

Chapter 1 Three Reasons

Amelia dreamed of going to the United States. She wanted to go for three reasons. The first was to earn more money and help support her family in Mexico. The second reason was to improve her English, a language she wished to speak more fluently. And the third reason was simply for the adventure. Amelia had always lived in the same small city in Mexico. At the age of 23, Amelia felt it was time for a new life experience.

Amelia's family was supportive of her decision to go to the U.S. After all, her brother Eduardo already lived in California with his wife, Marisol, and their four-year-old son, Francisco. And Eduardo and Marisol were happy to have Amelia live with them. Eduardo also promised to help Amelia find a job in the hotel where he worked. Of course, it couldn't be a high-level position. But the hotel employed a lot of people. Amelia could definitely find some kind of job there.



In Mexico, Amelia worked as a teacher in an elementary school. It was a job she enjoyed, but almost any job in the U.S. would pay her more. "Besides," thought Amelia, "I can do anything for a while." So Amelia packed her suitcase and said good-bye to her family. After a long journey, she arrived in the United States and waited excitedly for her brother at the trolley station. "I'm here," thought Amelia. "I'm really here."

Answer the questions.

- 1. Where did Amelia dream of going?
- 2. What was the first reason that she wanted to go?
- 3. What was the second reason?
- 4. What was the third reason?
- 5. What did Amelia feel it was time for?
- 6. How was Amelia's family about her decision to go to the U.S.?
- 7. Who already lived in California?
- 8. What did Eduardo promise to help Amelia find?
- 9. What did Amelia work as in Mexico?
- 10. What would almost any job in the U.S. do?
- 11. Where did she arrive after a long journey?
- 12. Who did she wait for excitedly at the trolley station?

Complete the story.

adventure	Mexico	experience	language	
people	reasons	hotel	brother	
money	decision	United States	position	

Amelia dreamed of g	oing to the	She wanted to go for
	The first was to earn more _	
help support her family in	Mexico. The second reason w	vas to improve her English,
ashe	e wished to speak more fluent	ly. And the third reason
was simply for the	Amelia had alv	ways lived in the same small
city in	At the age of 23, Amelia fe	elt it was time for a new life
Amelia's family was s	supportive of her	to go to the U.S.
After all, her	Eduardo already live	d in California with his
	ur-year-old son, Francisco. Ed	
help Amelia find a job in	the wher	e he worked. Of course,
it couldn't be a high-level	But the	hotel employed a lot of
	elia could definitely find some	

Meanings

Read the sentences. Look at the underlined word or words. Circle a or b.

- 1. Amelia <u>dreamed of</u> going to the United States.
 - a. felt tired of

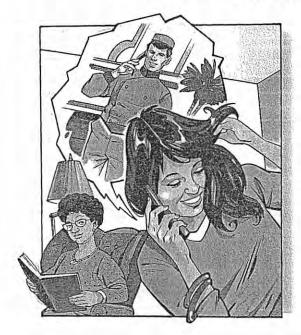
- b. had fantasies about
- 2. The first was to earn more money and help support her family in Mexico.
 - a. send money to

- b. get jobs for
- 3. The second reason was to improve her English.
 - a. better

b. practice

A Conversation with Her Brother

Practice the dialog with a partner.



- A: Everyone is supportive of my decision to go to the U.S.
- B: Good! We're ready for you to come.
- A: Are you sure it's okay to live with you?
- B: Of course! We're happy to have you live with us.
- A: And what about a job?
- B: I promise to help you find a job in the hotel where I work.
- A: What kind of job?
- B: Well, it can't be a high-level position. But the hotel employs a lot of people. You can definitely find some kind of job there.

Past-Tense Verbs

A. Write the negative form of each past-tense verb.

1. employed	5. dreamed	
2. wished	6. said	
3. worked	7. thought	-
4. felt	8. promised	===
R Write nearti		_

B. Write negative past-tense sentences.	
1. The hotel employed a lot of people.	The hotel didn't employ a lot of people.
2. I wished to speak English more fluently	
3. She worked as a teacher.	
4. They dreamed of going to the U.S.	
5. He promised to help her find a job.	

Listening

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia's family	was sup	portive	of her _		_ to go to	the U.S	
				with his			
3. He also promis	sed to help	o Amel	ia find a	job in the		_,	
5. But the hotel e							
				d as a			
				the			y her
more.							
8. So Amelia pa	cked her			and said go	od-bye to	her	
				arrived in the Uni			
10. She waited ex		or her _		at the	trolley		
Pronunciation	r <i>id</i> to sh below.		pronun id	ciation of the fina	l sound in d	the t	id
1	d	t	Iu	6. dreamed			
1. arrived		-		7. employed			
2. worked	-			8. packed			,
3. promised		-			_		
4. wished	==	-		9. enjoyed		-	
5. waited				10. wanted		-	-

What about you?

Circle Yes or No. Then write questions and ask your partner.

Yes No 1. I sometimes dream of going to another country.

Do you sometimes dream of going to another country?

Yes No 2. I want to earn more money and help support my family.

Yes No 3. I want to improve my English.

Yes No 4. I think it's time for a new life experience.

Yes No 5. I live with a few members of my family.

Yes No 6. I work in a place that employs a lot of people.

Yes No 7. I think anyone can find some kind of job in the U.S.

Topics for Discussion or Writing

- 1. For what reasons do people from other countries dream of coming to the U.S.?
- 2. What are good things to do if you wish to speak a language more fluently?
- 3. Do you have a job in the U.S.? If so, is your job a higher-level position than you had in your native country?