

BLOG LOVE



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 SCHOLASTIC

CONTENTS

PAGE

Blog Love

4–23

People and places

4

Chapter 1: Write to me!

6

Chapter 2: Slow or fast?

11

Chapter 3: Slow Boy in London

17

Fact Files

24–27

The web world

24

Lonely in London

26

Self-Study Activities

28–30

New Words!

31

BLOG LOVE

JUNKO NAGAI

Junko is 17. She's from Japan. She's learning English in London, but she has no friends there. She starts a blog and meets a boy on it.



SONYA SIPOVNA

Sonya is learning English at Junko's language school. She's from Slovakia. She likes boys and clothes and motorbikes.



SILVIO ROSSI

Silvio is learning English too.
He's Italian. He likes Sonya.

SLOW BOY

JEFF SILK

Jeff is the owner of the
Double Decker Internet Café.
He has a big motorbike. He
loves girls with glasses.



PLACES

St Martin's Language

School: Junko, Sonya and
Silvio learn English here.

The Double Decker

Internet Café: Junko
writes her blog here.

BLOG LOVE

CHAPTER 1 : Write to me!

Monday July 11th – 15.39

by Junko

I'm writing this blog in the Double Decker Internet Café in London. The café is in a tall, old, red London bus next to my language school. I love it. It's very British.

I'm from Tokyo but I'm living in the UK for three months. I'm learning English here. My name's Junko. This is me. I've got black hair, dark eyes, glasses and a big smile.

Please write to me at my blog.
Goodbye for today!



0 messages

Thursday July 14th – 15.42

by Junko

Internet, I'm telling you about my life in England because you're my only friend here.

I'm living with Mr and Mrs Lacey. Mr Lacey works in a cinema. Mrs Lacey is a policewoman. They always ask me the same thing: 'How are you today?'

'OK,' I answer.

I ask about London, but Mr Lacey says, 'Let's talk this evening. I'm going to work now. Goodbye, Junko. Have a good day!'

In the evenings, I say hello to Mr Lacey. But he says, 'I'm very, very tired. A terrible day at the cinema! I'm going to bed now. Goodnight.'

Sometimes I feel very lonely.

0 messages

Tuesday July 19th – 15.56

by Junko

Hello, Internet, you're not my only friend in England!!

In the street next to the internet café, a girl says to me, 'You're Japanese. I know your face from language school. I'm Sonya. I'm from Slovakia. What's your name?'

'I'm Junko. Junko Nagai.'

Sonya has dark hair and green eyes and expensive jeans. 'I love Japan!' she says.

'Do you know Japan?' I ask.

'I know Japanese mobile phones. They're my favourite.'
We look at my mobile.



'That's cool. I want one too. Have you got a boyfriend in England?'

'No.'

'Which boys do you like in school? I like Silvio. His clothes are from Sergio Tacchini. I like English boys too. They drive cool cars and they've got great mobile phones. Have you got a car? My father's buying me a Passat, but I want a Mercedes ...'

0 messages

Thursday July 21st – 15.15

by Junko

50 of us from school are in Oxford. It's an hour from London on the train.

Oxford is famous because lots of students live here. Sonya is very happy. 'Oxford students have lots of money,' she says.

But I'm not happy. Sonya isn't talking to me today. She's always with Silvio.

Silvio's from Italy. He has short, dark hair, exciting eyes and clothes from Sergio Tacchini. His English is very bad.

We go to some important buildings in Oxford. But Sonya doesn't look at the buildings. She only looks at Silvio, and Silvio only looks at her. They don't want me there with them.



I'm writing this in an internet café in Oxford. Are Sonya and Silvio in love? What can I say to them on the train to London?

0 messages

Saturday July 23rd – 10.46

by Junko

It's Saturday morning. Sonya is shopping in Oxford Street with Silvio, not with me. The Laceys are working. Saturday is a big day at the cinema, and at the police station.

There are only two people in the Double Decker Internet Café, me and the owner – and 30 computers. The owner's name is Jeff. He's old – maybe 25. He has brown hair and blue eyes. Maybe he reads this blog.

He asks me, 'Do you like my café?'

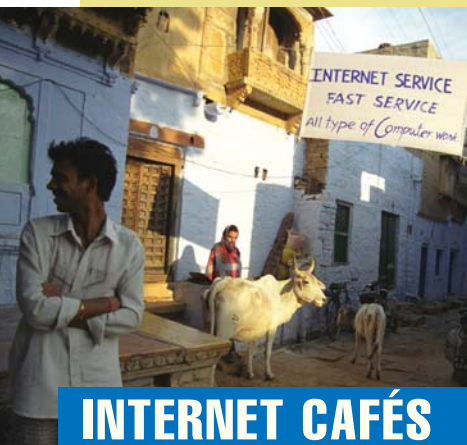
'Very, very much,' I say.

He smiles and touches my hand.

0 messages



THE WEB WORLD



INTERNET CAFÉS

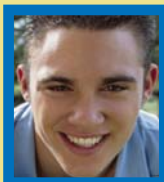
The world loves internet cafés. There are about 100,000 internet cafés in the world – 80 of them in London. How many internet cafés are there in your town?

London's Easy Internet Café has about 400 computers. But many cafés in India and China only have one or two computers. 'It's not important,' says Arun, 16, from Delhi. 'With one computer, I can talk to the world.'



'I love the internet café in my town. I play games there or surf the internet.'

Sehlu, 13, Zimbabwe



'I surf on wi-fi internet. Internet cafés are dead!'

Wayne, 15, Wales



'I shop online at an internet café. I'm not good with computers, but the people at the café help me.'

Margaret, 60, England



'Internet cafés are expensive. I surf the net at the library. You don't pay there, but you can't play computer games.'

Jacob, 13, Scotland

What do these words mean? You can look in a dictionary.
the world to surf the net online a library wi-fi

BLOGGING

Do you know?

- Blog is short for web log.
- At blogcatalog.com and other websites you can find thousands of blogs.
- 35% of British teenagers want their own blog, but usually they don't have time.
- There are bloggers in China, in Iraq, in Niger, in Sri Lanka. They tell the world about their country's problems.

Start a blog – it's easy. Write about your life. Or write messages to a blogger. Then the blogger can write to you.



'My blog's great. People like reading about my life after the tsunami. Things are very difficult here in Sri Lanka. My family is very poor. But I have lots of friends now in Europe and America.'

Chandrika, 16

What do these words mean?

a website my own a circle
a village a tsunami

'I live in Sweden, in the Arctic Circle. It's very cold. There are only 75 people in my village, and only five teenagers. It's very boring, and I've got no love life. But I write a blog now and a girl from the next village,

Katarina, writes messages to me. It's 50km to her village. I like her photo. We're meeting next Saturday for the first time.

Lars, 17



'I love my blog. It's two today. I write for 45 minutes every day – about life in London, about my friends, my mum and dad, my school. I take photos of people on the streets and put them on my blog too.'

Jane, 13

Do you read or write blogs? Find some on the internet. Which is your favourite?

Chapter 1

Before you read

You can use a dictionary for these activities.

- 1 Put these words into the sentences.

touch life blog lonely
messages language school

- a) I write a _____. People like reading about my _____ on the internet.
b) Don't _____ that light! It's very hot.
c) 'Where do you have your English lessons?' 'At a _____ in London.'
d) I'm _____. I've got no friends in this town. But my friends from home send me email _____ every day.
- 2 What can you always find in an internet café?
a) drinks b) computers c) motorbikes
d) glasses e) owners

After you read

- 3 Answer these questions.
a) Who is Junko living with in London?
b) How does Junko know Sonya?
c) Why is Junko sad in Oxford?
d) Why don't Sonya and Silvio look at the buildings?
e) Who does Junko talk to at the internet café?
- 4 What do you think?
a) Why does Junko start a blog?
b) Is Sonya a good friend to Junko?
c) At the end of the story, Junko likes one of these people very much. Which one?
i) Jeff ii) Silvio iii) Sonya

Chapter 2

Before you read

You can use a dictionary for these activities.

- 5 Put these words into the sentences on the right, so they mean the same as the sentences on the left.

slow shy polite sad expensive

- a) He doesn't like meeting new people. He's _____.
- b) It costs lots of money. It's _____.
- c) She isn't happy. She's _____.
- d) The train doesn't go fast. The train is _____.
- e) He always says 'please' and 'thank you'. He's _____.
- 6 Choose the right answer.
A man says to a woman, 'Hi, baby.' He uses the word 'baby' because:
- a) she's very young.
b) she's his girlfriend.
c) she's crying.

After you read

- 7 Are these sentences right or wrong? Change any mistakes.
- a) Slow Boy is learning English.
b) Sonya likes Silvio because he's rich.
c) Junko goes on Jeff's motorbike.
d) Andreas likes motorbikes.
e) Silvio is happy because of Sonya.
- 8 What do you think?
- a) Are motorbikes cool?
b) Is Jeff a good friend to Junko?
c) Does Junko meet Slow Boy in the next chapter? Does she like him?

Chapter 3

Before you read

- 9 Put these words into the sentences.
- dancing party room kiss**
- a) On Saturday night I'm going to a friend's _____.
- b) I like _____ with my boyfriend.
- c) Give me a _____, baby.
- d) There are 100 people in the _____.

After you read

- 10 Answer these questions.
- a) Who asks Junko to a party on Saturday night?
- b) Who asks her to the cinema on the same night?
- c) Why does Junko run out of the room at the party?
- d) Why does Sonya come to the party?
- e) Does Sonya like Jeff? Why/Why not?
- 11 Are these sentences right or wrong? Change any mistakes.
- At the end of the story:
- a) Junko ~~doesn't~~ go to the internet café at lunchtime.
- b) Slow Boy ~~arrives~~ late at the internet café.
- c) There are ~~only~~ two boys in the internet café.
- d) It isn't true that Slow Boy lives in Tokyo.
- e) ~~Silvio~~ and Jeff come and talk to Junko at the same time.
- 12 What do you think?
- a) Who is Slow Boy: Jeff or Silvio? Why?
- b) What happens next, to Junko, Jeff and Silvio?
- c) Can you make true friends on the internet?
- d) Are blogs interesting or boring?