

Name:

## Day One

# Aaron and Tia: Trying to Stay Together

## Part 1: Silent read

➔ How can a couple from two different countries stay together in the U.S.? Read silently.

Aaron and Tia started dating in high school in Florida. Aaron is from Panama, and Tia was born in Jamaica. After finishing school, they dreamed of staying in the U.S. But neither had a green card.

After graduation, Aaron returned to Panama. He worked for two years at a bank. As a high school graduate with work experience, Aaron met the requirements for the Diversity Lottery. Aaron was very fortunate to win a green card! He currently lives and works in Miami.

Tia wasn't as lucky. The lottery is just for people from countries like Panama that send few immigrants to the U.S. People from Jamaica are ineligible. Tia needed to reexamine her options for staying in Florida.

Most green cards are given to close family members of U.S. citizens. Relatives of green card holders can also apply. There are long waiting periods, however, even for people who qualify. Tia had family in Florida, but none of her close relatives were citizens or permanent residents. Some other routes to a green card are possible. Refugees—people who face danger in their home countries—can get permission to live in the U.S. Workers with special skills can be sponsored for a green card by a U.S. employer. Computer scientists, for example, might qualify for a work visa.

None of these options worked for Tia. Without a green card, Tia had to return to Jamaica. She is applying to colleges here so that she can rejoin Aaron in the U.S.



# Day One

// one minute

## Aaron and Tia: Trying to Stay Together

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Aaron and Tia started dating in high school in Florida. Aaron is from Panama, and Tia was born in Jamaica. After finishing school, they dreamed of staying in the U.S. But neither had a green card.

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### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why couldn't Tia get a green card?

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What kind of worker can be sponsored for a green card?

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## Day One

# Aaron and Tia: Trying to Stay Together

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Aaron and Tia started dating in high school / in Florida. // Aaron is from Panama, / and Tia was born in Jamaica. // After finishing school, / they dreamed of staying in the U.S. // But neither had a green card. //

After graduation, / Aaron returned to Panama. // He worked for two years at a bank. // As a high school graduate / with work experience, / Aaron met the requirements / for the Diversity Lottery. // Aaron was very fortunate / to win a green card! // He currently lives / and works in Miami. //

Tia wasn't as lucky. // The lottery is just for people / from countries like Panama / that send few immigrants to the U.S. // People from Jamaica are ineligible. // Tia needed to reexamine her options / for staying in Florida. //

Most green cards / are given to close family members / of U.S. citizens. // Relatives of green card holders / can also apply. // There are long waiting periods, / however, / even for people who qualify. // Tia had family in Florida, / but none of her close relatives / were citizens or permanent residents. // Some other routes to a green card / are possible. // Refugees / —people who face danger in their home countries— / can get permission to live in the U.S. // Workers with special skills / can be sponsored for a green card / by a U.S. employer. // Computer scientists, / for example, / might qualify for a work visa. //

None of these options worked for Tia. // Without a green card, / Tia had to return to Jamaica. // She is applying to colleges here / so that she can rejoin Aaron in the U.S. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.