Sujet 0 ‘rencontres’ LLCE Anglais

The first document is an extract from the novel ‘Persuasion’ by Jane Austin, she describes people meeting, falling in love and the complications that come with one’s social background in the nineteenth century. The second document is an article from the UK newspaper the Guardian it also discusses how couples meet and social mobility in the 21st century. The third document is a painting by Edmund Blair Leighton: ‘Where there’s a will’. It shows a detailed portrayal of a couple meeting for what would appear to be a forbidden romantic rendezvous.

In the first document, Anne is dissuaded from marrying the man she has fallen deeply in love with, as unfortunately Captain Wentworth is ‘without alliance or fortune’. But in the second document the journalist describes real life situations as opposed to the fiction of Jane Austin (although her novels are a good reflection of society at the time) but they both deal with the question of whether people from different social classes can be together and succeed. Although the reality TV programme ‘Love Island’ seemed to confirm that ‘opposites attract’ – in reality research from the Fiscal Studies in 2017 (almost 200 years after Jane Austin) appears to confirm that men will marry within their same social background and succeed better financially. So not much has changed since Jane Austin, when it comes to social mobility, although individuals are much freer to choose their partner and parents probably have less influence over who their child might choose. makes a big difference as Jane Austin paints a picture of love and marriage, at the time it clearly describes that you cannot follow your heart and marry the person you have fallen in love with if they do not come from the right social background and do not have financial security, unless you were prepared to run away. This is exactly the scene that is shown in the third document. They are both smartly dressed and good-looking. One can almost imagine that it could have been a secret meeting of Anne with Captain Wentworth. The way the women turns her head furtively, just about to put the key in the lock – to escape. The man standing the other side of the gate in the boat looks concerned and worries about being caught, ready to make a getaway.

All three documents deal with love relationships, the difficulties that they will encounter and the social background you come from continues to play a major role in whether the couple will succeed. It can also be the source of many difficulties.