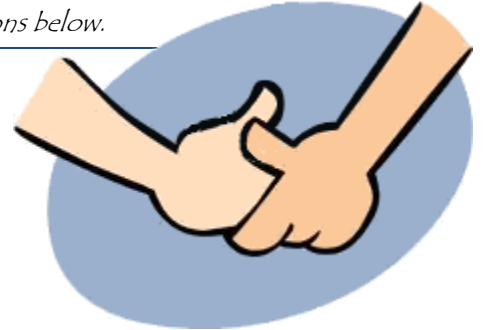


“Worth Working For”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

Paola and Imran have been married for 8 years.
They have had many good times together.
They have travelled the world together.
They have two little girls together.
They have started a chocolate business together.



Lately, Paola and Imran have been fighting a lot.
Business at the chocolate store is slow. Imran thinks it is Paola's fault.
They are having trouble with money. Paola thinks Imran spends too much.

One evening, Paola decides to visit her mom for advice.
Paola knocks on her mom's door. Paola's mom is happy. It is a surprise visit.
She quickly sees, however, that something is wrong.

Paola looks sad and tired. “Paola, what is the matter?” Mom asks.

Paola tells her mom all that is going on.

Mom smiles gently. She rubs Paola's back. Then she tells Paola a story.

“Your father and I have a wonderful marriage. But we don't always get along. There was a time when things were very bad between us. We fought all the time. You were just a little girl. One day we watched you playing on the floor. We knew we wanted to make our marriage work. We loved you very much. We loved each other very much. We knew we had to work harder on our marriage.”

“What did you do?” asks Paola.

“We agreed to talk more. We planned a special night each week for the two of us. We went to see someone who helps people with their marriages,” Mom says. “It was worth it. I can't imagine not having your father in my life.”

Paola begins to feel better. “You are right,” she says. “What Imran and I have is worth working for.”

Questions:

1) Why does Paola want to see her mom?

- A. to have dinner
- B. to get advice
- C. to have a laugh
- D. to see how she is doing

2) Where does the talk take place?

- A. at Mom's house
- B. at a restaurant
- C. at Paola's house
- D. at the chocolate store

Questions:

3) What good times have Paola and Imran had?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. They have travelled the world.
- B. They have had two children.
- C. They have built a house.
- D. They have started a business.

4) How long have Imran and Paola been married?

A. _____

5) Why does Mom seem to know how Paola feels?

- A. She is a good guesser.
- B. She has been told by Imran.
- C. She and Paola have discussed this problem before.
- D. She has experienced the same problem before in her own marriage.

6) What advice does Mom give Paola?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. Give up.
- B. Talk to each other.
- C. Work hard.
- D. Tell the children.

7) How does Paola feel at the end of the talk with her Mom?

- A. sad
- B. better
- C. grim
- D. stupid

8) What kind of relationship does Paola seem to have with her Mom?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. open
- B. tense
- C. angry
- D. loving

9) What does the reader **NOT** learn in this story?

- A. what Imran has to say
- B. why Paola visits her mom
- C. how many kids Paola and Imran have
- D. what kind of business Paola and Imran have

10) What lesson does Paola learn?

- A. Two children is too many.
- B. Marriage should be easy.
- C. Eight years of marriage is too long.
- D. Even a good marriage can sometimes be hard work.