

Course: Advance

Level 2

Day №21

International Relationships

***"Would you consider a foreigner for a
boyfriend/girlfriend?
Where would you stay?"***



Let us read the letter of Akane to Mari

Check your understanding

Are the sentences true or false? State if True or False.

1. Akane is soon going to visit Finland for the first time.
2. Lukus doesn't want to live in Japan.
3. Akane doesn't want to live in Paris.
4. Akane thinks that staying in Paris is the best solution.
5. Akane wants to marry Lukus as soon as possible.



Situation: Akane is writing an email from Paris to her best friend Mari back in Japan. She's in love and enjoys what she's doing, but doesn't know what to do about her future! Listen to her email.

Dear Mari,

I feel so much pressure. My course at the Arts College here is almost over. My life has changed so much. Now I'm sure I want to be an artist. But where? Lukus wants me to move to Finland. He's amazing! It feels so natural to be with him. I'm so glad he's in my life! And he's an artistic genius! But live in Finland?

When I visited Helsinki, it was so dark and cold! And Finnish is a really hard language to learn. Lukus says that he can support us while he does art part-time. I could do art full-time! But I would be so alone in Finland and I don't have connections in the art world like I do back home.

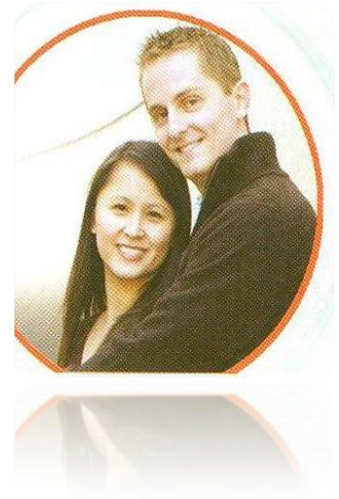
My conversation with Mom was so hard. She and Dad are totally against the idea of me living in Europe. Dad seems to think that since they have paid for my studies they can tell me how to live my life. And they are definitely against me marrying a foreigner. That's not fair!

Of course I've only known Lukus for six months. And he doesn't want to live in Japan. What could he do there? We'd have no money. If I have to support him, I wouldn't be able to do my art at all. And my family may not accept him anyway. If I go back home, I could work part-time, live at home, and do my art, too. But that's not what I want to do. I'm truly in love, and I really want to be with Lukus.

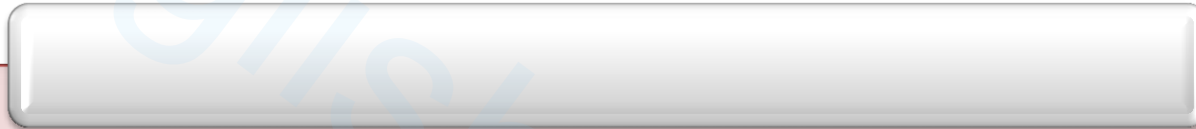
We talked about trying to live in Paris. I'd love that. But how could we make a living? There are thousands of starving artists there. And I can't even get a working visa..unless we got married! I'm not sure I'm ready for that. I'm so confused! What should I do? I feel that all of my dreams may be about to come true. Or maybe non of them! I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Akane



List down the constraints in Akane's situation.



Let us review some words used in the discussion today.



Genius – someone who is very smart or talented

Support – to make money to live

Make a living – to earn money by working

Starving artists – (expression) artist who believe making art is more important than making money.

Are there words used in the discussion that you don't know? Please list them down below and we will discuss each of them.

What would you do for love?



- ☐ *Learn a new language.*
- ☐ *Move to a new country.*
- ☐ *Give up my career.*
- ☐ *Break with my family.*
- ☐ *Change my religion*

What do you think?

Check the opinions that you agree with.



☐ **SHINGO:** Love is a precious gift.
She should go to Finland.

☐ **ANNA:** She should convince Lukus to
go to Japan. If he loves her, he will.



☐ **IRIS:** To succeed as an artist she'll have
to give up Lukus and go back to Japan

☐ **MARK:** It's clear she's in love. They should
get married and try living in Paris.



Giving Advice



Fatima is of Jordanian descent and Luke is from Canada. Since Fatima belongs to an Islamic country, she wants Luke to shift to her religion.

Arkadi is Russian and he is used to their custom of married women staying at home. But his fiancé, Aldona from Lithuania thinks otherwise.



Juan who grew up in Spain thinks it normal to live with his parents even after he is already married. He convinces Lynne, his American wife to move in with them too.

***Thank you for
today!***

***I'm looking forward to
seeing you again!***