

## Face-to-Face after 56 Years

### 1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 33.

What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.



**ST PETERSBURG, RUSSIA** <sup>1</sup>In 1941, the Nazis entered Russia. Anna Babken, 17, **was pregnant** and living in Luzhsky, near St. Petersburg. <sup>2</sup>The Nazis destroyed her town and **burned down** her house, so she **gave birth to** her daughter, Ludmilla, outdoors in a field.

<sup>3</sup>In 1942, the Nazis took Anna to a labor camp in Germany. She lost Ludmilla. "I don't know who took my daughter from my arms," she says.

<sup>4</sup>Anna **lived through** the war. Afterwards, she **searched for** Ludmilla, but couldn't find her. <sup>5</sup>She emigrated to the U.S. and had two more children. But she couldn't stop **thinking about** Ludmilla. Was she alive? Where was she? Anna always put an empty chair at the dinner table for her lost daughter.

<sup>6</sup>**Year after year**, Anna wrote letters to the Soviet government. Finally, in 1963, she **found out** that Ludmilla was alive and living in Russia. They started writing, but there were restrictions against travel into or out of the Soviet Union. As a result, they couldn't **get together**.

<sup>7</sup>When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1989, they began to **make plans for** a reunion. <sup>8</sup>Finally, in 1998, after 56 years, Anna and Ludmilla met **face-to-face** in Boston. It was **a dream come true**. "I knew someday I would find her," says Anna, now 74. "Now my empty chair is filled."

restrictions: limitations on one's freedom

*Mother and daughter together, Anna Arabian (left) and Ludmilla Ulyanova (right).*

## New idioms and expressions

<b>face-to-face</b> .....	in direct contact; in person
<b>be pregnant</b> .....	be going to have a baby
<b>burn something down*</b> .....	destroy something by fire
<b>give birth (to a baby)</b> .....	have a baby
<b>live through something*</b> .....	survive something
<b>search for someone or something*</b> .....	look everywhere for someone or something
<b>think about someone or something*</b> .....	remember; consider someone or something
<b>year after year</b> .....	regularly for many years
<b>find something out*</b> .....	learn or discover something
<b>get together (with someone)</b> .....	meet and spend time with someone
<b>make plans for something</b> .....	plan to do something
<b>a dream come true</b> .....	a dream that has become a reality

\*phrasal verb (see Lexicon and Appendix D)

### 2. Listen

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.



### 3. Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

### 4. Listen and Complete

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

### 5. Match

Complete the idioms using the words in the box. Then write the number of the matching definition.

<b>down</b>	<b>come true</b>	<b>out</b>	<b>pregnant</b>
<b>after year</b>	<b>through</b>	<b>birth to</b>	

  

___ <b>a.</b> give _____	<b>1.</b> learn or discover
___ <b>b.</b> burn _____	<b>2.</b> survive
___ <b>c.</b> year _____	<b>3.</b> have a baby
___ <b>d.</b> a dream _____	<b>4.</b> destroy by fire
___ <b>e.</b> live _____	<b>5.</b> be going to have a baby
___ <b>f.</b> find _____	<b>6.</b> a dream that becomes a reality
___ <b>g.</b> be _____	<b>7.</b> regularly for many years

### 6. Tell the Story

Look only at the pictures and the New Idioms box on page 33. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- Then tell the story to a partner or small group.

## 7. Answer the Questions

### About the story.....

- Why did Anna give birth to her baby outdoors?
- What happened to her in 1942?
- What did Anna do right after the war? Was she successful?
- After Anna came to the U.S., what couldn't she stop doing?
- Who did she write to year after year?
- What did Anna find out in 1963?
- Why couldn't she and her daughter get together?
- When did they finally meet face to face? How did they feel?

### About you.....

- Where are there wars today? Why are the two sides fighting?
- Do you know someone who lived through a war? Discuss.
- Do you often think about someone far away? Will you get together in the future?
- When and where did your mother give birth to you?
- Anna waited 56 years for her dream to come true. Do you have a dream? When do you think it will come true?
- Are you making plans for a trip? Tell the class.

## 8. Take a Dictation

Listen to the tape or your teacher and write the dictation in your notebook.

## 9. Complete the Idioms



- a. When the three sisters got \_\_\_\_\_, they made \_\_\_\_\_ for their trip to Paris.

- b. Isis gave \_\_\_\_\_ a beautiful baby boy.

For her, it was a \_\_\_\_\_ come true. Now she's thinking \_\_\_\_\_ having another baby.



- c. Seiko and I speak on the phone all the time, but we have never met face-\_\_\_\_\_.

## 10. Look at Grammar

### get together

#### get together with someone

*Why don't we try to get together?*

*I got together with Abdul last week.*

**Note:** This expression is often followed by a time expression and *for*.

*Let's get together tomorrow for dinner.*

*We'll get together soon for a drink.*

*Can you get together with us tonight for a chat?*

*She and I will get together next week for a cup of coffee.*

### give birth

#### give birth to someone

*Ida Simons gave birth last night.*

*She gave birth to a healthy baby boy.*

**Note** the difference between *give birth to* and *be born*:

*Anna gave birth to Ludmilla in 1941.*

*Ludmilla was born in 1941.*

### make plans

#### make plans for something

#### make plans to do something

*I'm sorry, I can't come. I already made plans.*

*I made plans for a trip to Montreal.*

*I made plans to take a trip to Montreal.*

Complete the sentences with help from the grammar box above. Make sure they are true for you.

- My mother gave birth \_\_\_\_\_.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ born \_\_\_\_\_.
- I hope that \_\_\_\_\_ and I can get together soon for \_\_\_\_\_.
- I got together \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm making plans \_\_\_\_\_.

## 11. Write a Dialogue

Work with a partner. Write a dialogue using at least four idioms from the unit. Act it out for the class.

## 12. Complete the Story

- a. Fill in the blanks in this true story with idioms from the box. Put the verbs in the correct form and tense.

- face-to-face
- think about (v)
- year after year
- give birth to (v)
- search for (v)
- a dream come true
- find out (v)

# A Dream Come True



**Beijing, China** In 1928, a woman in Wuhan, China, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ twin girls, Zhou Qunying and Peng Meiying. The family was so poor that they had to give baby Zhou to an orphanage. Zhou was adopted by a vegetable farmer and his wife, who never told the child about her past.

According to the China Daily, young Peng (2) \_\_\_\_\_ her twin sister all the time. When she was older, Peng (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Zhou (4) \_\_\_\_\_, **to no avail**.\*

But in 1995, Peng's daughter saw an old woman selling tea in a city park in Wuhan. She noticed that the tea seller looked just like her mother!

Peng went to the park to see the tea seller. After 67 years, the two sisters met (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Peng and Zhou had a medical check and (6) \_\_\_\_\_. They had the same blood type. The probability of their being twins was 99.9999 percent. For Peng, it was (7) \_\_\_\_\_.

\* to no avail: without success

**recycled idioms:** according to, look like

- b. Read or tell the story to a partner.