

## **Level One, Articles**

### **I Wanted to Be a Fireman by Alexandr Vishnevetsky**

When I was child, I wanted to be a fireman. Sometimes I liked to set the old newspapers on fire and to then blow them out.

Once I set the sofa bed on fire. A sofa bed stood in the street next to my building and near the garbage cans. The flames spread very quickly. I tried to blow them out but soon the sofa bed and all of garbage was on the fire. I realized what was happening and cried.

Neighbors who saw this called fire department's emergency 911 number. The fire trucks came right away and the firemen put out the fire.

After this incident, I never wanted to be the fireman again.

## **My First Week at College** **by Andrey Chechin**

My first day in college, I was excited. It was the last day in February.

Kingsborough Community College is beautiful place. It has bright sandy beach with seagulls all around. Everything is new.

There are sculptures everywhere, decorating a college campus. Many of these sculptures are abstract and expressive. Others are realistic. For example, a sculpture is of the girl who is sitting in a easy chair and reading the book. I like this the sculpture.

Many students come to this college from different the countries. All of them want to learn the English. However, in the beginning, they only speak their native language.

Now my head is spinning around, but I feel like I am being born again. I feel rejuvenated.

## **Money and Love**

**by Andrey Chechin**

The marriage requires responsibility to live together. People who get married have to remember many important things, such as how to support their family, how to raise their children, and how to keep their love alive. They should also come to an agreement about things like the money, and not let it end their love.

My experience with the marriage was bad. We, my wife and I, got married 17 years ago when we lived in Russia. We had twin daughters. We had good time. We were so happy. We loved each other so much. Our children made us very happy.

But our life together changed when we arrived in United States. I didn't understand the English so I couldn't find a job. But my wife, who has known the English for many years, even back in Moscow, found the job.

Our roles changed and now we live apart.

Here in America, the word *family* has another meaning. I still love my family. However, this love was not enough to keep our marriage and our family together.

Over the years, I have learned that a love remains only if the wife and the husband help and understand each other. I have also learned that money is also important and can change love in the end.

**Cross Country Skiing**  
by Gennadiy Gelzayd and Stella Rasporskaya

**Stella:** It's sunny today. The weather is beautiful. Let's go skiing.

**Gennadiy:** That's good idea. The skiing is the best way for me to relax.

**Stella:** Great. It is for me, too.

**Gennadiy:** Don't forget to take a food and the hot drink along.

**Stella:** I won't. I'll be ready in a few minutes.

**Gennadiy:** Good.

*(One hour later)*

**Stella:** Look how nice snow is today!

**Gennadiy:** I love cross-country skiing.

**Stella:** Stop talking, Gennadiy. Let me listen to sounds of the forest. I love to hear the birds sing.

**Gennadiy:** I do too, but we have to stop to eat. I'm so hungry! We used up a lot of energy skiing.

**Stella:** Did you enjoy yourself today?

**Gennadiy:** Of course! I'm in good mood now. Stella, that was great idea you had.

**Stella:** And I'm glad you came along.