

Unit 2. RELATIONSHIPS

PART 3: READING

I. Reading comprehension on Online Dating and decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

It has long been seen as a less romantic way of meeting **Mr Right**. But finding love over the internet is a good way of meeting a marriage partner, research has showed. It found that one in five of those who have used dating sites to find their perfect partner have gone on to marry someone they met over the web.

The study, by **consumer group** Which?, also revealed that more than half of the 1,504 people questioned had been on a date with someone they met in cyberspace. Sixty-two per cent agreed that it was easier to meet someone on a dating site than in other ways, such as in a pub or club, or through friends. At the same time, the under 35s were more likely to know someone who had been on a date or had a long-term relationship with someone they met through online dating.

Jess Ross, editor of which.co.uk, said: 'Online dating is **revolutionising** the way people meet each other. Switching the computer on could be the first step to success!

According to industry surveys, more than 22 million people visited dating websites in 2007, and more than two million **Britons** are signed up to singles sites.

Of the 147 couples who took part in the study, 61 per cent said their relationships had high levels of these three **components**. The researchers also found that men were more likely to find true love on the internet than women.

Dr Jeff Gavin, who led the team, said: "To date, there has been no systematic study of love in the context of relationships formed via online dating sites. "But with the popularity of online dating, it is **imperative** we understand the factors that influence satisfaction in relationships formed in this way."

Charlotte Harper, of Match.com, said: 'We were thrilled to find so many of our former members have found love. 'It supports our belief that the internet does in fact encourage old-fashioned **courtship**.

Statements

1. Online dating is seen as modern romance.
2. Research has shown that online dating is not a good way of meeting people.
3. Most people who took part in the survey said it is easier to meet people online than elsewhere.
4. Jess Ross thinks online dating is changing the way people meet each other.
5. Less than 20 million people visited dating websites in 2007.
6. Women are more likely to find their ideal partner online than men.
7. Many members of match.com have found love.

II. Read the passage and complete the task that follow.

In our modern life, we can watch television or surf the Internet to find out about what is happening around the world but our neighborhood can be a place we never really know. A survey has been conducted to find out some people's thought of talking with their neighbors. Here came the results:

A.

We had been living here for five years and had never really got to know our neighbors. Then a

tremendous hurricane came and crashed our house. Our neighbors came round to offer us food and help. When finally recovering, we still lived in the same neighborhood and never spoke to our neighbors. I don't know why.

B.

My neighbor went to work on the same route with me. I passed over her every morning when walking to work but never said hello. One morning I said "hello", then a "good morning" and a friendly smile were exchanged between us for the next week. But then, she changed her way to work. I feel that some neighbors may prefer being left undisturbed.

C.

I think it's very nice to come up and talk with your neighbors. Take me as an example. I commute to work every day by bus. One day, I saw Harry on the station platform. We exchanged nods and smiles and eventually he came up to me and said hello. He told me that he had been my new neighbor for three weeks but I didn't even know. We started chatting since then and got to know each other better. Then, guess what? We are now engaged and are getting married next year.

Write the letter A, B or C that indicates the person next to their description/ opinion below.

1. _____ suffered from a natural disaster.
2. _____ is in a relationship with one of her neighbors.
3. _____ thinks that some people may find talking with neighbors annoying
4. _____ once went to work on the same route with her neighbor.
5. _____ thinks positively about talking with neighbors.
6. _____ walks to work.
7. _____ got help from the neighbors.
8. _____ uses public transportation to work.

III. Read the passage and complete the tasks that follow.

Huyen Anh is introducing herself and her closest friends.

Many people consider me sociable because I am keen on taking part in community activities. I find it easy to start a conversation and get on well with different kinds of people, so I have numerous friends. Among them, Tram Anh, Minh and Bich are my closest ones.

Tram Anh is the tallest girl in my group. She looks beautiful with a straight nose, long black hair, fair skin and dimples. She is interested in helping the poor and the disabled. She volunteers to teach English at the local orphanage every Sunday. She also spends a lot of time helping other classmates to improve their English. She is so gentle and generous that her teachers and friends adore her. Besides, she is a diligent student who always gets good marks.

Similar to Tram Anh, Minh is very outgoing and warm-hearted. He enjoys participating in social activities, such as blood donation and environmental protection campaigns. He is quite talkative and humorous, so he is sometimes regarded as a class clown who always makes others laugh by telling jokes and pretending to do silly things. His jokes, however, sometimes annoy his friends. He also receives many compliments from teachers for being so intelligent and hard-working. He is not only our class's star soccer player but also a talented amateur singer.

Although each of us has different personalities, we share a number of common hobbies and have a lot of fun together. I find myself lucky to have them as my intimate friends.

1. How many friends is Huyen Anh talking about?

- Task 2.** *Decide whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F).*

- IV. Read the passage and do the task that follows/do the tasks that follow.**

A friendship of the second kind is formed for the practical value of it. How useful so and so is to me? What can I benefit from him? Will he use his reputation and influence to fetch me a good job? Thus a person may maintain relationship for practical, professional, and political reasons. However, once we **do away with** the usefulness, the friendship eventually dies.



pleasure physically, emotionally, mentally and materially?

Now to the question: Which of the three is good? The second type is good, yet since basing on utility, it falls short of longevity and quality. The third type is good too, but how long one enjoys only pleasure in life? But the first type, virtue-based friendship is fantastic for this reason: it lasts till the end of this universe.

1. From paragraph 1, we can infer that _____.
 - A. Real friendship does not count one person's cleverness, appearance, utility and his/her aptitude for creating fun.
 - B. You have to die in order to prove your friendship.
 - C. Personality is not an important factor in choosing a friend.
 - D. There are two main motives for friendship.
2. Which of the following has the closest meaning to “**do away with**” in paragraph 2?
 - A. kill
 - B. escape
 - C. get rid of
 - D. ask for
3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the reading passage?
 - A. Friendship basing on the capacity for creating pleasure still possesses some uncertainty
 - B. Friendship requires a lot of patience and efforts from both sides
 - C. Friendship usually does not last long if it is built on materialistic need
 - D. Virtue-based friendship's core is a friend's creditable traits in his or her personality
4. Synonym(s) of utility in paragraph 4 can be found in:
 - A. paragraph 1
 - B. paragraph 2
 - C. paragraph 3
 - D. paragraph 4
5. Which kind of friendship is most unshakable?
 - A. The first
 - B. The second
 - C. The third
 - D. Not mentioned