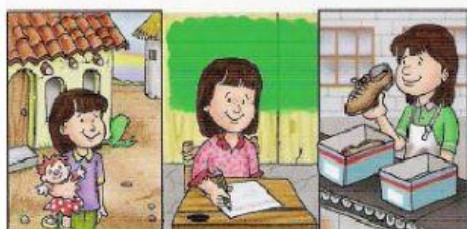


## READING



## MARIA GOMEZ

Maria Gomez was born in Peru. She grew\* up in a small village. She began\* school when she was six years old. She went to elementary school, but she didn't go to high school. Her family was very poor, and she had to go to work when she was thirteen years old. She worked on an assembly line in a shoe factory.

1. Where was Maria born?
2. Did she grow up in a large city?
3. When did she begin school?



When Maria was seventeen years old, her family moved to the United States. First they lived in Los Angeles, and then they moved to San Francisco. When Maria arrived in the United States, she wasn't very happy. She missed her friends back in Peru, and she didn't speak one word of English. She began to study English at night, and she worked in a factory during the day.

4. What happened when Maria was seventeen years old?
5. Why was Maria unhappy when she arrived in the United States?



Maria studied very hard. She learned English, and she got a good job as a secretary. Maria still studies at night, but now she studies advertising at a business school. She wants to work for an advertising company some day and write commercials.

6. What is Maria's occupation?
7. What does she want to do in the future?

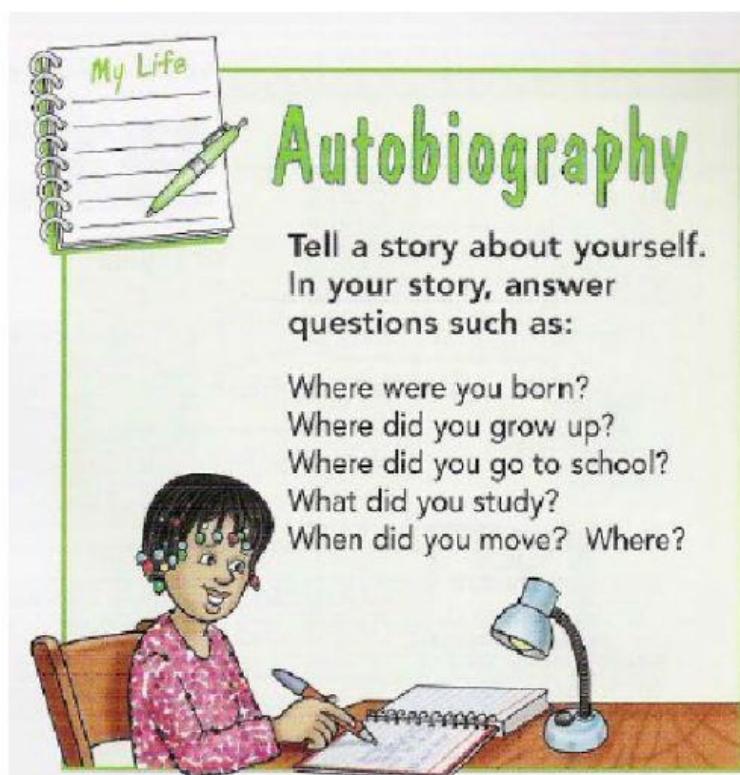


Maria still misses her friends back home, but she communicates with them very often over the Internet. She's very happy now, and she's looking forward to an exciting future.

8. How does Maria communicate with her friends back home?

Put these sentences in the correct order based on the story.

- \_\_\_ Maria's family moved to the United States.
- \_\_\_ Maria studies advertising now.
- 1 Maria grew up in a small village.
- \_\_\_ Maria's family moved to San Francisco.
- \_\_\_ Maria worked in a shoe factory.
- \_\_\_ Maria began to study English at night.
- \_\_\_ Maria went to elementary school.
- \_\_\_ Maria's family lived in Los Angeles.
- \_\_\_ Maria got a job as a secretary.



**Autobiography**

*My Life*

Tell a story about yourself.  
In your story, answer  
questions such as:

Where were you born?  
Where did you grow up?  
Where did you go to school?  
What did you study?  
When did you move? Where?

A girl with dark hair and colorful beads in her hair is sitting at a desk, writing in a spiral notebook with a pen. A desk lamp is on the desk next to her. To the left, there is a spiral-bound notebook with the title "My Life" and a pen resting on it.

Gertrude?

Yes Harold.

Do you remember when we were young?

Of course I do. I remember like it was yesterday

I remember the day we met. You were 14. I was 15

Actually I was 16 and you were 70.

It was .

Yes you were

You were beautiful.

Oh no I wasn't

Yes you were Gertrude. you were very beautiful

You were handsome

Me handsome? No I wasn't. I was nothing special.

That's not true. You were very handsome and very special . I remember I was shy

You weren't shy at all. You were very outgoing and very popular.

Oh that's right. I was very popular and you were very popular too.

You were always very busy.

I was. I was always with my friends

Do you remember our first date?

Of course. We went to the zoo.

No, we didn't. We went to the park.

We didn't go to the park Gertrude. We went to the zoo. I remember.

Harold we went to the park. We sat on a bench in the park and we talked for hours and hours.

Gertrude we didn't go to the park and we didn't sit on a bench. We went to the zoo and looked at the animals.

You're wrong Harold I remember. I remember like it was yesterday.

You know what? The zoo was in the park.

That's right. It was. We went to the zoo in the park.

We did. And we sat on a bench and we talked for hours and hours

We ate some ice cream.

Tthat's right and we had some popcorn

That's right. We did.

It was a beautiful day.

Actually it started to rain

It didn't rain it was sunny.

No it wasn't Harold. It wasn't sunny. It rained.

It didn't rain Gertrude.

Yes it did

Well, maybe you're right

It doesn't matter it was a very special day

you're right it was. I remember it like it was yesterday

Answer these questions and then ask other students in your class.

1. What did you look like?  
Were you tall? thin? pretty? handsome? cute?  
Did you have curly hair? straight hair? long hair?  
Did you have dimples? freckles?
2. Did you have many friends?  
What did you do with your friends?  
What games did you play?
3. Did you like school?  
Who was your favorite teacher? Why?  
What was your favorite subject? Why?
4. What did you do in your spare time?  
Did you have a hobby?  
Did you play sports?
5. Who was your favorite hero?

