



English and Culture Tutoring Services

English Lessons Designed for You

Dating at Harvard in the 1960's Listening Script

L: All right so hey Mom, how ya doin'?

G: Hey Lindsay I'm fine how are you?

L: Good. So I heard you used to...so you went to college in Boston and which year were you... was that?

G: I did, I went to an all-women's college

L: Ok, ok

G: And it began in 1966 and graduated in 1970

L: Oh seems like a long time ago, doesn't it?

G: Yes haha

L: Ok great, so, um, you used to tell me that you used to **hang out** a lot with, um, some guys over at Harvard and so...um...**what was that about?**

G: **What was that about?** Well, um, when we were **freshman**.... I went to a women's college...in Bo..., right in the center of Boston near Fenway Park and um, we often got **fixed up** with guys from Harvard, which means, *then* it meant, um, getting a date with, a **blind date**, a blind date meaning you never met this person before, they never met you, but you, you met them through friends.

L: Yeah, kind of like "**set up**," we could say "**set up**", you got **set up** with people

G: Yeah, we called it "fix up" then

L: Cool and where was your boyfriend from, so your boyfriend was a Harvard guy...and where was he from...

G: Well let's go back just a bit, we used to go to **mixers** first of all, at Harvard, which were dances with, that were for **freshman** and the boys at Harvard, the freshman would pick the schools, the colleges of women that they wanted to invite, the class of, to come to these mixers.

L: Ok

G: And they were pretty selective I guess.

L: And you went to Simmons and

G: I went to Simmons, right....so they had chosen Simmons College for,

L: Ok... and so that's how you met the guy that you were dating?

G: No, no I met a lot of people there but no, I never dated anybody I met at a **mixer**.

L: Ok, ok, so but you did date someone at Harvard...

G: Right, at um, Simmons we had what you called "Big Sisters" who were **juniors**, when we were freshman and they would, ah, fix us up or set us up with a date with an **underclassman** if they had a boyfriend themselves at Harvard or at MIT

and Harvard, um, I met through a friend who was dating an **upperclassman** at Harvard, yeah.

L: Ok and what did you guys, so you said you used to go to **mixers** on the weekends, what kinds of things did you do with the Harvard **crowd** in Cambridge?

G: Ok my **crowd of friends**, um, there were parties all the time, um there were, we went to football games together, groups of people...

G: Oh that sounds fun

L: At Harvard they had, um, apartments like, they were in dorms and there were usually four to a dorm, of guys and, so each of them would have a date, and it was always a party because there was always, at least eight people.

L: Right, sounds like a typical **college scene**

G: Yeah and so, yep, I'd go over there and we'd have football, go to football games which were really fun, especially the Yale- Harvard game and always kinda interesting, we would **dress up**...

L: For the football games? Woah

G: Yes, the women wore suits

L: Suits?

G: And heels, and...

L: The women wore suits?

G: Yes! Skirts and jackets and the guys dressed up in, ya know, jackets

L: Suits and ties

G: not suits, but jackets, sports jackets and ties, but after- we'd change and go to parties and the parties would be really fun and...

L: Yeah, what kind of restaurants did you like around Harvard?

G: We couldn't afford to go to restaurants and it was **take-out Chinese** if anything

L: Ok

G: Pizza? and Chinese food

L: Did you use to spend a lot of time in the cafes, just talking like, the...no? not so much?

G: Hmmm no, no there weren't any cafes really. Umm, there were... sometimes we'd go out to lunch if one of their fathers would come...come and visit from wherever they lived and and take us out to lunch or dinner at uhh...one fellow I dated, most of the time, sophomore through senior years was from El Salvador and his father was living, his family was living in Maryland at the time and he'd come to Boston a lot to see his daughter who was at Tufts and his son who was at Harvard and he'd always include me and take us out to dinner at a Spanish restaurant....or....out to lunch... the Wurst House which isn't there anymore.

L: Haha that's a funny name

G: It's a German place for sandwiches - the Wurst House! (German accent)

L: HAHA ok all right that's great, thanks.