

AN OPPORTUNITY OR A PROBLEM



Alex is unhappy because his work in an insurance office is boring. He has an offer of a better job as manager of a small office in a village, fifty kilometers away. He will be paid more, but his family must decide whether they want to relocate.

His teenage children are in high school. They are athletic and enjoy playing on many teams. His wife, Martha, has a job teaching pre-teen students in a middle school. She enjoys it and she is also very active with a music group in their church. Her music group meets twice a week.

ACTIVITY 1: WHOLE CLASS ACTIVITY

BRAINSTORM: WHAT SHOULD ALEX DO?

List everyone's ideas on the board.

The students then move about the room asking:
What do you think Alex should do?

When they find others who agree with them, they are to sit down together and decide why they made that decision.

They are then ready to tell the class what they decided and why.

ACTIVITY 2

Read this dialogue to the class.
Have the students divide into small groups and role-play it several times,
changing roles each time.

- NARRATOR:** Alex and Martha are talking about moving to the small village.
- ALEX:** My job here is really boring. I need a change.
- MARTHA:** I understand how you feel but I like my job and my music group.
- ALEX:** It would be expensive for me to commute because the price of gas is so high.
- MARTHA:** Can you ask for another job here in the city?
- ALEX:** Yes, but it would be the same as the one I have. In the village, I'll be the manager.
- MARTHA:** I worry about moving our family. Our kids would miss their friends and the sports.
- ALEX:** That's true, but I don't know what to do.
- MARTHA:** Perhaps you should commute. The price of gas may go down.
- ALEX:** The company would pay me more, so I'd have more money for transportation.
- MARTHA:** I think that's the best plan. Let's tell the kids that we aren't going to move.
- ALEX:** They'll be happy about that and I feel okay about it too.
- NARRATOR:** Alex goes to tell his kids about his decision.
- ALEX:** Hi, everyone. We've decided to stay here. We aren't going to move. I'll commute.
- KIDS:** That's cool, Dad. Thanks!