

Reading

1 Before you read

Talk with a partner. Look at the reading tip. Answer the questions.

1. Who is the story about?
2. What was one obstacle to their success?
3. What places are mentioned in the reading?

Scan a reading to find specific information such as names, places, and key words.



2 Read

Read the newspaper article. Listen and read again.

An Immigrant Family's Success Story

Choi and Lili Wei left China with their baby boy in the late 1980s. They were poor field workers in their native country, and they wanted their child to have the opportunities they lacked. They arrived in New York and found a one-bedroom apartment in a poor, unstable area. They could only afford a bicycle for transportation, yet they felt fortunate to have the chance to begin a new life in the United States.

Choi and Lili faced many obstacles because they couldn't speak English and had no skills. They found night work cleaning businesses and restaurants. They saved every penny, and after six years, they were able to buy a small restaurant of their own.

They were determined to learn English, get an education, and make a good life for their son. The couple sacrificed a great deal. They never went to a movie, never ate out, and hardly ever bought anything extra. In their free time, they attended English and citizenship classes. Both of them eventually earned their GED certificates. Choi then



enrolled in college while Lili worked in the restaurant.

This past spring, Choi fulfilled a lifelong dream of graduating from college. Now he is registered in a master's degree program in business beginning this fall. And what about their "baby" boy? Their son, Peter, now 21, received a scholarship to a private university, where he is working on his own dream to become an architect.

Choi and Lili are proud to be models of the "American dream." Choi has this advice for other new immigrants: "Find your passion, make a plan to succeed, and don't ever give up."