

Unit 1

Love

PART 1

Listening, Understanding and Speaking

Listening I

SCRIPT

A Mother's Love

You can see it in her eyes—
in her gaze and in her sighs.
It is a mother's love.

You can feel it in her touch—
in her tender hugs and such.
It is a mother's love.

You can hear it in her words—
in her praises and bywords.
It is a mother's love.

She cares. She understands.
She lends an ear and holds our hands.
She gives us a mother's love.

Word tips

gaze 凝视；注视
tender 温柔的；慈爱的
byword 口头禅
lend an ear 听，（尤指同情地）倾听

- 1 Listen to a poem about mother's love and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

A Mother's Love

You can see it in her eyes—
in her 1) gaze and in her 2) sighs.
It is a mother's love.

You can feel it in her 3) touch—
in her tender 4) hugs and 5) such.
It is a mother's love.

You can hear it in her 6) words—
in her 7) praises and bywords.
It is a mother's love.

She cares. She 8) understands.
She 9) lends an ear and 10) holds our hands.
She gives us a mother's love.



2 Listen to the poem again and discuss the following questions.

- 1 What is a mother's love?
- 2 What is your mother like? Describe to the class your own mother.

SAMPLE

- 1 A mother's love is a shelter protecting us from the storm; an island in life's ocean, vast and wide. A mother's love is a blessing, unconditional true love, never asking for return. A mother's love is like the air; you cannot see it but you can feel it anytime and anywhere.
- 2 As the third child in her big, not wealthy family, my mother learned to be independent from an early age, taking care of herself and her younger brothers and sisters as well. That makes her very hard-working, tolerant and considerate. To my brother and me, she is a shelter, protecting us from the storm. She cares about us and understands us. She lends an ear, listening to whatever we say and holds our hands whenever we feel weak and insecure.

Listening II

For more than four decades, John Adams has fought to defend the environment and empowered individuals in the U.S. and around the world to join the cause. Adams is cofounder of the Natural Resources Defense Council, the NRDC, the nation's first law firm for the environment.

"Defending the environment," John Adams says, "is personal."

"When you care about something, like the environment, it does become a passion," he says. "It becomes your life. I grew up on a small-town farm in the Catskill Mountains of New York. It was a wonderful place to grow up. I loved it."

But by the 1960s, he didn't love what he saw happening to the environment.

"We were a major industrial force with no pollution controls. So if you were in Pittsburgh or New York or the factory areas of New Jersey or California, you would be hit with air pollution that had virtually no pollution controls," says Adams. "In New York, we burned a lot of our garbage right in the buildings. Fly ash would come up and it was really all over the city. The Hudson River was filled with raw sewage and it smelled because there were no requirements for sewage control."

He also worried about the disappearing farmland around the big cities which became suburban sprawl with very little planning.

Adams turned his love for nature into action, leaving his job with the U.S. Attorney's Office in New York in 1970 to help establish the Natural Resources

SCRIPT



Defense Council. The 33-year-old lawyer became its first director.

In their new book, *A Force for Nature*, John Adams and his wife, Patricia, also an environmental activist, chronicle the evolution of the NRDC from a homegrown advocacy group to a 1.3-million-member organization with international reach.

Adams led the NRDC for 36 years, and remains on its Board of Trustees. Today, he is chairman of the Open Space Institute, working to purchase scenic and natural land in New England to protect it from development.

Word tips

empower 使能够

Natural Resources

Defense Council (美国)

自然资源保护委员会

Catskill Mountains 卡茨

基尔山 (位于美国纽约州)

Pittsburgh 匹兹堡 (美国

宾夕法尼亚州西南部城市)

New Jersey 新泽西州

(美国州名)

Hudson River 哈得孙河

(位于美国东北部)

raw sewage 未经处理的

污水

smell 发出臭气; 气味难闻

suburban 郊区的

sprawl 杂乱无章地扩展

的大型建筑群

U.S. Attorney's Office

美国联邦检察官办公室

Patricia 帕特丽夏 (人名)

chronicle 记述

advocacy 主张; 提倡;

拥护

trustee (公司、学院等的)

理事, 董事会成员

Open Space Institute

开放空间研究所

1 Listen to a passage about John Adams and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- John Adams has been engaged in protecting the environment for more than _____. **B**
 - 50 years
 - 40 years
 - 30 years
 - 20 years
- John Adams is cofounder of Natural Resources Defense Council, which is _____ in the U.S. **B**
 - a national research institute on environment
 - the first law firm for the environment
 - the first charity organization for the environment
 - an organization responsible for environment supervision
- What does John Adams think led to the pollution in the U.S. in 1960s? **A**
 - Industrial growth without pollution control.
 - Rapid development of population.
 - Bad habits of people burning garbage.
 - Sewage and bad smell from the rivers.
- The book *A Force for Nature* is mainly about how _____. **D**
 - John Adams' wife became an environmental activist
 - John Adams lost his career as a lawyer
 - NRDC attracted international funding
 - NRDC has developed in the past years
- The purpose of Open Space Institute purchasing scenic and natural land is to _____. **C**
 - do research in open area
 - promote tourism and real estate
 - preserve it from being developed
 - upgrade the scenic spots to state level



2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Facts	Details
In 1960s, the place where John Adams grew up was severely polluted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People burned <u>a lot of garbage</u> right in the buildings. • Fly ash <u>came up all over the city</u>. • Hudson River was filled with <u>raw sewage and it smelled</u>. • Farmland around the cities <u>became suburban sprawl with very little planning</u>.
John Adams has fought to defend the environment for many years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He left his job with the U.S. Attorney's Office in New York. • He was cofounder of the NRDC, the nation's first law firm for the environment. • He led <u>the NRDC</u> for 36 years and remained on its <u>Board of Trustees</u>. • He is chairman of the Open Space Institute, working to purchase scenic and natural land in <u>New England</u> to protect it from development. • He empowered others in the U.S. and around the world to <u>join the cause of protecting the environment</u>.

3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What has happened and is happening to the environment in your city?
- 2 What should we do to turn our love for nature into action?

SAMPLE

- 1 My city was once developed at the cost of the environment. At that time, farmland around the city was replaced by factories. Trees were cut down to make space for buildings. Litter piled up on the streets. Although the economy seemed to have grown, we realized it wasn't the right way to develop the city. Now keeping a clean and healthy environment is a top priority to people in my city. Factories improve their technology, aiming to be environment-friendly. People are educated to preserve fresh air and clean water by planting more trees and not dumping garbage into rivers and lakes. Now again we see the blue sky, hear birds singing on the branches in the early morning and feel the softness of the cool breeze.
- 2 Turning our love for nature into action, we should not only enjoy the beauty of nature, but always keep in mind that we are responsible for our actions and their impacts on the environment. We should do something, simple but effective, to improve the situation for ourselves and for our future generations. In daily lives, we should use water-saving and energy efficient appliances, reuse and recycle whatever we can, reduce waste and put garbage in different containers as required.



Listening III

SCRIPT

I grew up in a family with six sisters. In my lifetime I have seen all of them abused by the various men in their lives. Even my mother has the scars from two unsuccessful marriages.

When I was a teenager, my mother shared some insights into all of their failed relationships. She explained that they really weren't expecting to be treated as queens, but they did desire two things from the men in their lives: to be told frequently that they are loved and to be shown often that they are special. It was at that point I decided I would be the sort of husband my mom and sisters had dreamed of but never had.

When I was dating my wife-to-be I remembered those two points my mother shared with me years earlier. I admit that I struggled trying to be able to express my love in words and in action. For most men, it isn't natural for us to be romantics. But then again, it isn't natural for us to be millionaires or sports superstars. It does take effort, practice and diligence. But the rewards are there.

Now we've been married for nine years. I really, truly, deeply love my wife and let her know it every day by what I say and what I do. Our friends and family members all admire us and want to know our secret.

Word tips

abuse 虐待, 伤害
scar 伤疤
insight 深刻见解
romantic 富于浪漫气息的人
millionaire 百万富翁
diligence 勤奋

1 Listen to a passage and choose the best answer to the following question.

Which of the following is the best title for the passage you have just heard? D

- A My Self-Introduction
- B My Mother's Failures
- C Pain and Suffering of Women in My Family
- D How I Became an Ideal Husband

2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 I can still see the scars my mother has from two unsuccessful marriages.
- 2 When I was a teenager, my mother shared some insights into all of their failed relationships.
- 3 I wanted to be the sort of husband my mom and sisters had dreamed of but never had.
- 4 When I was dating my wife-to-be I tried to be able to express my love in words and in action.
- 5 For most men, it isn't natural to be romantics, millionaires or sports superstars.



3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What are the secrets to a successful marriage?
- 2 In a culture where people seldom express their emotions in words, are there any other ways to show their affections?

SAMPLE

- 1 The secrets to a successful marriage can be outlined as follows:
 - Trust—the basis for any happy and successful relations;
 - Communication—the effective way to avoid misunderstanding;
 - Compromise—the softener to ease a tense situation;
 - Giving space—the good practice to prevent suffocating or being suffocated;
 - Being encouraging—the supportive way to endure and handle the troubles in a marriage easily;
 - Expressing love in words—the glue for your relationship by conveying the definite information that you love them.
- 2 One of the best ways to show your affections is to write letters to the one you love. Sometimes it is hard to express your emotions face to face, therefore writing a letter is a more desirable way. The second is to buy gifts. Gifts are not measured by how much you spend. A carefully selected gift is a valuable memory of the time you spend with each other. Caring about their family may be considered an indirect way to express your love. When they feel down and are in urgent need of support, a warm hug can help them turn the coldness away.

Listening IV

In past generations, the challenge of dating was different. Men and women wanted a partner who could fulfill their basic needs for security and survival. Women looked for a strong man who would be a good breadwinner; men searched for a nurturing woman to make a home. This practice that worked for thousands of years has suddenly changed.

The new challenge of dating is to find a partner who not only will be supportive of our physical needs for security and survival but will support our emotional and spiritual needs. Today we want more from our relationships. Millions of men and women around the world are searching for a soul mate to experience lasting love, happiness, and romance.

It is no longer enough to just find someone who is willing to marry us. We want partners who will love us more as they get to know us: We want to live

SCRIPT



happily ever after. To find and recognize partners who can fulfill our new needs for increased closeness, good communication, and a great love life, we need to update our dating skills.

Word tips

survival 生存

breadwinner 挣钱养家的人

nurture 养育; 培育

emotional 情感上的

spiritual 精神上的

soul mate 心心相印的伙伴 (尤指异性伙伴); 知己

1 Listen to a passage and choose the best answer to the following question.

Which of the following is the best title for the passage you have just heard? **B**

- A Dating Skills to Find an Ideal Partner
- B Differences in Dating, Past and Present
- C Change of Family Roles, Past and Present
- D Updating Your Dating Skills to Find a Soul Mate

2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following passage with the information you get.

In past generations, 1) **the challenge of dating** was different. Men and women wanted a partner who could fulfill their basic needs for 2) **security and survival**. Women looked for a strong man who would be 3) **a good breadwinner**; men searched for 4) **a nurturing woman** to make a home. This 5) **practice** that worked for thousands of years has suddenly changed.

The new challenge of dating is to find a partner who not only will be 6) **supportive of** our physical needs for security and survival but will support our 7) **emotional and spiritual needs**. Today we want more from our relationships. Millions of men and women around the world are searching for 8) **a soul mate** to experience lasting love, happiness, and romance.

It is 9) **no longer enough** to just find someone who is willing to marry us. We want partners who will love us more as they get to know us: We want to live happily ever after. To find and recognize partners who can fulfill our new needs for 10) **increased closeness**, good communication, and a great love life, we need to update our dating skills.

3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What kind of partner did men and women of the past generations want?
- 2 What kind of partner do men and women now search for?
- 3 What kind of person would be your ideal husband or wife? Describe them to your group members.

SAMPLE

- 1 They wanted a partner who could fulfill their basic needs for security and survival. Women looked for a strong man who could support the family; men searched for a nurturing woman to make a home.



- 2 Now they want to find a soul mate to experience lasting love, happiness, and romance.
- 3
 - My ideal husband would be someone who is handsome, strong, well-educated, intelligent and thoughtful. He loves and understands me, and shares my emotions and interests. He knows how to listen to and talk with others and has a good sense of humor. He would support me when I need help and comfort me when I'm in low spirits. He should be successful in his career and earn enough money so that we can live a comfortable life and travel around the world.
 - My ideal wife would be a lady who is beautiful, lovely, gentle, caring, and romantic. She is well-educated, sensitive and cheerful and has a good sense of humor. She loves me and can provide a cosy atmosphere when at home. She is a good cook and knows how to prepare nutritious meals. She is supportive and capable of handling various tasks in life so that I can focus on my work. She can give me suggestions when I need her ideas. She would be my lifelong partner and a good mother of our children.

PART 2

Viewing, Understanding and Speaking

Episode 1

Topic

An American Way of Dating

Characters

Kevin (boy)
Heather (girl)

Setting

In a pizza restaurant
(Two young people, both freshmen in a small Midwestern college of the United States, are sitting in a pizza restaurant. They have ordered something to eat and are talking while they wait for the food.)

Episode 2

Topic

A Chinese Way of Dating

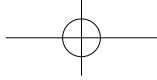
Characters

Xiaomei (girl)
Daming (boy)

Setting

In a garden
(Twenty years ago, Xiaomei was waiting for Daming in a garden. Daming hurried in out of breath.)





SCRIPT

Episode 1

Kevin: Hey, girl, come on. Good to see you.

Heather: How are you?

Kevin: What happened today?

...

Kevin: That's fine. So what do you want to order? You like the pepperoni, yeah? ... *(to the waitress)* OK. So two Greek islands, one egg torte and one chilled juice and a milk. Thank you.

Heather: Do you realize that we've been together for two months now? Who would have thought that when we happened to sit next to each other in Asian History class it would lead to this!

Kevin: Yeah, and this is a real change for me.

Heather: Oh? You didn't date anyone steadily in high school?

Kevin: No, I didn't. I was too busy with sports. My high school was so small that any of us who liked to play and wanted to could be on almost all of the teams. I played football in the fall, basketball in the winter, and baseball in the spring.

Heather: But you're not playing football this fall.

Kevin: No, I'm going to try out for baseball in the spring. That's what I like the best. So, when a very interesting and intelligent girl happened to sit next to me in Asian History, I decided it was time to date some if she was interested too. *(He smiles broadly.)*

Heather: I'm glad you did. *(She returns a smile.)*

Kevin: Er, mm, did you date much in high school?

Heather: Yes, I did. In fact, I had a steady boyfriend for almost two years.

Kevin: What happened to him?

Heather: During our senior year we both decided that since we were going to attend college in different parts of the country we should stop dating. I guess we realized that we were really quite different from each other. He wanted to get away from home, so he's in a large university out East. I wanted a small college near home, so here I am.

Kevin: Lucky me! So, er, were your parents happy with your steady boyfriend?

Heather: They liked him OK, but I know they thought we spent too much time together. I think they were happy when we broke up. They really didn't say much though. They usually trust my judgment.

Kevin: Had you dated much before that?

Heather: A little, for school parties, movies, etc., nothing serious. I usually spent more time with the girl friends. My parents didn't think I should date until I was 16.

Kevin: Yes, I think some kids do start dating too young these days. My sister, she's 14 and thinks she has a boyfriend. My parents tell her she's really too young to date, but they think it's OK if she goes out in a group where he's included.



Heather: I guess you were around guys most of the time with all your sports activities, but you seem comfortable being with me.

Kevin: Well, I did date occasionally, but I didn't find anyone really interesting until now. (*He laughs meaningfully.*) Besides, I usually have to spend most of my money keeping my old car running.

Heather: Would it help if we go Dutch tonight?

Kevin: No, after all I invited you. Besides, I had a really good job at the gasoline station near my home last summer and was able to save up quite a bit for nights like this. So, it's my treat!

Heather: OK. That's nice of you.

Kevin: Hey, after we eat, are you willing to drive around the lake with me, just talk some more? Or would you rather go to a movie?

Heather: It's a beautiful night, so let's go for a drive. I don't think we'd like the movies that are on anyway. They're just too silly.

Kevin: Fine with me. Oh, here comes the pizza, so let's eat. (*to the waitress*) Thank you. Thank you.

Episode 2

Xiaomei: You are late. You've never been late before. What happened to you today?

Daming: Oh, Xiaomei. It's so nice to see you. I can tell you that I would not be here at all if I hadn't jumped down from the second-floor window.

Xiaomei: You jumped from the window? Tell me exactly what happened? Did you hurt yourself?

Daming: No, I'm fine. I'm fine. Mum shut me up in the room. She wants me to meet her friend's daughter, the girl I mentioned to you before. She is coming and I'm supposed to see her. Mum probably thinks I am still in my room.

Xiaomei: Your mum wants you to make friends with her, then marry her, doesn't she?

Daming: Yes, I'm afraid so, but I'm interested only in you. I think about you all the time. I will never agree to meet any other girl. I would rather die than leave you.

Xiaomei: I love you too, Daming. I can't imagine what my life would be like without you.

Daming: But I don't have a cent. My family is poor and I'm penniless. I have nothing with me except for a poem I wrote for you.

Xiaomei: You wrote a poem for me? How sweet!

Daming: Would you like me to read it to you?

Xiaomei: Of course. Please.

Daming: It's called "Love Is..." Listen:

Love is the greatest feeling;

Love is like a play;



*Love is what I feel for you
Each and every day;
Love is like a smile;
Love is like a song;
Love is a great emotion
That keeps us going strong.
I love you with my heart,
My body and my soul.
I love the way I keep loving,
Like a love I can't control.
So remember when your eyes meet mine,
I love you with all my heart,
And I have poured my entire soul into you,
Right from the very start.*

Daming: Do you like it, Xiaomei?

Xiaomei: Yes, I like it very much. I don't need anything else as long as you keep writing poems for me.

Daming: I will write you poems as long as I live.

Xiaomei: Now we have nothing but each other...

Daming: But we have love. Isn't that enough?

Xiaomei: As long as we have love we'll manage somehow.

Word tips

pepperoni *n.* an Italian spicy dry sausage 意大利辣味干香肠

e.g. She would peel off the pepperonis from her pizza.

torte *n.* a rich cake made with eggs, ground nuts, and usually no flour 德国大蛋糕; 果子奶油蛋糕

e.g. I'm torn between the Black Forest cake and the hazelnut torte.

date sb. have a romantic relationship with sb. 与某人约会

e.g. How long have you been dating Nicky?

try out for sth. try to be chosen as a member of a team, for a part in a play, etc. 参加……的选拔, 争取成为(团队等的一员)

e.g. Why did you decide to try out for the Olympics?

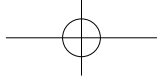
steady boyfriend / girlfriend *n.* sb. that you have been dating, usually exclusively, for a long time 关系确定的男/女朋友

e.g. I) Life is much too enjoyable to think about steady boyfriends.

II) Now at 16, Steven has a steady girlfriend of 15, who he has been going out with for several months.

happy with sb. satisfied that sth. or sb. is good, and therefore not worried about 对……感到满意

e.g. Is your mother happy with your girlfriend?



break up (people in a marriage, group or relationship) separate or do not live or work together anymore 关系破裂

e.g. He lost his job and his marriage broke up.

shut sb. up keep sb. in a small area for a specific purpose 把……关起来

e.g. Many students shut themselves up in their rooms to study.

1 Watch two videos about different ways of dating and pay attention to the speakers' views on dating. Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

Episode 1

- 1 Heather and Kevin have been dating for _____. A
 - A two months
 - B three months
 - C six months
 - D twelve months
- 2 Heather and Kevin first met each other _____. A
 - A in a class
 - B in Asia
 - C in a restaurant
 - D in a sports center
- 3 Kevin decided to date Heather because Heather was _____. D
 - A his classmate
 - B an excellent student
 - C sitting next to him
 - D interesting and intelligent
- 4 What's the appropriate age for kids to start dating, according to Heather's parents? C

A 14	B 15
C 16	D 18
- 5 How would Heather and Kevin pay for the meal that night? C
 - A They would go Dutch.
 - B Heather would pay for it.
 - C Kevin would pay for it.
 - D Kevin would pay 2/3 and Heather 1/3.

Episode 2

- 6 Why was Daming late that day? C
 - A He was hurt on the way.
 - B He had to repair the second-floor window.
 - C He was prevented from going out.
 - D He had to meet someone else first.



- 7 What did Daming's mother expect him to do that day? **B**
- A To visit her friend.
 - B To meet her friend's daughter.
 - C To stay in his room.
 - D To finish writing his poem.
- 8 Which of the following words can best describe the character of Daming in the video? **D**
- A Penniless.
 - B Cheerful.
 - C Obedient.
 - D Determined.

2 Watch the videos again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

Episode 1

- 1 I played football in the fall, basketball in the winter, and baseball in the spring.
- 2 In fact, I had a steady boyfriend for almost two years.
- 3 I guess we realized that we were really quite different from each other.
- 4 I think they were happy when we broke up.
- 5 My parents tell her she's really too young to date, but they think it's OK if she goes out in a group where he's included.
- 6 I had a really good job at the gasoline station near my home last summer and was able to save up quite a bit for nights like this.
- 7 Oh, here comes the pizza, so let's eat.

Episode 2

- 8 You've never been late before. What happened to you today?
- 9 I would not be here at all if I hadn't jumped down from the second-floor window.
- 10 I have nothing with me except for a poem I wrote for you.

3 Repeat a few important lines and try to imitate the speakers' pronunciation and intonation.

Episode 1

- 1 – You didn't date anyone steadily in high school?
– No, I didn't. I was too busy with sports.
- 2 – Lucky me! So, er, were your parents happy with your steady boyfriend?
– They liked him OK, but I know they thought we spent too much time together.
- 3 – Had you dated much before that?
– A little, for school parties, movies, etc., nothing serious.
- 4 – ... but you seem comfortable being with me.
– Well, I did date occasionally, but I didn't find anyone really interesting until now.



Episode 2

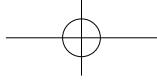
- 5 – Your mum wants you to make friends with her, then marry her, doesn't she?
– Yes, I'm afraid so, but I'm interested only in you. I think about you all the time.
- 6 – I will never agree to meet any other girl. I would rather die than leave you.
– I love you too, Daming. I can't imagine what my life would be like without you.

4 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 How do you like the poem written by Daming? Have you ever written letters or poems to someone you like? Do you think it is a good way to express your emotions? Why or Why not?
- 2 In Episode 2, Daming dated Xiaomei while his mother wanted him to date someone else. If you were in that kind of dilemma, what would be your choice?
- 3 There's a Chinese saying that you should marry someone who is well-matched (门当户对的). Do you agree with the saying? What is your opinion of a well-matched marriage?

SAMPLE

- 1 I like the poem written by Daming. It's romantic. Although I never wrote letters or poems to other people, I think writing letters and poems is a very good way to express one's emotions especially for those who are shy and dare not speak out their love face to face. Above all, with careful choice of words and beautiful rhythms, language written down from the bottom of the heart can be the most treasured gift to brighten someone's day.
- 2
 - I have never imagined that I'd be in that kind of dilemma since I know my parents will respect my choice. But if I were, I'd listen to my parents since I believe what they do is always out of best wishes for me.
 - If I were Daming, I'd listen to my heart. My parents may not be able to understand for a while, but I believe they would respect my choice in a long run because they love me and hope I can lead a happy life. People all know that you cannot be happy if you live with someone you don't love.
- 3 I'm a strong supporter of this saying. But in my opinion, what contributes to a well-matched marriage is not wealth, nor social status, though many people consider both of them important. I believe a man and a woman with similar educational background and similar interests find it easier to communicate, therefore they are more likely to make a well-matched marriage.



PART 3

Video Appreciation and Singing for Fun

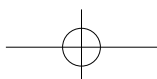
Video Appreciation



■ About the movie:

Ronnie is the leading character of the movie *The Last Song*. She remains angry and rebellious after her parents divorced and her father, Steve Miller, a former concert pianist and teacher, moved from New York City to Tybee Island, Georgia three years ago. Once a piano prodigy (神童), Ronnie now rejects it. While Juilliard School (茱莉亚音乐学院) has been interested in her since she was young, Ronnie refuses to attend. Her mother, Kim Miller, decides to send Ronnie and her younger brother Jonah to spend the summer with her father.

Upon arrival at Tybee Island, Ronnie is miserable, hostile and defensive toward all those around her, including a handsome, popular beach volleyball player, Will Blakelee, who aspires (渴望, 有志于) to attend a top university. Their first few meetings are full of awkward fun which involves Will's crashing into





Ronnie during a volleyball match, and accidentally spilling Ronnie's strawberry shake on her. Later on, Ronnie discovers a turtle nest at the beach by her house and, while protecting it, she meets Will again on his volunteer work for the aquarium (水族馆). After a night of staying up to protect the turtles with Will, she discovers he is deeper than she believed, and begins to have feelings for him.

As Ronnie falls in love with Will, she also manages to form a better, stronger bond with her father. Later Ronnie gets to know that Steve had been diagnosed with cancer long before her summer visit and decides to spend more time with him. Ronnie and Will's relationship doesn't go very smoothly. It is because Will's mom doesn't think Ronnie is good enough for her son and also because some jealous people create troubles and misunderstanding between them. With Will now leaving for college, there seems no time to patch things up.

A couple of months later, Steve dies while listening to Ronnie playing the piece of music, titled "For Ronnie", which he himself had been working on and is finally completed by her daughter. At his funeral Ronnie plays the song again. Ronnie runs into Will who comes to the funeral. Will apologizes to her for everything that happened and Ronnie forgives him. The two make up (和好). At the end of the movie, Ronnie tells Will that she will be attending Juilliard for the second semester. Will surprises Ronnie by revealing that he will be transferring to Columbia University in order to be with her and they share a kiss.

Main characters



Ronnie Miller

an angry, rebellious teenager forced to spend a summer with her father



Will Blakelee

a popular and skilled beach volleyball player, Ronnie's boyfriend



Susan Blakelee

Will's mother

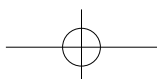
About the video clips:

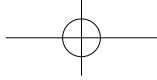
Episode 1

After Ronnie gets to know something about Will, she leaves him immediately. Will comes to explain it to her. When she sees him staying outside her house, she's angry.

Episode 2

Will wants to take Ronnie to his home but he doesn't tell her. There Ronnie gets to know something surprising and they meet someone unexpectedly.





SCRIPT

Episode 1

- Ronnie:** You need to leave, Will. You're freaking out my little brother.
- Will:** Not until you tell me what happened. Is it Ashley? I saw you talking to her. What did she say?
- Ronnie:** Just leave, all right, Will?
- Will:** Just tell me what she said to you.
- Ronnie:** Will, I did not come here for some stupid summer romance with some stupid local boy that has done this with a thousand other girls.
- Will:** What?
- Ronnie:** Ashley told me about all the girls you've been with. So I don't want to be just the next girl in your little parade of girls, Will. Going on the same date, doing the exact same thing. I think that's why it would just be better if we just end it.
- Will:** End it? End what? Ronnie, yes, OK, I went out with other girls before I met you. But that's the point. It was before I met you! How can you be mad about that?
- Ronnie:** Will, don't you dare make this about me. You and I both know this is not my fault... *(the two kissing each other)*
- Will:** You're not like the other girls.

Episode 2

- Ronnie:** Will, I'm serious. Will, I am not meeting your family for the first time looking like this.
- Will:** It's fine. They're not home. Besides, I'm not taking you to the movies like that. Got a reputation to maintain.
- Ronnie:** Wow.
- Will:** Haha...
- George:** Hello?
- Will:** Hey, George.
- George:** Hello, Will.
- Ronnie:** What are we doing? Who's George? Will, where are we? Graceland? Wait. Do you work here too? This is your house? You live here? You're rich? Will, you told me that your dad owned a brake shop!
- Will:** He does. He just happens to own 300 more just like it.
- Ronnie:** No, no, no, no, no, no. I'm not going in there.
- Will:** Yes, you are.
- Ronnie:** Not looking like this! What if somebody sees me?
- Will:** Let go.
- Ronnie:** Nope.
- Will:** Let go.
- Ronnie:** You let go! Why didn't you tell me?
- Will:** What difference does it make? Huh?



Susan: Hello.
Will: Mom, I, I thought you and Dad were going out.
Susan: We decided to come back early.
Will: This is Ronnie.
Ronnie: Hi.
Susan: Perhaps you should hose off in back.

Teaching tips

Spoken texts are often context dependent and personal, and assuming shared background knowledge. Therefore ellipsis occurs very often in spoken language. When you listen, you have to be aware of the lexical and grammatical units that are missed. For example, in Video Appreciation:

Episode 1

Ronnie: You need to leave, Will. You're freaking out my little brother.

Will: *Not until you tell me what happened.* (Complete sentence: *I'm not leaving until you tell me what happened.*) Is it Ashley? I saw you talking to her. What did she say?

...

Ronnie: Ashley told me about all the girls you've been with. So I don't want to be just the next girl in your little parade of girls, Will. *Going on the same date, doing the exact same thing.* (Complete sentence: *I don't want to be going on the same date, doing the exact same thing.*) I think that's why it would just be better if we just end it.

Episode 2

Will: It's fine. They're not home. Besides, I'm not taking you to the movies like that. *Got a reputation to maintain.* (Complete sentence: *I've got a reputation to maintain.*)

...

Ronnie: What are we doing? Who's George? Will, where are we? *Graceland?* (Complete sentence: *Are we in Graceland?*) Wait. Do you work here too? This is your house? You live here? You're rich? Will, you told me that your dad owned a brake shop!

...

Ronnie: No, no, no, no, no, no. I'm not going in there.

Will: Yes, you are.

Ronnie: *Not looking like this!* (Complete sentence: *I'm not going in there looking like this!*)



Word tips

freak out make sb. very anxious, upset or frightened (使)心烦意乱

e.g. It freaked me out to see him so depressed.

romance *n.* an exciting and often short relationship between two people who love each other 爱情, 恋情

e.g. After a whirlwind romance the couple announced their engagement in July.

parade of a line or a series of people or things 一长队的, 一系列的

e.g. She had a constant parade of young men coming to visit her.

reputation *n.* the opinion people have about how good or bad sb. or sth. is 名声, 名誉

e.g. She had already begun to establish a reputation as a writer.

maintain *vt.* make sth. stay the same 保持

e.g. It's sometimes hard to maintain the right balance between your work and your home life.

brake shop *n.* car repair shop 汽车修理店

e.g. There is a brake shop near the gas station, into which coaches are continually coming for repair.

let go stop holding sth. or sb. 放手, 松开

e.g. Let go! You're hurting me.

nope *adv. (spoken)* used for saying "no" when sb. asks you a question (口)不, 不是

e.g. Nope, it doesn't light my candle!

hose *vt.* direct water on sth. using a hose 用软管冲洗

e.g. Would you hose off the car for me?

1 Watch Episode 1 and complete the following paragraph with the words and expressions from the box.

a thousand	date	end	girls	happened	next
point	romance	talking	went out		

At the beginning of Episode 1, Ronnie asks Will to leave but the latter wants to know what 1) **happened**. Since he saw Ronnie 2) **talking** with Ashley before, he wants to know what Ashley told her. According to Ronnie, Ashley told her about all the 3) **girls** he's been with. So Ronnie tells Will, "I don't want to be just the 4) **next** girl in your little parade of girls. Going on the same 5) **date**, doing the exact same thing." She also says, "I didn't come here for some stupid summer 6) **romance** with some stupid local boy that has done this with 7) **a thousand** other girls." So she decides that "it would just be better if we just 8) **end** it (the relationship)." Then Will explains, "Ronnie, yes, OK, I 9) **went out** with other girls before I met you. But that's the 10) **point**. It was before I met you! How can you be mad about that?" To Will, Ronnie is not like the other girls.



2 Watch Episode 2 and answer the following questions.

- 1 Why is Ronnie unwilling to meet Will's family?
She feels it inappropriate and awkward to meet her boyfriend's family when she looks so dirty and clumsy.
- 2 How does Ronnie feel when she sees Will's house?
Very surprised. At first she cannot believe he lives here.
- 3 What did Will tell Ronnie about his family?
His father owned a brake shop.
- 4 What does Will's father own actually?
His father actually owns hundreds of brake shops.
- 5 Will thinks his parents are going out, but why is his mother at home?
She comes back early.

3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What's happening between Ronnie and Will? Why?
- 2 If you were Ronnie, what would you do when you heard of the romance about your boyfriend?
- 3 From the movie clips we can see that Will is from a very rich family while Ronnie isn't. Do you think they're well-matched? Why or why not?
- 4 What is Susan's attitude toward Ronnie? How do you think Will and Ronnie's relationship will develop?

SAMPLE

- 1 In the video, Ronnie is angry with Will and wants to end their relationship because she was told that Will has been with many girls (each for a short while), which means he isn't serious about relationships with girls.

When Will learns what Ashley said about him, he admits that he did go out with many girls, but it was before he met Ronnie. And he thinks Ronnie is different from any other girls he dated before.

- 2 If I were Ronnie, I wouldn't believe what others say about him. I only trust my own eyes and feelings. But maybe I would ask him myself to see what answers he would give and then decide if I should break up with him.
- 3
 - I think they're well-matched. Both are young and energetic. Both look very nice. And I guess they have a lot in common.
 - I don't think they're well-matched because they seem to have different family backgrounds. A rich family usually hopes to find a daughter-in-law or son-in-law with similar family background who can support their own family business.



4 As we can see, Susan gives a cold shoulder to Ronnie. She doesn't like her because the first time they meet, Ronnie looks very dirty and funny. Ronnie is not ladylike, as Susan herself is. They don't have anything in common.

Since there's objection from Will's mother, we can imagine their relationship will not go on very smoothly. However, like many other Hollywood movies, *The Last Song* must have a happy ending.

Singing for Fun

■ About the song:



The song "Let's Talk About Love" is from the album by the same title. The album also contains Celine Dion's Grammy and Academy Award winning song "My Heart Will Go On", the theme song to the 1997 blockbuster (轰动一时的电影) *Titanic* (《泰坦尼克号》). "Let's Talk About Love" is a song which you'll find extremely touching and inspiring. Celine is joined by a children's choir in this heart-warming piece, telling people with her music that love is the most essential quality of humankind and should be treasured by everyone.

Listen to the song "Let's Talk About Love" and learn to sing it.

LYRICS

Let's Talk About Love

Everywhere I go
All the places that I've been
Every smile's a new horizon
On a land I've never seen
There are people around the world—different faces different names
But there's one true emotion that reminds me we're the same
Let's talk about love

From the laughter of a child
To the tears of a grown man
There's a thread that runs right through us
And helps us understand
As subtle as a breeze—that fans a flicker to a flame
From the very first sweet melody to the very last refrain

Let's talk about love
Let's talk about us
Let's talk about life
Let's talk about trust
Let's talk about love



It's the king of all who live
And the queen of all good hearts
It's the ace you may keep up your sleeve—till the name is all but lost
As deep as any sea with the rage of any storm
But as gentle as a falling leaf on any autumn morn

Let's talk about love
Let's talk about us
Let's talk about life
Let's talk about trust
Let's talk about love

Let's talk about love—it's all we're needin'
Let's talk about us—the air we're breathin'
Let's talk about life—I wanna know you
Let's talk about trust—and I wanna show you

Everywhere I go
All the places that I've been
Every smile's a new horizon
On a land I've never seen
There are people around the world—different faces different names
But there's one true emotion that reminds me we're the same

Ooh! Let's talk about love
Let's talk about us
Let's talk about life
Let's talk about trust
Let's talk about love

It's all we're needin'
The air we're breathin'
It's all we're needin'
The air we're breathin'
Baby
It's the air we're breathin'
Let's talk about love

PART 4

Further Speaking and Listening

Further Speaking

Work in groups to do the following activities.

Step ONE

In this unit we have listened to and viewed so much about different types of love. For example, love for parents, love for spouse or sweetheart, love for kids, love for nature, etc. Choose one type of love from the following list.

love for parents	love for children	love for nature
love for spouse	love for country	love for life
love for music	love for fashion	love for work
love for animals		

Step TWO

Describe the type of love you choose to your group members and discuss why that is important to you.

Words and expressions you may use

care for	value	protection	independent	patriotism
contribution to	hopeful	considerate	tolerant	
compromise	devoted to	sympathetic	treasure	
keen on	universal	peace of mind		

Step THREE

Present what your group has discussed to the class.

SAMPLE

- I hold very strong love for my parents, who are the most important persons in my life. Both of them have retired and are enjoying a more relaxing way of living. In my opinion, love should not be expressed and measured by how much money you give to them and how many gifts you buy for them. It is rather your understanding of and caring for them that they value much more. Most of us are busy with our work and life, often forgetting to send regards and concern to our parents. But please do remember, simply making a phone call or writing down a few lines to let them know you're thinking of them will give them more happiness than anything else. The love for parents is important to me not only because I truly love them, but also because the commitment to making them feel proud of me gives me enormous impetus for the relentless pursuit in my life and career. I remain strong even when I'm in big trouble because they are always behind me.



- My love for animals started when I was six years old. My parents gave me a puppy as a birthday gift. It was a cute black Labrador (拉布拉多犬) with expressive hazel eyes, powerful jaws and short dense coat. I loved it very much and named it Dingding, the tinkle of a bell. Dingding had an outgoing and tractable (驯良的) nature. Every day he waited at the door to welcome me back from school. On weekends we took a walk, played catch and retrieve games. We became good companions. Dingding even saved my life when I was almost drowned in a river. He jumped into the water, bit my sweater and pulled me to the riverside. Dingding stayed with me until I went to college. He died at the age of 17, an age similar to 85 for human beings. From the relationship with Dingding, I know animals can be close friends of people and indispensable to human society. They, though unable to speak, are intelligent and emotional. From time to time they teach us trust, faithfulness, patience and unconditional love. I feel I learn to be a responsible and caring person with love for animals like Dingding.

Further Listening

Listening I

My son's primary school celebrates Valentine's Day in a wonderful way. Each day throughout the month of February, the school honors each student in informal ceremonies. At the ceremony, classmates, teachers and parents get together to deliver compliments to that particular child. They believe that a child's emotional and social skills should be developed alongside their intellectual skills. Learning to acknowledge qualities and strengths in others—and receiving that acknowledgment gracefully—is a very important learning lesson.

I know I compliment my son frequently, and certainly try to make sure he knows he is loved. But I realize that I have never actually pointed out, one by one, specific qualities that make him unique and so special to me. And how infrequently we really point out what is special in others. Sure, we say “I love you” or “thanks” regularly, but when do we take the opportunity to really and truly examine what makes a person special? What is unique and different about them?

This year, the time was scheduled for my son to receive more than 40 compliments from his peers, teachers, parents, and himself. Each child had their day at the center of the circle, their friends coming up one by one to give a gift of powerful words. This year, my son heard that his thoughtfulness was appreciated, his ideas important, and his expressions inspiring. He was also expected to write and deliver a compliment to each of his classmates.

SCRIPT



Word tips

intellectual 智力的
peer 同龄人
inspiring 鼓舞人心的；
 启发灵感的

Listen to a passage about a special way of celebrating Valentine's Day and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 My son's school celebrates Valentine's Day every day in February. T
- 2 During the celebration the school honors students, teachers and parents. F
- 3 According to the school, learning to recognize other people's qualities is very important to students. T
- 4 I often compliment my son but I have never actually pointed out his specific qualities. T
- 5 It seems difficult for parents to say "I love you" and "thanks" regularly. F
- 6 People seldom point out special qualities of others. T
- 7 My son was complimented for his thoughtfulness and bright ideas he came up with. T
- 8 My son was expected to compliment his teachers this year during the celebration. F

Listening II

SCRIPT

In the end, I had to ask my husband to read my valentine compliment to our son. I was simply crying too hard to get the words out. Witnessing the tenderness of school-age children saying what they thought was special about my little boy proved too much for me. But I was not alone. When I warned my son I might get emotional, he said, "That's OK. Lots of parents cry." He was right.

This is what my husband read to our son on my behalf:

Dear Cole,

Your love of language and information has always amazed me. I love learning from you and with you. I admire how new words are so easily incorporated into your vocabulary. I think you are fresh and eager and loving.

I admire that relationships are important to you. I like to listen to the connections you make with past experiences. I think you are good at remembering.

I love how you are proud of yourself when you try something new. I feel proud, too.

I like how your whole body tells a story, and your expressions make me feel good. I am proud of your willingness to express your fears and appreciate the reminder that you will grow at the pace that suits you best. I love your jokes and your fondness for telling them over and over—so I will laugh. I think you are fun to be with.

I love that you are my son.

I am really grateful to this school for creating a learning environment. These exercises benefit the parents as well as the kids. That, to me, is a valentine worth giving.



Listen to a talk and complete the following letter with the information you get.

Dear Cole,

Your love of language and information has always amazed me. I love 1) learning from you and with you. I 2) admire how new words are so easily incorporated into your 3) vocabulary. I think you are fresh and eager and 4) loving.

I admire that 5) relationships are important to you. I like to listen to the 6) connections you make with past 7) experiences. I think you are good at 8) remembering.

I love how you are 9) proud of yourself when you 10) try something new. I feel proud, too.

I like how your whole 11) body tells a story, and your 12) expressions make me feel good. I am proud of your 13) willingness to express your 14) fears and appreciate the reminder that you will grow at the 15) pace that suits you 16) best. I love your 17) jokes and your 18) fondness for telling them over and over—so I will 19) laugh. I think you are fun to be 20) with.

I love that you are my son.

Word tips

Cole 科尔 (人名)
incorporate 吸收
reminder 提示物

Listening III

Hisham and I will have been married for 20 years this February. Everybody said it would not work. He is Jordanian, Muslim, and I am Italian, Catholic. We met in Florida 22 years ago. What we had in common was nothing except youth. He could barely speak the English language, and I thought Arabs were from India. Within a year I found out where Jordan was exactly and he could say “I love you” in broken English.

When we got married people actually placed bets at our small wedding in my family’s dining room. They thought our relationship would not last a year. Hisham did not tell his parents he was married for almost five years. He felt that if he failed at school his family would blame the marriage. Of course everybody, from Arabs to Americans, thought he married me to get a green card. I knew he didn’t.

I lived in his country for six years after graduation and had a son there. Through Hisham’s eyes I saw the beauty of his culture and religion and the simple ways of his people. Being from New York and living in Amman, Jordan, I still had my Christmas tree each year, my Easter eggs and even a Halloween pumpkin in the window. I also took some of their ways—cooking, methods of mothering, socializing—and it enhanced my own character in the long run.

Throughout the years, I was not the Italian girl from New York, not the American married to the Arab; I was a beautiful blended person with two children and a man who loves me.

SCRIPT

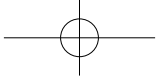


Word tips

Hisham 希沙姆 (人名)
Jordanian 约旦人; 约旦的
Catholic 天主教徒
Jordan 约旦 (西南亚国家)
Amman 安曼 (约旦首都)
enhance 改进

Listen to a passage about mixed marriage and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- Hisham and I have been married for _____. C
 - 22 years
 - 20 years
 - almost 20 years
 - 30 years
- At the beginning we had nothing in common except that _____. B
 - we both spoke English
 - we both were young
 - we both worked in Florida
 - we had both been to India
- When we got married, people were afraid that _____. A
 - our relationship wouldn't last long
 - both families would be unhappy about the marriage
 - Hisham would fail at school because of the marriage
 - our marriage would end in divorce within five years
- Everybody, from Arabs to Americans, thought he married me _____. B
 - for my agreeable characters
 - for a green card
 - for his education
 - for improving his English
- I lived in _____ for six years after graduation and had a son there. D
 - India
 - Florida
 - Italy
 - Jordan
- My marriage to Hisham enabled me to _____. B
 - enjoy Islamic festivals and holidays
 - appreciate his culture and people
 - know more about his family
 - enjoy simple ways of living
- It seems important to their successful marriage that the husband and wife _____. C
 - enhance their characters
 - have stayed in both countries
 - respect each other's culture
 - learn to speak the other's language



Listening IV

Traditionally the heart is the part of the body where emotions come from. If you are a warm-hearted person, for example, you are kind and thoughtful toward others. If you have a heart of gold, you are a very generous person. But if you are heartless, you are cruel and unfeeling.

Of all the emotions, it is love that is most associated with the heart. In love songs all over the world, love almost always goes together with the heart. As the song from the movie *Titanic* says: "You are here in my heart and my heart will go on and on... Love can touch us one time and last for a lifetime, and never let go till we're gone."

Perhaps the role of the heart in love comes from what happens to it when you feel really attracted to someone. The strong feelings of attraction make your breathing speed up and your heart beat faster.

SCRIPT

Listen to a passage about the role of heart in love and complete the following passage with the information you get.

Traditionally the heart is the part of the body where emotions come from. If you are a warm-hearted person, for example, you are 1) kind and thoughtful toward others. If you have a heart of 2) gold, you are a very generous person. But if you are 3) heartless, you are cruel and unfeeling.

Of all the emotions, it is 4) love that is most associated with the heart. In love 5) songs all over the world, love almost always goes together with the heart. As the song from the movie *Titanic* 6) says: "You are here in my heart and my heart will go on and on... Love can 7) touch us one time and last for a 8) lifetime, and never let go till we're 9) gone."

Perhaps the role of the heart in love comes from what 10) happens to it when you feel really attracted to someone. The strong 11) feelings of attraction make your breathing 12) speed up and your heart beat faster.

Word tips

unfeeling 冷酷的
be associated with
(与……) 有关