

“ESCAPE” BY PETER HOLMES (1979)

(also known as the piña colada song)

Exercise 1

Pre-Listening:

Discuss and answer the following questions.

1. What are some great ways to meet a date? List some ways that people nowadays meet new people?

2. Why do you think people have to find *alternative* ways to meet new people?

3. What are **personal ads**? Do you think this can be an effective way to meet new people?

Exercise 2

If you like Margueritas
and getting caught in the rain,
If you're not into running
If you have half a brain,
If you like walking on the sand at
midnight
In the sun every day,
Then I'm the love that you've
looked for
Write to me and escape!

Look at the personal ad above.
What type of person do you think
the writer is looking for?

Exercise 3. Vocabulary: Choose the correct meaning on the r

1. worn-out
2. dunes
3. escape
4. routine
5. not half-bad
6. red-tape
7. high hopes
8. in an instant



- A. to hope for the best
- B. needlessly time-consuming procedure.
- C. regular, habitual, unimaginative procedure.
- D. get free.
- E. A hill or ridge of wind-blown sand.
- F. Worn or used until no longer usable or effective.
- G. almost good
- H. to happen very quickly

Exercise 4. Listening. Here is the link to the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TazHNpt6OTo>

Part A: Listen to the song and answer the following questions.

Where did the singer read the paper?

Does the ad mention yoga or pilates?

When does the singer want to meet his "date"?

Which bar does he want to meet at?

Who was the singer's date at the bar?

What did they do when she walked into the bar?

Part B: Listen to the song and fill in the missing blanks.

Clue: Some of the missing words are vocabulary words.

I was tired of my lady
We'd been together too long
Like a _____ recording
of a favorite song
So while she lay there sleeping
I read the paper in bed
And in the _____ columns
There was this _____ I read:

"If you like Pina Coladas
and getting _____ in the rain,
If you're not into yoga
If you have half a _____,
If you like making love at midnight
In the _____ of the Cape,
Then I'm the love that you've looked for

Write to me and _____"

I didn't think about my lady
I know that sounds kind of mean
But me and my old lady

Have fallen into the same old dull _____

So I wrote to the paper
Took out a _____
And though I'm nobody's poet
I thought it wasn't _____:

"_____ I like Pina Coladas
and getting caught in the rain,
I'm not much into _____ food,
I am into champagne
I've got to meet you by tomorrow _____
and cut through all this _____
at a bar called O'Malley's
where we'll plan our _____"

So I waited with _____

And she walked in the place
I knew her smile _____
I knew the curve of her face
It was my own lovely lady
And she said, "Oh, it's you"
Then we laughed for a moment
And I said "I never knew"

That you like Pina Coladas
Getting caught in the rain
And the feel of the ocean
And the taste of champagne
If you'd like making love at midnight
In the _____ of the Cape
You're the lady I've looked for
Come with me and _____

Now check your listening with the lyrics. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JVdywd07i4>

If you've had difficulty understanding the song, watch this :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLom-87AmO8>

Exercise 5 . Writing task:

Write a personal ad in the style of the one in the song. Use expressions from unit 1 (physical descriptions, personality, verbs and expressions used to express likes and dislikes....) and unit 2. I'm into...+ free time and hobbies...)

Write it on the shared document (google docs.) with an invented name.

For example...

If you're tall with spiky hair,

If you're fun and caring

If you're into dancing salsa and drinking fizzy orange,

If you can't stand getting up early but love staying up late,

Then I'm the love that you've looked for

Write to me and escape (Belinda)

Or like the one in exercise 2.

If you can make the paragraph fit in with the music, it's a plus!

