ☐ d BZ hopes that he will be on The Team.

3.3 Language in use

Look at the words in the box. Then finish the sentences below in the same way.

He was **the best** student of the year.

They were **the most important** people in Eden City.

- 1 BZ has smile in the school.
(good)
- 2 He is student. (friendly)
- 3 His singing on the bus is
(loud)
- 4 Eve has eyes. (strange)
- 5 She is girl in Eden City.
(pretty)
- 6 She thinks that salad is
school food. (bad)
- 7 The Flower Garden is place
at the school. (beautiful)
- 8 Life Studies are lessons.
(interesting)

3.4 What's next?

Discuss these questions and write answers. What do you think?

- 1 Will BZ go to the circus that evening? Why?
.....
- 2 The girl wants to tell him 'something very important'. What do you think it is?
.....
- 3 BZ hopes that his future is on The Team. Why is BZ a good person for this work?
.....

‘Laughing is Good for You’

‘Do you know about the real world, BZ? Do you want to know about the real world?’



When BZ arrived at the House of Happiness, the girl was there at the door.

‘Hello,’ he said. ‘Isn’t it a beautiful evening?’

Lesson 672: ‘Starting a Conversation.’ The girl said nothing. Then they went into the building.

The circus started. Everybody enjoyed it.

‘Laughing is good for you,’ said BZ quietly. ‘Do it every day.’

'Do you know my number, BZ?' the girl asked.

'I'm sorry, I don't.'

Each student had a number. The number was on their left sleeves. The girl showed him her left sleeve ... there was no number there!

'But where is it?' asked BZ. 'You have to have a number!'

'I don't. I have a name.' She smiled. 'My name is Eve.'

For a minute, BZ felt afraid. '*Be the Same – Different is Ugly.*' But this girl, with her grey eyes wasn't ugly.

'What's happening to me?' he thought.

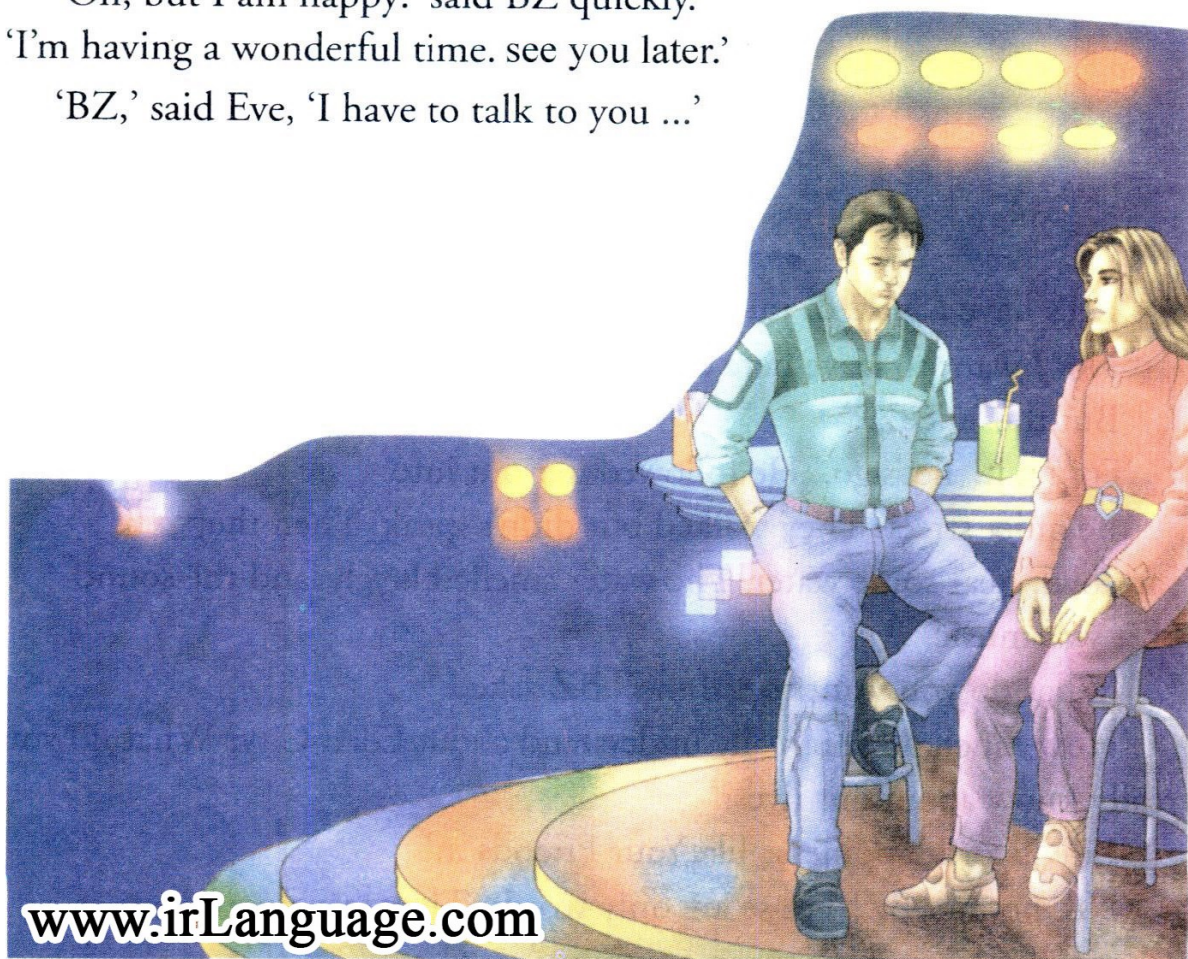
Then two of his friends came to them.

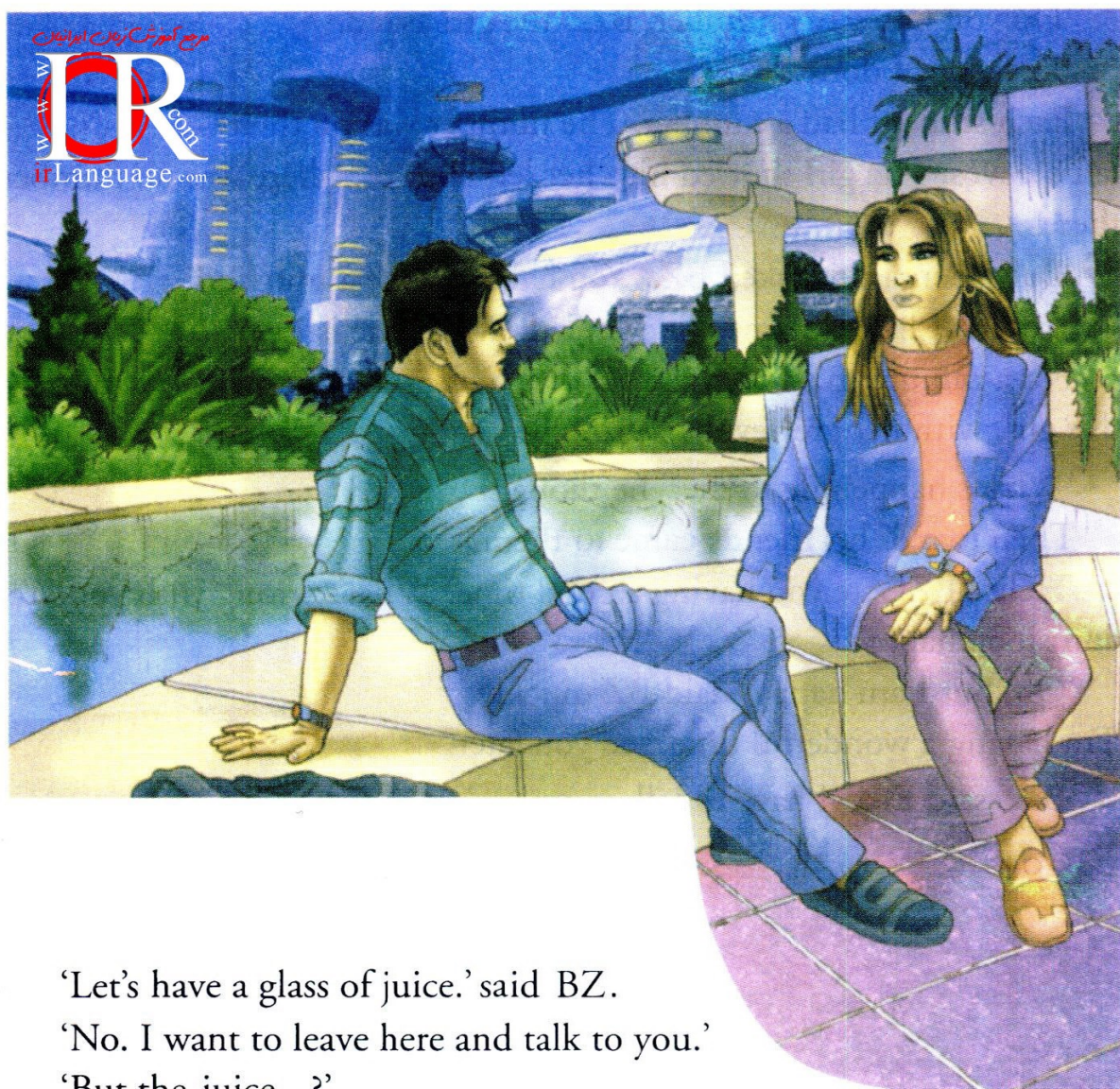
'Hello, BZ! Are you having a good time? What's wrong with you? You don't look happy.'

'Oh, but I am happy!' said BZ quickly.

'I'm having a wonderful time. see you later.'

'BZ,' said Eve, 'I have to talk to you ...'





‘Let’s have a glass of juice.’ said BZ.

‘No. I want to leave here and talk to you.’

‘But the juice...?’

‘Forget it! Let’s go.’ He followed her out into the quiet street. They walked but didn’t speak. Then they sat down near some water. The water smelled lovely and the sound of it was music.

‘What do you want to tell me?’ BZ asked.

‘How much do you really understand about Eden City? What do you really know about our lives?’

‘Life is for Happiness. like Your Friends ...’

‘No, no, no, BZ! Those are only words. They teach you them at school. But, they don’t mean anything.’

‘Don’t mean anything? How can you say that?’

‘Do you know about the real world, BZ? Do you want to know about the real world?’

‘What real world? I don’t understand ...’

‘This isn’t the real world. Eden City isn’t real. Nothing in Eden City is real. The **air**, the sky ... look up, BZ! It’s not real!’

‘Then where *is* the real world?’

‘It’s above us. Nearly 500 kilometres above us, there’s another world. The real world. There, people live real lives. They like in families, not only with friends. They like, they hate, they fight. They get ill, they get old, they die. They’re **free**!’ BZ put his hands over his eyes.

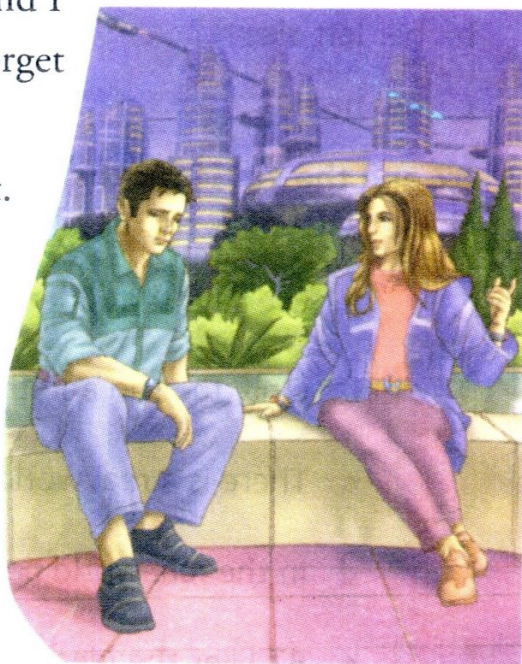
‘Oh, no. That’s a sad life.’

‘No, it isn’t. It’s the best life. We aren’t really living here.’

‘I *don’t* believe you.’ BZ stood up. ‘And I don’t want to listen to you. I want to forget all this. I don’t like it.’

But he couldn’t forget. He knew that. Eve’s words were in his head, and now he had questions about his life. He felt unhappy for the first time. He walked away from her.

‘Wait, BZ! I’m sorry. I know you’re unhappy. But you have to believe me. I can show you. I can take you up into the real world. Now. Tonight!’



air /eə/ (n) You take in *air* when you open your mouth.

free /fri:/ (adj) When you are *free*, other people don’t control your life. You can enjoy your *freedom*.

believe /biˈli:v/ (v) You *believe* your friends when they tell you something.

4.1 Were you right?

Look back at Activity 3.4. Then discuss this picture.

1 How does BZ feel? Why?

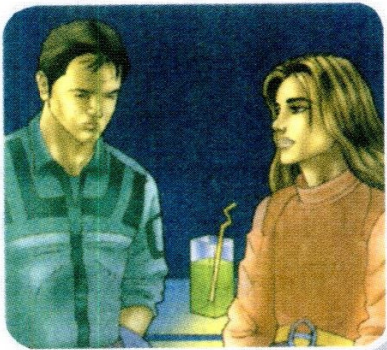
.....

.....

2 What is the girl going to do next?

.....

.....



4.2 What more did you learn?

1 This girl is different from the other girls in Eden City.

What is different about:

- a her eyes?
- b her left sleeve?
- c her name?

2 BZ and the girl leave the dance and talk in the street outside. Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- ☐ a Eve says that Eden City is not the real world.
- ☐ b Only the sun and the sky are real in Eden City.
- ☐ c There is a real world a long way below them.
- ☐ d In the real world people live in families.
- ☐ e BZ likes the idea of the real world.
- ☐ f BZ is unhappy because the girl is very strange.
- ☐ g For the first time BZ has questions about his life.
- ☐ h Eve wants to take BZ to the real world.

4.3 Language in use

Look at the words in the box. Then read about the students' day. Nobody can be different. Finish the sentences.

'You **have to have** a number!'
'I **have to talk** to you.'

Time	
6.00	Get up, wash, put on clean clothes.
6.30	Breakfast
6.50	Take the bus to school. Sing happily!
7.00	Arrive at school. Go to your classroom.
7–10.00	LESSONS Life Studies: Be a Good Friend!
10–12.00	LESSONS Life Studies: Do People Like You?
12.00	Lunch in the Flower Garden
1–3.00	Sport: Football for boys; tennis for girls
4.00	Take the bus back to Eden City. Sing happily!

- 1 At 6.00 they have to get up
- 2 At 6.30 they
- 3 On the bus to school they
- 4 From 7 to 12 o'clock they
- 5 At midday they
- 6 In the afternoon the girls and the boys
- 7 At 4 o'clock the students

4.4 What's next?

Discuss this question and make notes in the box below. What will BZ see in the real world?

Notes

A Journey to the Real World

He couldn't see anything. He was worried. For the first time in his life, he was cold and hungry.

BZ felt very strange. He followed Eve through the streets of Eden City. He was afraid. His head hurt.

'Why am I doing this? Where's Eve taking me? What's going to happen?'

They were in Eden City, but there were no trees, no flowers here. Everything was very different. The streets were small and dark.

'Where are we, Eve? Do you know this place?'

'Ssshhh! We're nearly there.'

They stopped. They were nearly at the end of the street. Eve put a finger to her mouth.

'Look into the next street,' she said very quietly.



BZ moved closer to the building and looked round it. At the end of the street there was a wall. In the wall there was a large door. There were two men with guns at the door.

‘What is it, Eve? What’s behind that door?’

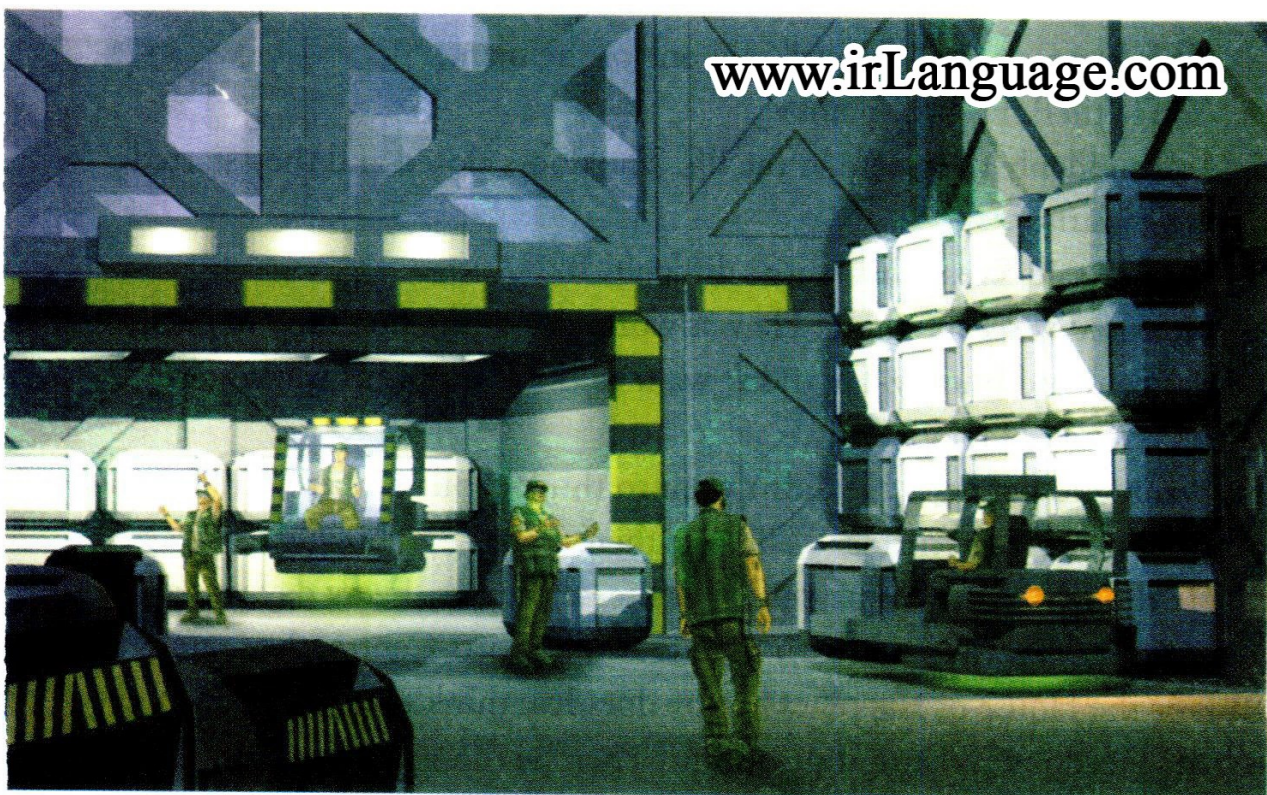
‘That’s the **lift**. They bring things down from the real world in it. It leaves three times each day. The next journey is in five minutes. We have to get inside the lift.’

‘But how? How do we get past those men?’

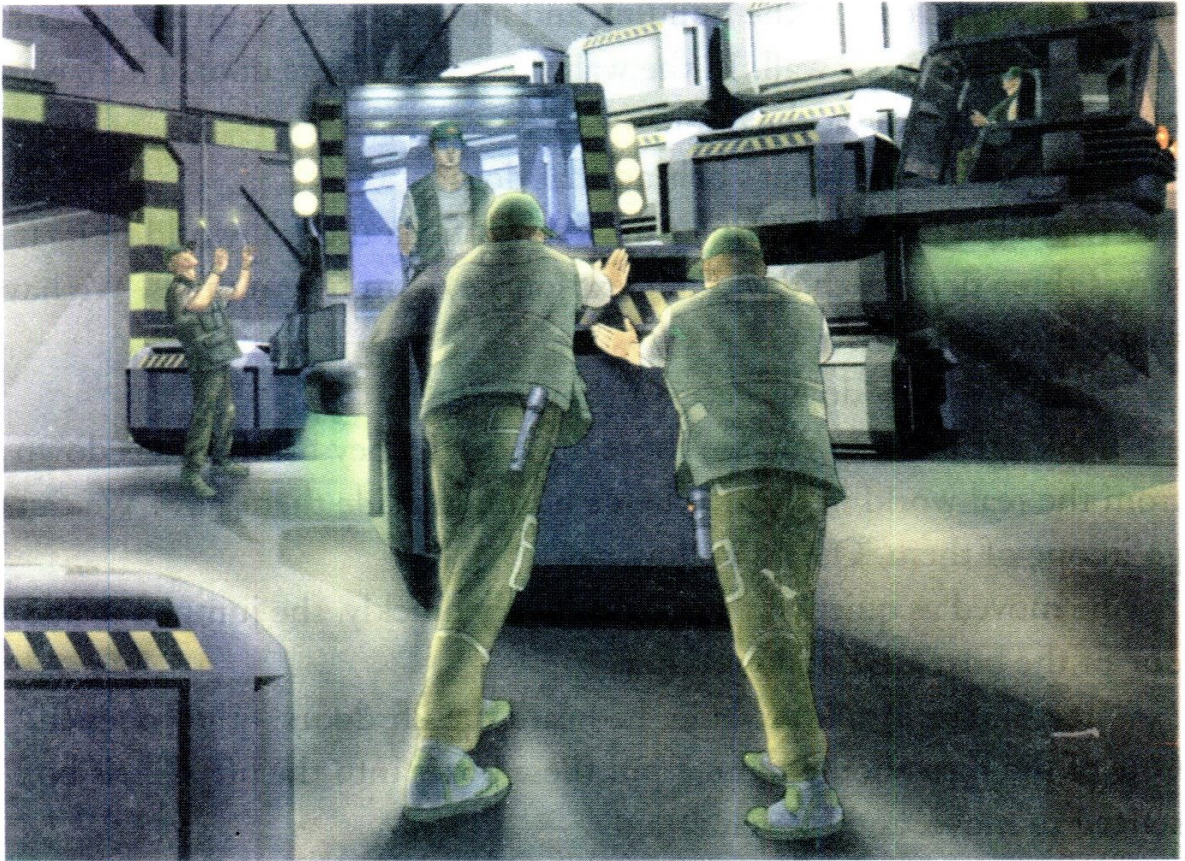
‘Look again ... Do you see those big boxes? They bring things down from the real world in them. There’s nothing inside them now. We can go in one of them. Quick! Follow me!’

She moved as quietly as a cat. And, very quickly, she jumped inside one of the boxes. BZ followed her.

They waited. A minute later, he heard the lift doors – they opened. One of the men shouted, ‘Let’s put these boxes into the lift.’ Their box started to move, and BZ felt afraid.



lift /lift/ (n) A *lift* takes you up and down between the floors of a building.



‘This box feels really heavy!’ said one of the men.

‘You’re tired. Push it again!’

And suddenly they were in the lift. The doors closed and they started on their journey.

‘There!’ said Eve. ‘That wasn’t difficult, BZ.’

He couldn’t see anything. He was worried. For the first time in his life, he was cold and hungry. He didn’t want to think about his warm room, at the Friends’ Happy Home.

He wanted to be there. He didn’t want to think about dinner with the other students. His friends. ‘Will I see them again?’ he thought.

He thought about his past life. His life before Eve. Every day was a long, sunny day. Evenings with friends at the Sports Centre, the Games Park or the House of Happiness. ‘Why does Eve think that life in Eden City is bad? Freedom? What did she mean?’ Then he thought about his future. ‘Will this journey change my future?’ He didn’t understand.

‘Eve?’

‘Yes?’

‘Why *me*? Why do you want to show *me* the real world?’

She looked at him in the dark. The lift moved very fast.

‘Because I think you’re a good person. You’re an intelligent person. And I know that you’re going to be on The Team. You’ll make laws for Eden City. You can change things. You can give people their freedom. You can help them and they’ll live really happily.’

BZ thought about these things. The whole idea was very strange to him. It was a new idea.

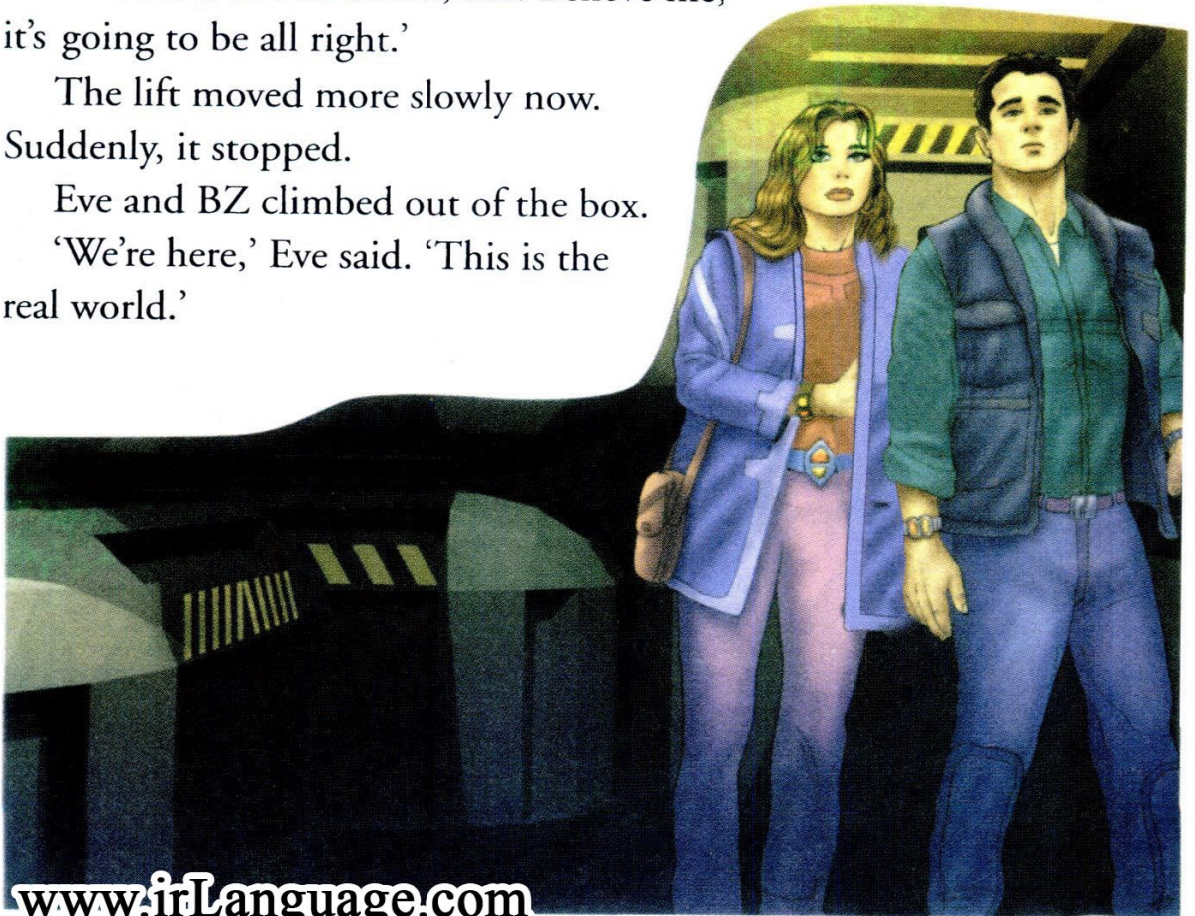
‘And you, Eve? Why are you different from the people in our world? You don’t have a number. Your eyes are a different colour. Who are you, really?’

‘I can’t answer these questions now. But wait. You’ll learn the answers in the end. Don’t be afraid, BZ. Believe me, it’s going to be all right.’

The lift moved more slowly now. Suddenly, it stopped.

Eve and BZ climbed out of the box.

‘We’re here,’ Eve said. ‘This is the real world.’



The Real World

*'They don't look happy, I know. But they're free.
They don't have to be happy.'*

The lift doors opened and Eve and BZ went out into the real world. It was very early morning. The light, the air, the smells were very different. Then BZ heard the noise. He put his hands over his ears.

'What is it, Eve? What's that strange noise?'



‘It’s the **traffic** ... the cars and buses and taxis. Nearly everybody here has a car. They drive everywhere. Now they’re driving to work. Don’t **worry**.’

‘But where are we?’

‘We’re in London. It’s a city. It was a beautiful city, but now there are a lot of people here. There’s a lot of traffic.’

They walked down the street. Tall buildings on their left and on their right shut out the light. People walked quickly past them. BZ looked at them. They were small and thin. Their faces were tired and worried.

‘Are these people happy and free?’ he asked Eve.

‘They don’t look happy, I know. But they’re free. They don’t have to be happy. The people in Eden City have to be happy,’ Eve said.

She stopped. ‘Look, here’s a café. Let’s have some breakfast.’

They went into the café and sat down at the table opposite the window. A waitress in a black dress came to their table. She was a short woman and she wasn’t thin.

‘Hello,’ she said. ‘What will you have?’ She smiled. She didn’t have all her teeth. BZ looked away.

‘What would you like, BZ?’ Eve asked.

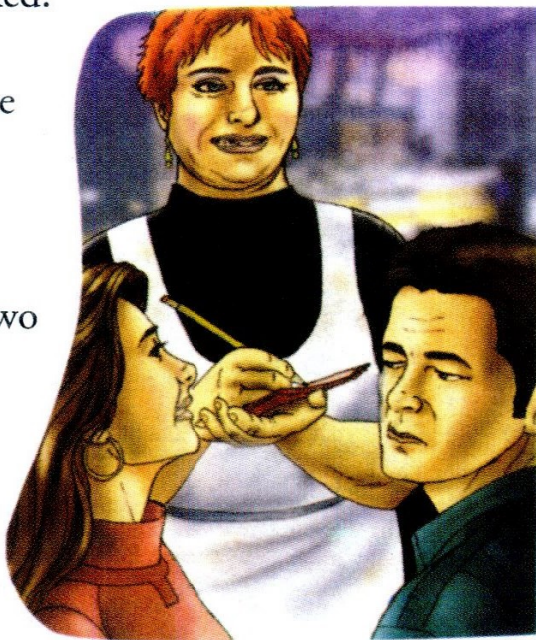
‘I ... I ... don’t know.’

‘Would you like a hot breakfast?’ the waitress said. ‘Some eggs, perhaps?’

BZ couldn’t look at her. ‘Yes, that’s fine.’

‘I’ll have that, too,’ said Eve. ‘And two cups of coffee.’

The waitress went to the kitchen. Eve watched BZ. He could feel her eyes on him.



traffic /'træfɪk/ (n) *Traffic* is cars and buses when they move through the streets.

worry /'wʌrɪ/ (v) You *worry* about a problem when you don't know the answer. You are *worried* about it.

‘What’s wrong, BZ?’

‘That woman ... the waitress. Why is she fat? Why is she ugly?’

Eve laughed. ‘I don’t think she’s ugly. She’s got a nice, kind face. She’s got problems with her teeth, but perhaps she hasn’t got the money for ...’

‘Money? What’s that?’

‘Oh, BZ, BZ! Money is one of the most important things in this world ... in the real world. Here people get money for their work. They use money when they buy a house. They use money for clothes and food.’ She showed him: ‘Look, this is money. These are five-pound notes.’

BZ looked at the dirty paper in Eve’s hand. It didn’t look important.

‘When you work,’ he asked, ‘they give you this ... money? And then what?’

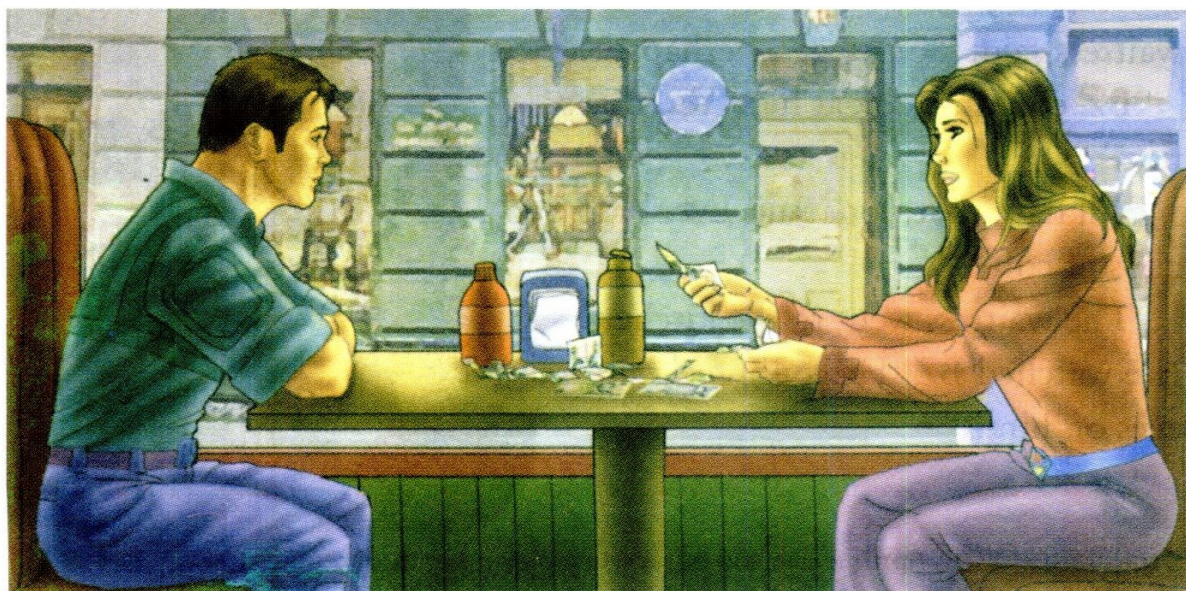
‘It isn’t easy ... But here’s our breakfast. I’ll tell you more about money later.’

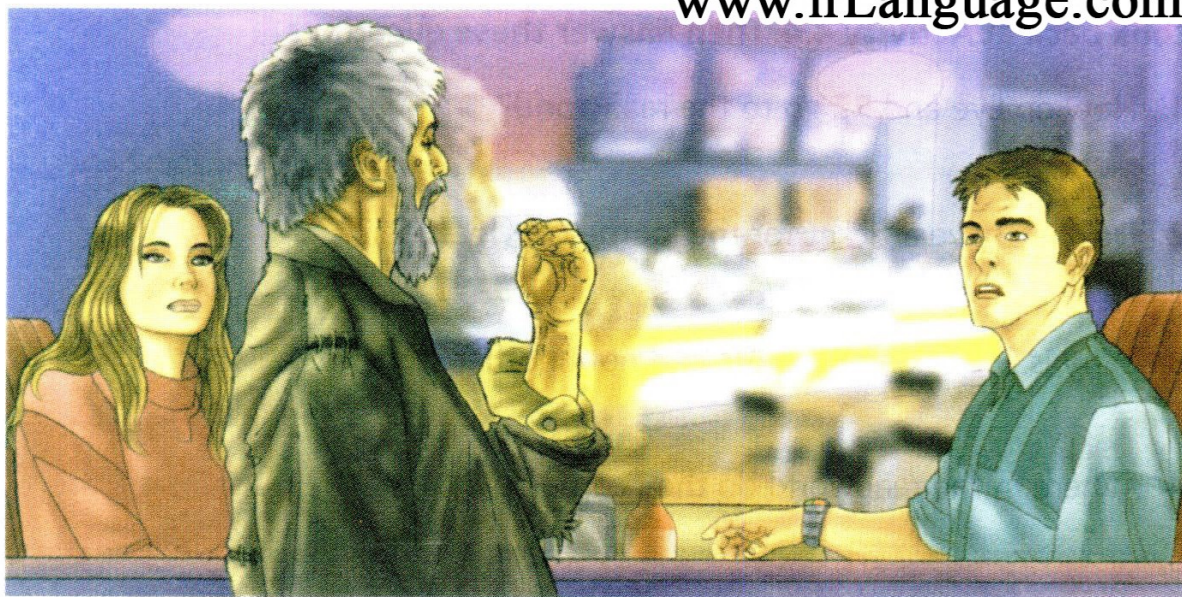
The waitress put the food on the table. It smelled strange.

‘Eat it, BZ. It’s good.’

It *was* good. BZ ate everything on his plate, because he was very hungry. He began to feel better.

‘What are you going to show me now?’ he asked Eve.





Suddenly, there was a noise at the window. BZ looked out. Through the window, he could see a man's face. A strange, ugly face. The eyes were closed and the mouth was open. The man put his finger to his mouth.

'Eve, who is that? Who's that man?'

'It's all right. He's only a **beggar**.'

'A beggar?'

'Beggars have no money. So they can't buy food. They have to ask other people for money.'

'But why doesn't he have a job?'

'Look at his eyes. He can't see.'

BZ felt ill. 'Please, Eve, take me away from this place. I don't like it.'

'All right. I'll take you out of London. We'll go into the country. I'll show you places with trees and birds and pretty gardens. The air is clean and the sky is blue ... real sky.'

Eve paid for their breakfast and they went out into the street. The air was grey and dirty. BZ didn't feel well.

'Don't worry, BZ. We'll go now.' She put up her hand and shouted, 'Taxi!' A big black car stopped and BZ and Eve got in.

'Hadley Wood, please,' she said to the driver.

beggar /'bega/ (n) *Beggars* ask for food and money in the street.

5.1 Were you right?

Look back at Activity 4.4. Then answer these questions.

- 1 How do Eve and BZ go to the real world?
.....
- 2 Do they have a ticket for the journey? Why (not)?
.....
- 3 Why is Eve taking BZ there and not another student?
.....
- 4 Where in the real world do they come out?
.....

5.2 What more did you learn?

Eden City is very different from the real world. Finish these sentences.

- 1 In Eden City it is always quiet, but in London
it is very noisy.....
- 2 In Eden City everybody is happy, but in the real world
.....
- 3 In Eden City nobody has a car, but in the real world
.....
- 4 In Eden City the streets are always light, but in London
.....
- 5 In Eden City all the people are all beautiful, but in London
.....
- 6 In Eden City people do work free, but in the real world
.....
- 7 In Eden City everybody has food, but in London
.....
- 8 In Eden City the air is clean, but in London
.....

5.3 Language in use

Look at the words in the box. Then finish the sentences in the same way.

There are a lot of people here.

There's a lot of traffic.

- 1 flowers in the garden.
- 2 people in the streets.
- 3 money in Eve's bag.
- 4 boxes near the lift.
- 5 food on BZ's plate.
- 6 coffee in his cup,
- 7 trees outside the city.
- 8 children in the park.

5.4 What's next?

Talk to other students and make notes.

- 1 Will the real world outside London be better for BZ, or worse? In what ways?
- 2 Will BZ like this new world in the end, or will he hate it? Why?

Notes

A Taxi Journey

*People here can be different, and I like that. I like it
because ... it's my home.'*

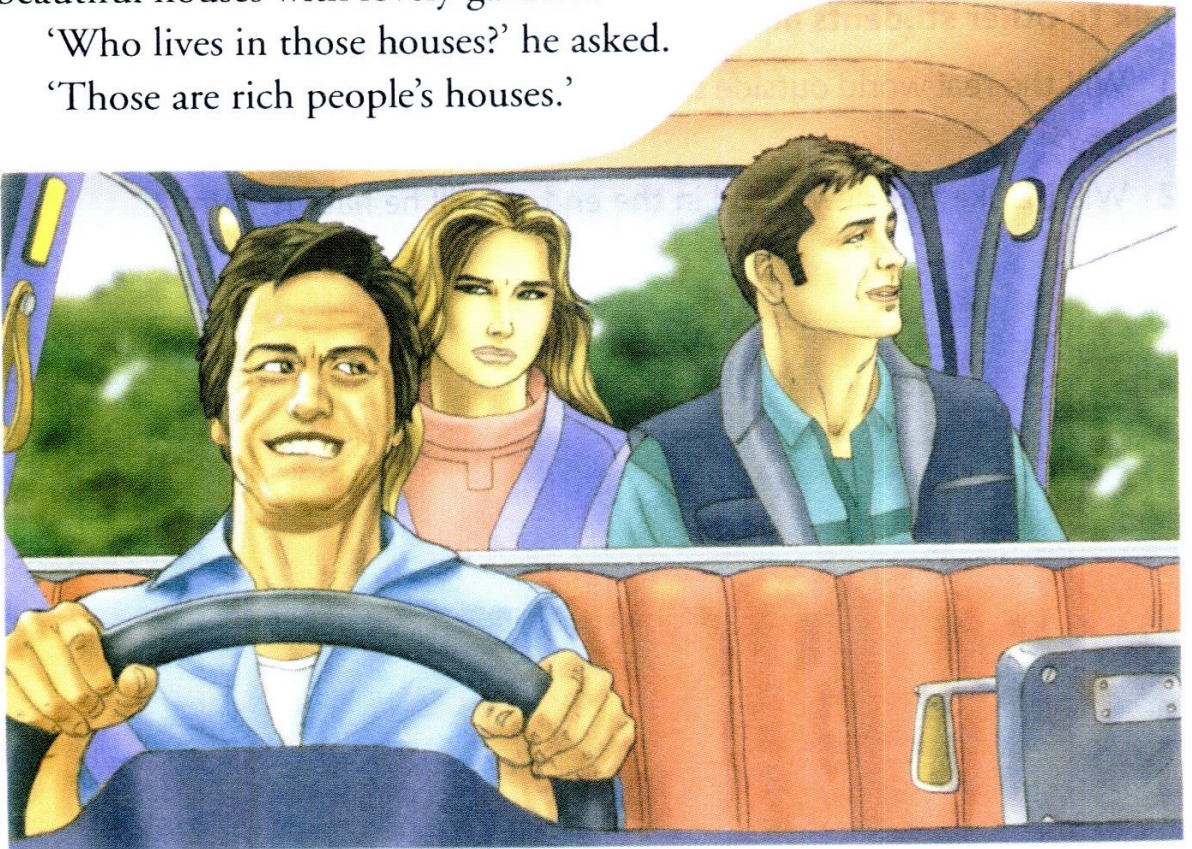
The taxi drove slowly through the traffic. BZ looked out of the window at the people in their cars. He thought of his friends in Eden City. They never looked bored or unhappy. But these people ... 'Eve thinks that this world ... the real world ... is wonderful,' he thought. 'But why?' He looked at her.

'I know, I know. But wait. When we get out of the city, you'll see.'

Slowly they began to leave the city behind them. There weren't many cars now, and the taxi went faster. From his window, BZ could see flowers and trees. The real world started to look different. Different from the grey streets, the grey air, the grey faces. There were houses, big beautiful houses with lovely gardens.

'Who lives in those houses?' he asked.

'Those are rich people's houses.'



‘Rich people? Who are they?’

The taxi driver heard their conversation. He started to laugh. ‘Who *is* this? Is he from another world? “Who are rich people?” Hah! Is this a joke? Is he stupid or something?’

‘No,’ said Eve quietly, ‘it’s not a joke. And he’s not stupid.’

‘OK. Tell him about rich people.’

‘I told you about money, BZ,’ she said. ‘Do you remember? Money’s very important here. Some people have a lot of money. Those people are the rich people. And some people haven’t got much money.’

‘Taxi drivers ...,’ said the driver.

‘Can people get a lot of money easily?’ asked BZ.

The taxi driver laughed angrily. ‘Can a cat catch a lot of birds easily? Can people fly through the air easily?’

‘Don’t listen to him, BZ. It isn’t easy, but people can make a lot of money. They usually have to work very hard, but then they can be rich.’

‘That’s a **dream**,’ said the driver. ‘Only a dream.’

Again, BZ thought about Eden City. Nobody was different there. They did different jobs, of course, but they had the same clothes, the same food. They lived in Happy Homes, and the homes were all the same.

‘Eve,’ he said, ‘why do you think it’s better here? Why do you like it?’

‘I’m happier here. I love the noise, the people. I love the weather, because it changes often. People here can be different, and I like that. I like it because ... it’s my home.’

‘What do you mean?’

‘Eden City isn’t my home. I wasn’t born there.’

‘I don’t understand. Where were you born?’

‘Here, in London. BZ, I’ve got a family.’

‘A ... what?’ His face was red. He couldn’t look at Eve. He was very **embarrassed**. The word ‘family’ was a bad word. One of the worst words. He felt ill.

dream /dri:m/ (n) *Dreams* come into your head when you are asleep.

embarrassed /ɪm'bærəst/ (adj) When you are *embarrassed*, your face often turns red. Perhaps you feel stupid or you want to leave the room.

‘Don’t be embarrassed,’ Eve said. ‘In the real world, everybody has a family.’

‘Don’t tell me! I don’t want to hear!’ He turned away from her and looked out of the window. They were in the country.

‘Stop here, please,’ Eve said to the taxi driver.

She paid the driver and they got out of the car. They walked down the road. They didn’t speak.

BZ looked up at the sky. It was bigger, higher and bluer than the sky in Eden City. There was a little wind.

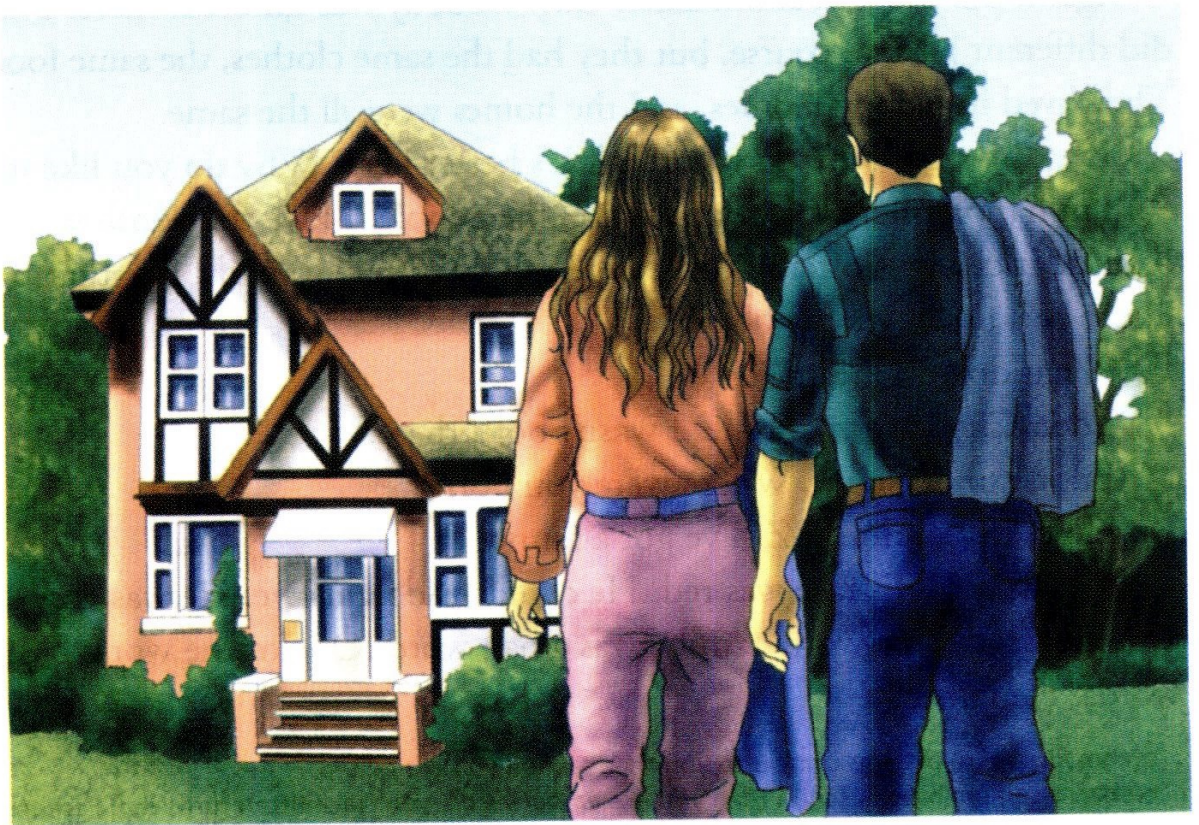
‘Isn’t it beautiful?’ Eve asked. ‘Don’t you like the wind on your face and in your hair?’

‘It’s very interesting.’

‘And listen to the birds. These are real birds.’

They turned down a small road. At the end of the road there was a big, old house.

‘Come,’ she said. ‘That’s my house. I want you to meet my family.’



Eve's Family

*In Eden City, people didn't have brothers and sisters.
They were born in the New Life Centre.*

BZ and Eve stood in the front garden. There were a lot of trees in the garden, and a child's bicycle. 'I don't want to come in,' said BZ. But the front door of the house opened. Two small boys ran out.

'Eve! It's Eve! She's home!' they shouted happily and ran toward her.

'BZ, these boys are my brothers. This is Daniel, he's nine. And this is Peter, he's six.'

'Hello,' said BZ. 'This is nice.' But he wasn't happy. He was very embarrassed. In Eden City, people didn't have brothers and sisters. They were born in the New Life Centre and then they moved to the Little People's Park. Later, they worked or they studied.

The younger boy took BZ's hand. 'Would you like to see Miranda? Her babies were born last week. They're lovely.'

Eve laughed when she saw BZ's face. 'Miranda's our cat, BZ. Don't worry.'

'And then,' said the other boy, 'I'll show you my new camera. Eve gave it to me for my birthday. It's wonderful.'

'Later, boys, later,' said Eve. 'Perhaps BZ would like to wash his hands. Where are Mum and Dad?'

'They went to the supermarket,' said Daniel.

'They'll be back in ten or fifteen minutes,' said Peter.

Eve smiled. 'Good. Can you take BZ inside and show him the bathroom?'



BZ followed the boys into the house. It was dark inside. There was a smell of fruit.

'It's a funny house,' he thought. 'Everything's old. The pictures on the walls are strange, too.' He looked at a photograph of a girl in a long white dress. 'Is that Eve ...?'

'Here's the bathroom,' said Daniel.

'We'll wait for you in the garden,' said Peter.

BZ closed the bathroom door and turned on the water. He looked at his face.

'Do I look different? Am I changing?' He washed his hands and face. 'This is a ... a ... family, and it's not bad. Eve's little brothers aren't ugly. They're very nice ...'

Suddenly he felt afraid. 'I'm not thinking the right things! Why am I here? Why aren't I in my classroom in Eden City? This is wrong. Wrong!'

He opened the bathroom door and went out. He could hear people in another room. A door opened.

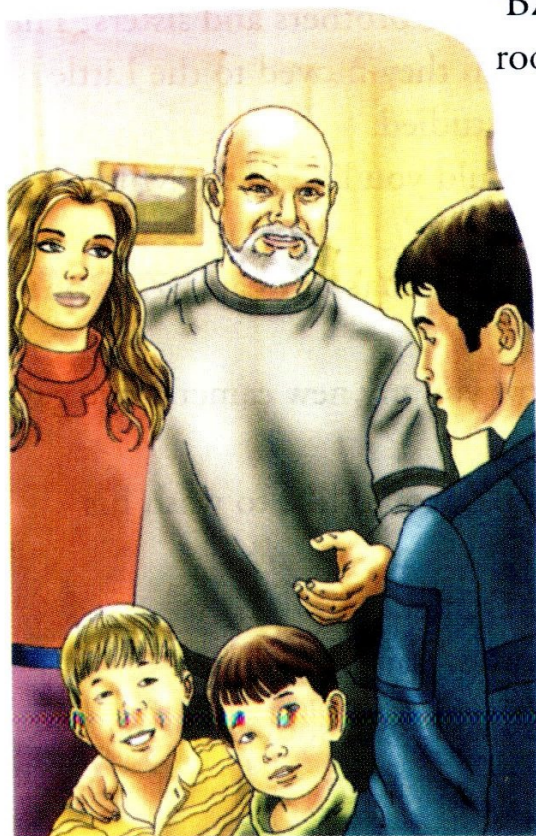
'BZ,' Eve called. 'Come into the living-room.' He walked into a big, sunny room.

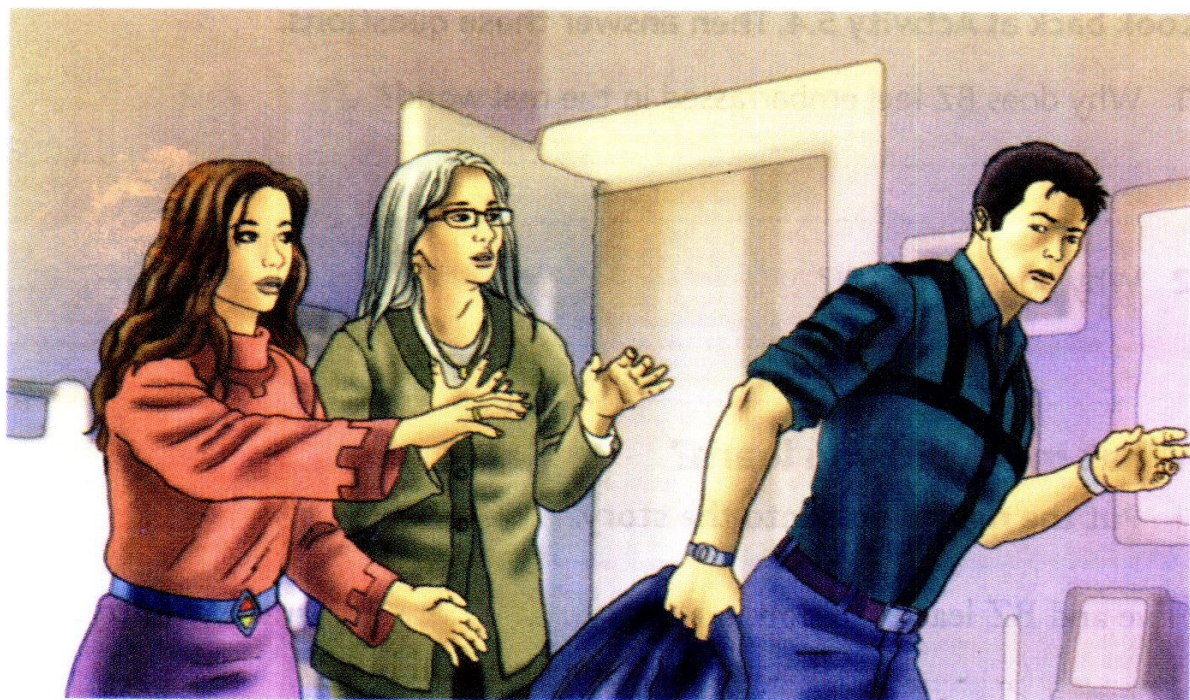
'Dad, I'd like you to meet BZ. He's a student at my school. BZ, this is my father.'

When BZ saw her father's face, he suddenly felt ill. The man was old. His hair was white and his face was ugly. BZ couldn't move. He couldn't take the old man's hand.

'It's all right,' said Eve's father. 'I understand. I'm sixty years old, and in your world you don't see old men.'

'Sixty!' thought BZ. 'How is this possible? In Eden City there are no people older than twenty-five.'





In BZ's world of young and beautiful people, life ended at twenty-five. On their twenty-fifth birthday, people went happily to the Long Dream. That was the Procedure.

The living-room door opened. 'Hello!' said a woman. 'We have a visitor, I see.'

'BZ, this is my mother.' BZ looked quickly at the woman, then he looked away again. She was old, too. But it was worse in her. She looked like Eve, but she was old and tired. One day, Eve, too ...

BZ turned and ran out of the house, out of the garden. He had to get away. Away from these bad things.

'Wait, BZ! Wait for me!' It was Eve. He stopped and waited for her. 'Please, please try the real world. I'll show you more ...'

'I don't want to see more. Please take me back to Eden City. I hate this. I'm sorry.'

Eve looked at him angrily. Then she said, 'All right. I was wrong. You *aren't* different. You *can't* understand. You can't understand because you really are a student of Eden City. Wait here. I'll call a taxi and it will take us back into town.'

6.1 Were you right?

Look back at Activity 5.4. Then answer these questions.

1 Why does BZ feel embarrassed in the real world?

.....
.....

2 Why does he feel ill?

.....
.....

6.2 What more did you learn?

1 Put the right words into the story.

Eve and BZ leave London in a In the country,
..... the city, there are beautiful big
..... with lovely gardens. people
live in them. BZ doesn't understand about It is
important in the real world, and people usually hard
for it. Some people have a of it, but other people
don't. In Eden City nobody is from other people.
Everybody wears the same and eats the same
..... . Their are the same too.

2 BZ meets a lot of people in the real world. Answer these questions about them.

- a Who has no money and can't see? the beggar
- b Who thinks BZ is stupid?
- c Who is Eve's youngest brother?
- d Who is three years older than him?
- e Who is Miranda?
- f Who has white hair?
- g Who looks like Eve but is older?

6.3 Language in use

Look at the words in the box. Then finish the sentences with these words.

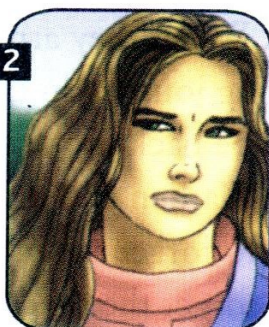
His friends never **looked** **bored** or **unhappy**.

afraid beautiful different old
bored happy tired angry



1 BZ looks

afraid.



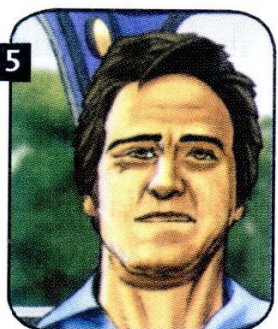
2 Eve looks



3 Peter looks



4 The garden looks



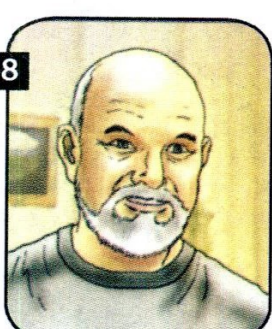
5 The taxi driver looks



6 Eve's mother looks



7 The two boys look



8 Eve's father looks

6.4 What's next?

What do you think? Discuss these possible answers.

- 1 BZ will go back to Eden City and forget the real world.
- 2 BZ will go back to Eden City, but never forget the real world.
- 3 BZ will stay in the real world and marry Eve.
- 4 BZ will come back to the real world later because he is unhappy in Eden City.

The Law of the Long Dream

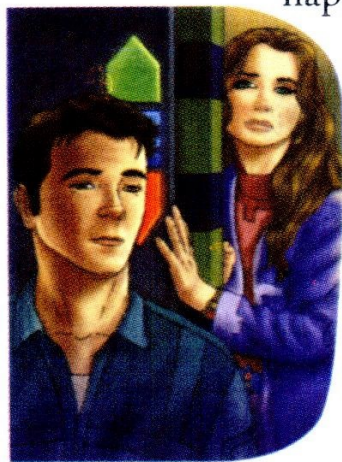
“And his reaction to old people?” ‘He hated them.

BZXY741 is the best man for The Team.’

Eve didn't say a word to him in the taxi on the way back to the city. And he didn't say anything to her. When they arrived, the lift took them down to Eden City. Again, the long journey in the dark.

BZ felt sad and tired. He wanted to be back in the school with his friends. He wanted to sit in the Flower Garden and drink cold green juice. But, most important, he wanted to forget the noise and dirty streets of the real world. He wanted to forget the tired, unhappy faces ...

He sang quietly: *‘Sad is bad and happy is good.’* He began to feel happier. ‘I'm going home,’ he thought.



At the lift door, Eve said her first and last words to him: ‘Goodbye, BZXY741.’ And she turned and walked away.

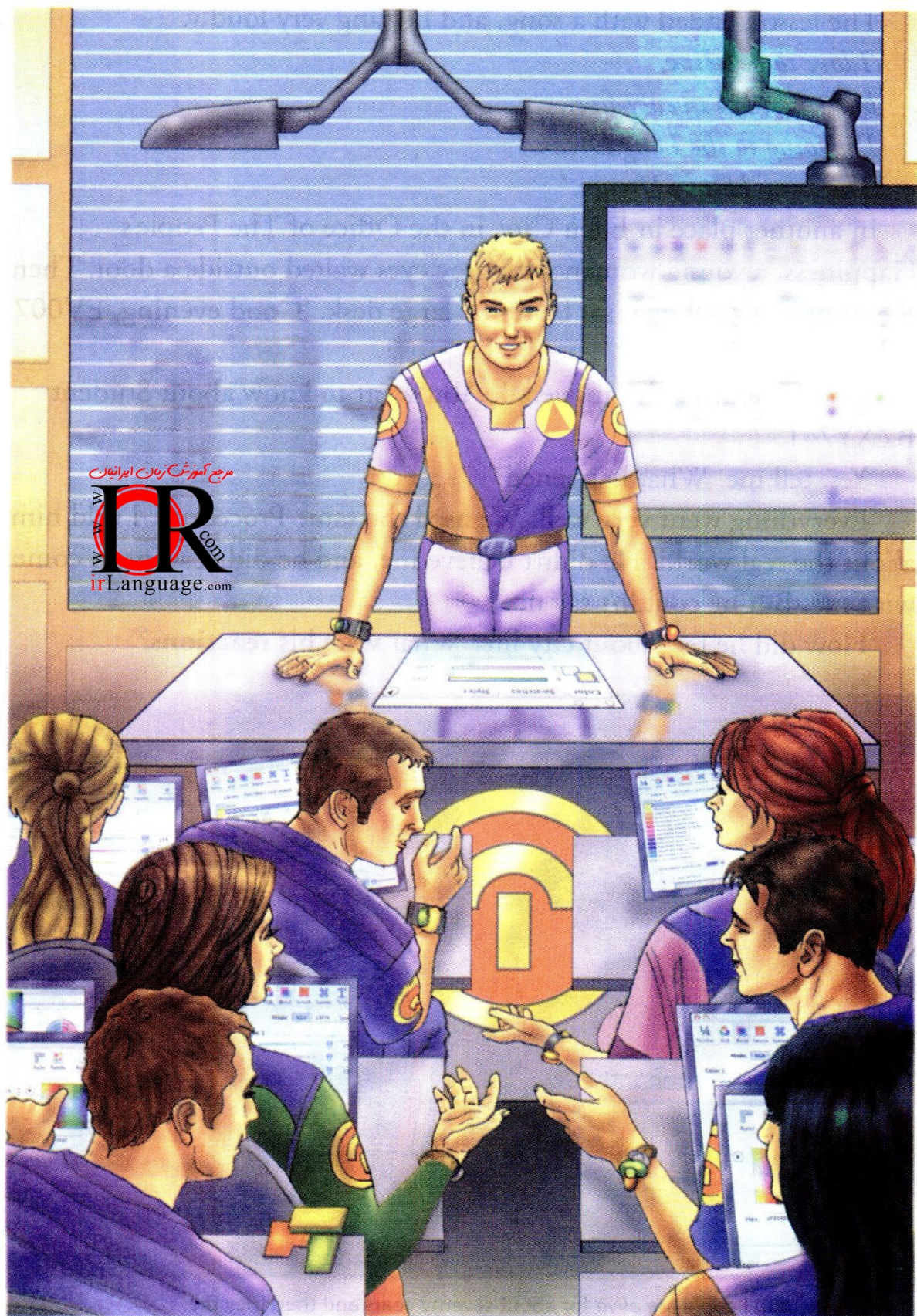
After a long walk, BZ found the centre of Eden City. He went to his room in the Friends' Happy Home and had a bath. The hot water washed away the pictures in his head.

*‘Tomorrow I'm going to be happier,
Happier than today,’* he sang.

An hour later, he was in his classroom. That morning there was an hour's lesson: *‘The Law of the Long Dream.’* He listened carefully.

‘When it is time for the Long Dream, it is a happy day,’ the teacher said. ‘Perhaps it is one of the happiest times of our lives. It is time for sleep. After a wonderful life of work and play, we can sleep. We can sleep and dream. We can dream the Long Dream. And in our Long Dream, we are young and beautiful. Always.’

‘Yes,’ BZ thought, ‘always young and beautiful.’ He remembered, for the last time, the old faces and white hair of Eve's mother and father.



The lesson ended with a song, and he sang very loudly.

*'I love to be **alive**,
but when I'm twenty-five,
I'm going to the Long Dream,
The Long Happy Dream.'*

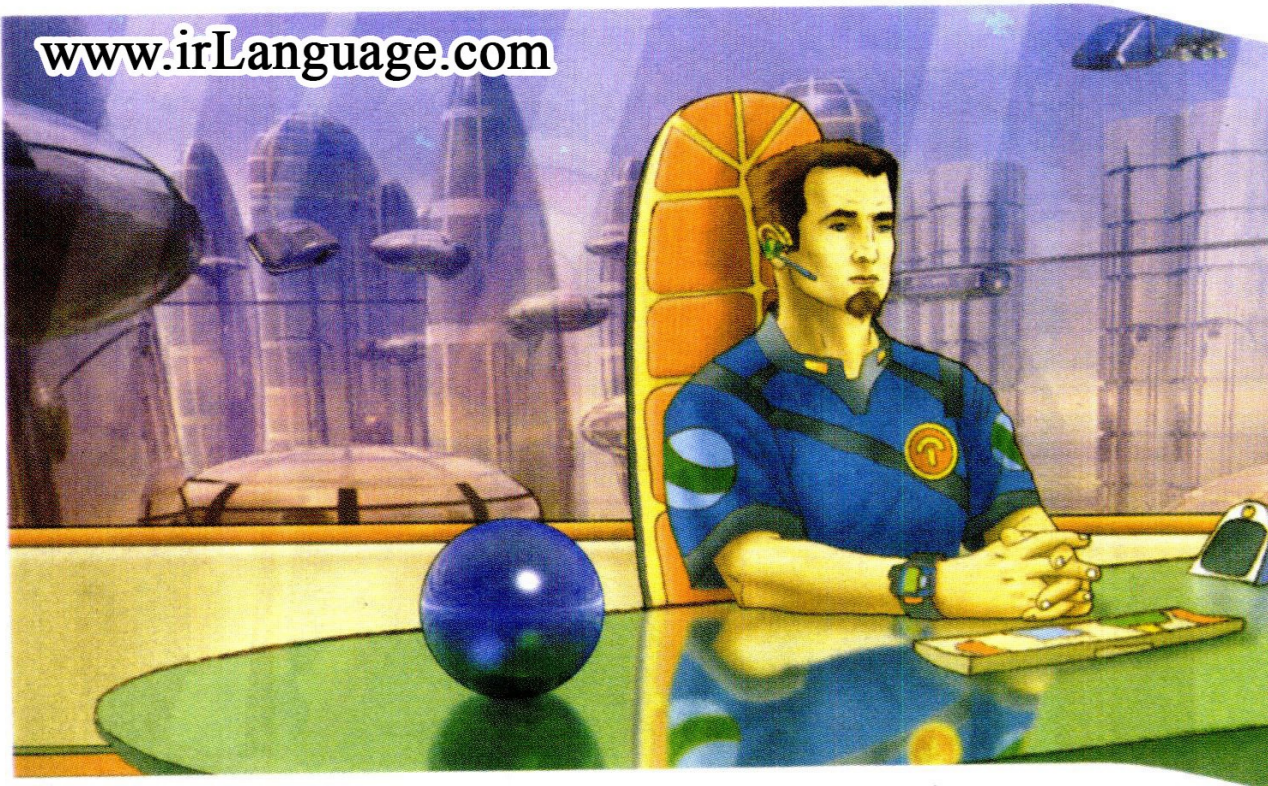
In another place in Eden City, in the Office of The People's Happiness, a young woman with grey eyes waited outside a door. Then she went in. A tall man sat behind a large desk. 'Good evening, EV007!' he said.

'Good evening,' she answered. 'You want to know about Student BZXY741.'

'Yes, tell me. What happened?'

'Everything went very well. We used the same Procedure. I told him about the real world. He didn't believe me, and he didn't want to come with me. But he couldn't say no.'

'How did he feel about city life? What were his **reactions**?'



alive /ə'laɪv/ (adj) People are *alive* for about seventy years and then they die.
reaction /ri'ækʃən/ (n) Crying is a *reaction* to something sad.

‘Very good. Very good reaction to the waitress and the beggar.’

‘Good, good. And his reaction to old people?’

‘He couldn’t look at them. He hated them. BZXY741 is the best man for The Team, I think.’

‘Yes. You’re right. He *is* the best man.’ Then the man stood up. ‘You did a really good job, EV007. Really good.’

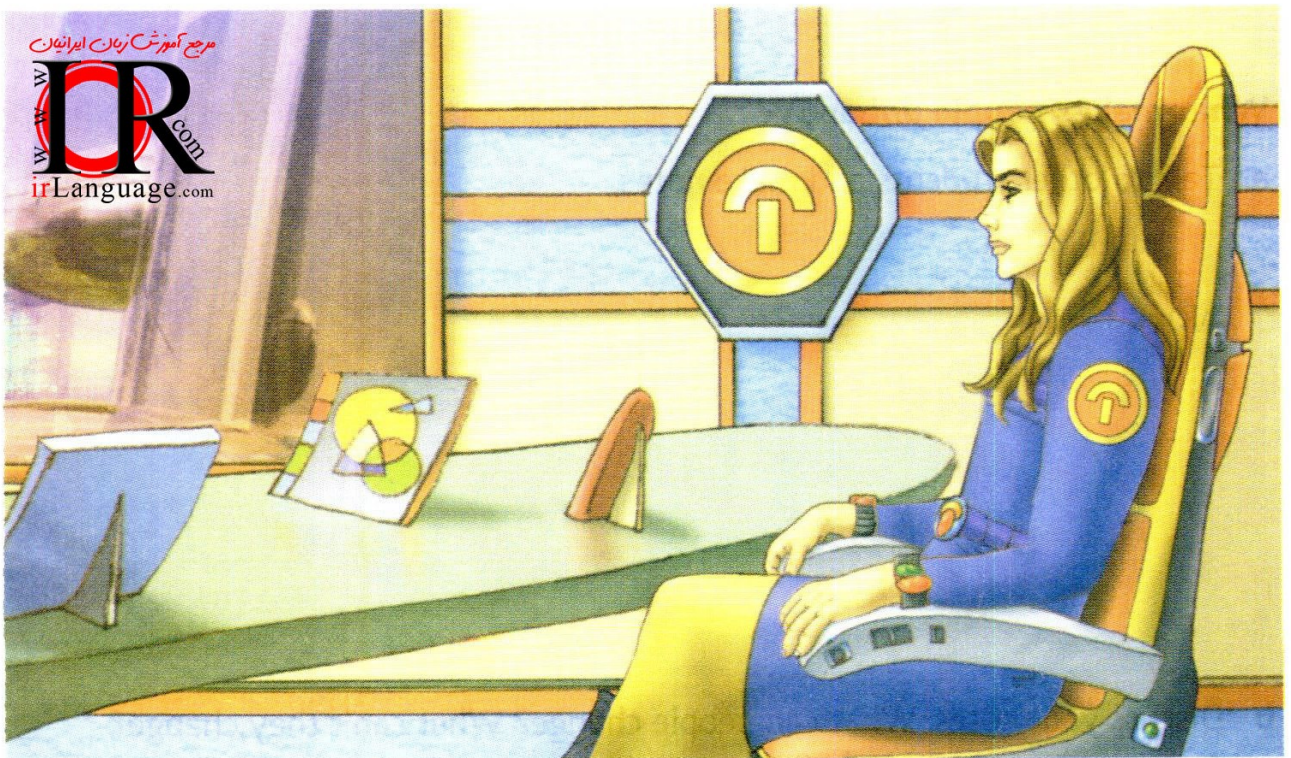
‘Thank you.’

‘This was your last journey. You know that, of course.’

The girl’s face didn’t change. ‘Yes, I know. It’s my birthday next week.’

‘You know the song ... *“I love to be alive, but when I’m twenty-five ...”* Are you ready for the Long Dream?’

‘Oh, yes,’ she said, ‘I’m ready.’ And she smiled her strange, different smile. Behind the man there was a large window. Through the window she could see the sky. She could see another world.



- 1 Work with another student and have this conversation. BZ is back from his visit to the real world. He is in school for his lessons again.**

Student A: You are BZ's teacher. He wasn't in school yesterday. After the lesson you ask him about yesterday. Was he ill? What happened? You think his story was a dream.

Student B: You are BZ. You are embarrassed, but you have to answer your teacher's questions. You have to tell him about Eve and your journey to the 'real world'. You hated it and you want to forget about it. Remember: Be happy!

- 2 In Eden City everybody is happy. It is the procedure; it is the law. Discuss these questions with other students.**

- a When do *you* feel happy? What things make you happy? Look at the ideas in the box and circle the three most important.

your family friends sports and games food
work holidays studying television and cinema money

- b Talk to other students. Are their ideas the same or different?

- 3 What makes people *unhappy*?**

- a Talk to other students and make notes.

Notes

- b Discuss your notes. What can people change? What can't they change? Can everybody be happy all the time, like the people in Eden City?

Finish Eve's notes for her boss in the Office of The People's Happiness.

NAME OF TEAM WORKER EV007

NAME OF STUDENT BZXY741

SCHOOL NOTES: BZXY741 is intelligent, a good
and very good at sport. No problems.

FIRST MEETING: On the
on the way to school.

SECOND MEETING: At the House of

PROCEDURE: I told him about the
world. He didn't me, of course. I then
took him up to the city of in a box in
the and showed him the people and
the He was afraid.

REACTIONS TO PEOPLE: **The waitress:** Good. He was
embarrassed and couldn't at her.

The beggar: Better. He was and we
had to leave the

My family: Very good. He was afraid and
..... when he saw my mother and
..... He the idea of them.

IS HE A GOOD STUDENT FOR THE TEAM? SAY WHY.

- 1 Read about the visitors. Then talk to other students and write the names of the visitors under their pictures.**

THE VISITORS FROM ZOT

[illegible]

One day a small strange ship comes down from the sky near your school.
A door in it opens and five very strange people slowly come out of it.

'Hello,' says one of them. 'Do you speak English? We speak a little English, but not good. We are from Zot. It is a lovely world and we are very friendly people. Don't be afraid. We are having a holiday. When we saw your beautiful blue world, we wanted to visit it.'



--	--	--	--	--

'Hello,' says your teacher. Welcome to our world. What are your names?

Our names are Zag, Zeg, Zig, Zog, and Zug," he smiled.

But which is which?

The man from Zot laughed. *We like a joke. We like to laugh,* he said. *Are you clever people? We will tell you our names. Listen:*

Zag is the oldest and he is always afraid of bad weather.

Zig is very short, but not as short as Zag.

Zug takes the photos and films our visits.

I have hair like Zigs, a lot longer than Zegs.

2 The visitors from Zot now want to visit your homes and families. You choose one of them and take him to your home. But first you phone your family. Have this conversation.

Student A:

Talk to someone in your family. Tell them you are bringing a strange friend home. They don't have to be afraid; he's friendly. But he looks very strange! Tell them what he looks like.

3 **Student B:**

Ask questions.

You all meet again after the visits. Zug has some pictures and some questions.

'I saw these strange things in the house,' he says. 'I didn't ask, because I was embarrassed. But can you tell me? What are they? What are they for? What do they do? What do you do with them? When? How?'

Work with another student and write notes for Zug. Give him as much help as you can.

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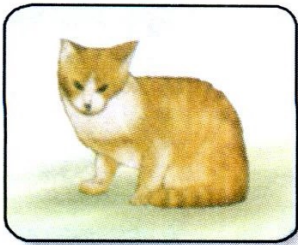
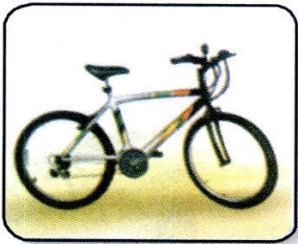
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4 The people from Zot have some more questions:

‘Your world looks very beautiful. We would like to visit some other beautiful places in your world. We have time for three visits before we go. We don’t want to visit cities or buildings. People will be afraid of us. Which are the three most beautiful places? Where are they? Why are they the most beautiful? What can we see there?’

Talk to other students about the best places for these visits. Then write about them.

The worksheet is titled "THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES IN THE WORLD" in a bold, white, stylized font with a black outline. To the left of the title is a circular illustration of the Earth from space, showing continents and clouds. Below the title is a large blue rectangular area with three numbered sections (1, 2, and 3) for writing. Each section has several horizontal dotted lines. The worksheet is set against a dark purple background.

Another World

Elaine O'Reilly

British English

Original

The sun always shines in Eden City. Everybody is happy, young and beautiful. BZXY741 is a student in the city. One day he meets Eve. She is different from the other people, and she tells him about another world. But is it really a better place?

Number of words (excluding activities): 5,054

Series Editors: Jocelyn Potter and Andy Hopkins

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