

4 READING

- a Read the article. What happens on "Singles' Day" in Shanghai?



November 11 is "Singles' Day" in Shanghai, and every year a dating event takes place where all the single men and women of the city have the chance to meet a partner. Last year, it was so popular that the organizers had to close online registration because there were no more places.

Between 10,000 and 40,000 people attend the event every year. It's held in a district of Shanghai called Thames Town. At least 50 dating agencies take part. They set up stands in the town hall with billboards displaying cards with the height, birth date, education, and annual income of thousands of clients. People who did not manage to register for the event organize their own unofficial dating system by writing their names and phone numbers on pieces of paper and attaching them to the fence outside the town hall.

More people take part in "Singles' Day" every year because of the growing number of single adults in Shanghai. In the city, more than 24 percent of people over the age of 15 are unmarried.

- b Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).
- 1 The people who take part in "Singles' Day" aren't married. T
 - 2 Many people register for the event on the Internet. —
 - 3 All of the dating events are in the town hall. —
 - 4 People who don't register for the event can't find a partner on "Singles' Day." —
 - 5 Every year, there are more single adults in Shanghai. —
- c Underline five words you don't know. Check their meaning and pronunciation with a dictionary.

5 LISTENING

- a **Checker** Listen to a radio program about online dating. How many people call the program? _____
- b **Checker** Listen again and match the callers with the sentences A–F.

- 1 Alan C —
- 2 Kate — —
- 3 Paolo — —

- A He / She doesn't have time for a social life.
B He / She made a mistake.
C He / She got engaged with the partner he / she met online.
D He / She married someone who was married before.
E He / She doesn't like meeting new people.
F He / She is happily married now, but doesn't have any children.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

- guy /gɑɪ/
partner /'pɑ:tnə/
single person /'sɪŋgl 'pɜ:sn/
smile /smaɪl/
sociable /'səʊʃəbl/
be into (sth) /bɪ 'ɪntə/
feel like (doing something) /fi:l laɪk/
get along well (with) /get ə'lon ʒ wel/
go on a date /gəʊ ɒn ə deɪt/
sense of humor /sɛns əv 'hju:mə: