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WE MET ONLINE

Level 1 - A1/A2 Starter (1) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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We Met Online
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Introduction

This is a collection of short stories for learners of English.

Story 1: Close to Home

Story 2: A Terrible Experience

Story 3: I Met Her Online

Story 4: A Lucky Escape

Story 5: The Company President

Story 6: Let's Dance

Story 1: Close to Home

Peter is a farmer. He lives alone. His farm is far from the city. He does not see people very often. He goes into the city once a week, to go to the supermarket. Peter is lonely. He wants a wife, and children, but he has no chance to meet anyone.

One day, he has an idea.

I often read about Internet dating in the newspaper, he thinks. Maybe I could try it. I can't find a wife near here. But maybe I can find someone in the city.

He looks on the Internet, and finds a dating site.

This site looks OK, he thinks. But, maybe there are more.

He looks again, and finds two more sites. Which site should I choose? All of the sites say 'We can introduce you to your perfect partner!' But if I only use one site, I only have one chance. I will join all three sites. Then, I can meet three women. I have a better chance of finding my perfect partner!

Peter joins the three dating sites. It is very easy. The sites will introduce him to some women.

Every day, Peter checks the site and his email. He is waiting for messages from the sites. He is worried.

Maybe women from the city don't want to live on a farm, he thinks. It will be very difficult for me to find a wife.

A few days later, one of the sites sends him an introduction to a woman. Her name is Melinda. She lives in the city. She can meet him on Friday night. The next day, the other two sites send him introductions. One of the women is Paula. She also lives in the city. She wants to meet him on Saturday. The other woman is Sandra. Sandra sends an email. She can meet him any time.

Peter replies: --- I can meet you for lunch on Sunday. Is that OK? ---

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I can stay in the city from Friday to Sunday evening. I can have dates with all three women. Maybe one of them will like me, and I will like one of them! he thinks.

Peter reserves a hotel in the city for Friday and Saturday night. He is very nervous and excited. He cannot focus on his farm work. He is always thinking about the dates.

What should I wear? What can I talk about? Are these women looking for a husband? Or just a boyfriend? Will they want to date a farmer?

It is Friday. Peter packs a small bag of clothes and gets into his car. It will take two hours to drive to the city.

I must stop for gas at the gas station, he thinks. After driving for thirty minutes, he stops at the gas station. The woman in the gas station is very friendly. Her name is Lindy.

"Are you going into the city for anything special?" she asks.

Peter is excited. He wants to tell someone about his plan. So he tells Lindy.

"I'm going to have three dates!" he says. "I am trying Internet dating. But I am very nervous. What can I talk about with the women? If I say 'I am a farmer', maybe they won't want to date me. Maybe they are city girls."

"Just relax! And don't worry!" says Lindy. "Be natural. Tell them you are a farmer. Many women would like to live in the countryside, with its fresh air and nature. Many women feel tired living in the city. There are many cars and it is noisy. I like living in the countryside. Many other women are the same. Good luck!"

"Thank you," says Peter. "I will tell you about my dates next time I see you!" Peter gets back into his car. He feels better after talking to Lindy.

Maybe I will find a wife this weekend, he thinks.

----END OF SAMPLE----

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