

Discussion Starters

Online Dating

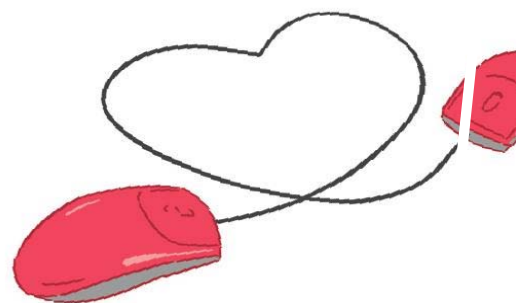
Pre-Reading Warm Up Questions ☀

1. What is the most traditional form of finding a date in your country?
2. How do you feel about online dating?
3. Do you know any couples who met online?
4. What risks are there for using online dating services?

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Task ☀

Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. in this day and age | a. whether you are married or not |
| 2. hooked up | b. place something up for others to see (ex. online) |
| 3. single | c. an experience that is worse than you imagined |
| 4. when all else fails | d. the perfect relationship |
| 5. profile | e. when nothing else works |
| 6. swear by | f. in a romantic relationship |
| 7. database | g. express one's strong belief in |
| 8. match made in heaven | h. not in a relationship |
| 9. nightmare | i. a systematic record of information |
| 10. post | j. in modern times |
| 11. marital status | k. safe to use privately |
| 12. secure | l. a person that you and someone else both know |
| 13. mutual friend | m. brief description of a person |



Online Dating:

When all else fails go online.

Finding time to date is tough **in this day and age**. If your friends are already **hooked up**, it is even more difficult. Would you give up looking for a girlfriend or boyfriend if none of your friends were **single**? Some people turn to online dating **when all else fails**. Dating sites allow you to preview the **profiles** of other singles in your area. Some couples **swear by** this method. After finding each other from a large **database**, they describe their relationship as a **match made in heaven**. Some meet online for months without getting together in person. Others describe their online dating experience as a **nightmare**. Not all users are honest in their profiles. Some users post outdated photos or lie about their job or **marital status**. There are also fake profiles that turn out to be salespeople selling products or services. Well known or long-term dating sites tend to be more **secure**. People turn to online dating for different reasons. Many men and women are tired of being set up by **mutual friends**. Others are too shy to approach members of the opposite sex in person. Would you tell friends and family if you were using an online dating service? Everyone will want to know where you met your special someone.

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Comprehension Questions

1. What situation makes dating especially difficult?
2. According to the reading, how do people find a romantic match online?
3. Why is it difficult to trust the appearance of people who use online dating service sites?
4. What common type of "set up" is described in the reading?
5. According to the reading, who might post a fake profile online?



Vocabulary Review

A. Fill in the blanks with words from the list. Some words may not be used.

1. Many marriages do not last forever _____.
2. You must _____ a recent photo when you create an online profile.
3. My sister _____ online dating. She has met many nice men online.
4. Allen is a _____. I know him from hockey and Lisa knows him from work.
5. Don't give out your credit card information, unless you know the site is _____.
6. His _____ said single, but he just hooked up with someone.

swears by
mutual friend
in this day and age
nightmare
post
secure
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marital status

B. Are the following words or phrases synonyms or antonyms? Write your answer next to each pair.

1. database / record _____
2. fails / succeeds _____
3. profile / summary _____
4. nightmare / disaster _____
5. hook up / break up _____

Discussion Questions

1. Is it possible to "date" someone for a while without actually meeting the person?
2. How does online dating differ from "blind dating"?
3. What do you know about online dating in other countries? Is it more or less acceptable than in your country?
4. Do couples who meet online have an equal chance at romance as couples who meet in person?

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ANSWER KEY

Pre-reading Vocabulary Task

1. J 2. F 3. H 4. E 5. M 6. G 7. I 8. D 9. C 10. B 11. A 12. K 13. L

Comprehension Questions

1. When all of your friends are already in relationships it is more difficult to date.
2. People search through profiles in an online database of a dating service.
3. Some people post old photos of themselves.
4. One common type of "set up" is when a person tries to get two single friends (who don't know one another) to date.
5. A salesperson might post a fake profile on an online dating service.

Vocabulary Review

A. Fill in the blanks

1. in this day and age 2. post 3. swears by 4. mutual friend 5. secure 6. marital status

B. Synonyms or Antonyms?

1. synonyms 2. antonyms 3. synonyms 4. synonyms 5. antonyms

EXTRA TASK:

Class Opinion: Write these questions on the board. Have your students walk around the class and do this class survey.

Would you ever consider online dating?	The best reason to search for a date online is...	What is the best way to meet a romantic partner?