

UNIT 65

# Husband-alone Transfer



## I. Express Yourself



## II. Vocabulary

Match the word with its correct meaning.

assignment

a. short for expatriate; a person who lives outside his or her native country of citizenship

expat

b. abroad; over or across the sea

overseas

c. anything assigned or allotted as a lesson, task, etc.

vigorous

d. strong; robust; energetic

### III. Conversation Practice

Practice the conversation with your teacher by doing a role play.

**Mark:** Steve, I need some advice. I know you lived in Japan before. I'm being offered a position in Tokyo. Can you tell me what it was like working there?

**Steve:** That's exciting. I really enjoyed it. You'd be going there with your family, right?

**Mark:** Yes, of course, but the kids are still in school so they'd be joining me when the semester finishes.

**Steve:** That makes sense. Most of the expats in Japan go with their families. During the hot summer months, the families return to America to spend time with their relatives.

**Mark:** That's what we'd plan to do. I'd go back to visit them for my summer vacation.

**Steve:** In many Japanese companies the husband is transferred alone for an overseas assignment. The children have vigorous studies and need to stay in Japan.

**Mark:** That must be hard. I would miss my family a lot.

**Steve:** Yes, it's hard for them but it's a great career opportunity, so they make some sacrifices.

**Mark:** How long do they have to spend overseas away from their families?

**Steve:** Usually it's a two-year assignment.

**Mark:** I was asked to go for three years. My wife is excited about it.

**Steve:** That makes it much easier. I was there for five and a half years and my family enjoyed every minute of it.



#### Key Points

<u>That's exciting.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That's great.</li> <li>- That's terrific.</li> <li>- That's cool.</li> <li>- That should be an adventure.</li> </ul>
<u>That makes sense.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That's understandable.</li> <li>- That's reasonable.</li> </ul>
<u>That must be hard.</u> <u>It's hard.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That must be difficult.</li> <li>- That must be tough.</li> <li>- That must be challenging.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

#### IV. Role-play

Talk to your co-worker about your apprehensions toward leaving your family to work overseas.



#### Part 2

##### I. Introduction



Talk to your teacher about the kind of job expats usually do in your country.



Tell your teacher why working abroad can be an exciting experience.



Tell your teacher why doing an overseas assignment can be challenging.

## II. Discussion

**What factors would make you consider an overseas assignment?**

Arrange the following considerations according to their level of importance.



- entertainment
- job duration
- job position
- location
- safety
- salary

## III. Role-Play

**You are talking with a Filipino colleague.  
Ask him about what it is like to be working in the Philippines -  
the working environment, career growth and opportunities,  
average salary, etc.**

