

Lost in Translation by Sofia Coppola

Lost in translation

This is a romantic comedy drama which was released in 2003. The main **protagonists** are Bob Harris (played by Bill Murray) and Charlotte (played by Scarlett Johansson). Harris is an aging actor in Tokyo who is making a whiskey advert. Charlotte is in town accompanying her husband John, who is a celebrity photographer. They are both a bit lost in Tokyo, and in their lives, and **strike up** an unusual, short friendship. In this scene, Charlotte wonders about her life and asks Harris about his. The film is criticised for its poor presentation of Japanese people.

Watch the scene and fill in the missing words (listed at the end)

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_tqj5RdVlw).

CHARLOTTE: Does it get easier?

HARRIS: No... Yes, it gets easier.

Charlotte Oh yeah. Look at you.

HARRIS: Thanks. The more you know who you are and what you _____, the less – you know – things **upset** you.

CHARLOTTE: Yeah. I just don't know what I am _____ to be.

You know, I've tried being a writer, but I hate what I write. And, I've tried taking pictures. (laugh) They are so **mediocre**. You know, every girl **goes through a photography phase**. You know, like horses,.. you know, take **dumb** _____ of your feet.

HARRIS: You'll **figure that out**. I'm not worried about you. Keep writing.

CHARLOTTE But I'm so **mean**.

HARRIS: Mean's OK.

CHARLOTTE: What about _____? Does that get easier?

HARRIS: That's hard. We used to have a lot of fun. Lydia **would** come with me when I used to make the _____ and we would laugh about it all. Now she doesn't want to leave the kids. And she doesn't need me to be there. The kids miss me, but they're fine.

It gets a **whole lot more** complicated when you have kids.

CHARLOTTE: Yeah, it's _____.

HARRIS: It's the most _____ day of your life, the day the first one is born.

CHARLOTTE: I know. Nobody ever tells you that.

HARRIS: Your life, as you know it, is gone. _____ to return.

But they learn how to walk and they learn how to talk, and you want to be with them. And they **turn out** to be the most **delightful** people you'll ever meet in your _____.

Lost in translation:
the meaning is lost when something is translated.

Protagonist:
characters, people involved

Strike up a friendship:
become friends

Upset: to disturb, to annoy, to overturn

Mediocre: average, without interest or special value

To go through a phase: to experience something for a while

Dumb: unintelligent, unable to speak

To figure out: to work out, to calculate

Mean: nasty, not nice (also arithmetical average)

"Would" here: used to (a repeated action in the past)

"a whole lot more":
much more

Turn out: become (also to take part)

Delightful: wonderful

Missing words:

scary / life / pictures / want / movies / supposed / marriage / terrifying / never