

Live Lesson Notes

Relationships

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What you will learn in this worksheet:

Useful links
Relationship vocabulary
Vocabulary of dating
Listening Task
Idioms

Useful Links

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Romantic messages in English

<https://www.southernliving.com/culture/romantic-love-messages-for-him-and-her>

Modern relationship words

<https://www.themanual.com/culture/modern-relationship-terms-explained/>

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IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Relationships

Here is some useful vocabulary to help you talk fluently on the topic of relationships.

To **relate** to someone = to identify with or empathise with someone

A relationship = a connection between 2 people / things

There are different kinds of relationships:

- Family relationships
- Work relationships
- Business relationships
- Romantic relationships

When it comes to verbs, notice the difference between 'to have a relationship' and 'to be in a relationship'. The latter is romantic, the former is not.

To be in a relationship = to have a boyfriend / or girlfriend

I've been in a relationship for several months.

I am not in a relationship , I'm single

I have a good relationship = get on well with my friend / my boss / my colleagues

To **be related** to someone = to have a family connection (e.g. brother, sister, father, cousin....)

A relative (n.) = a family connection

A relation (n.) = a family connection

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Dating

When it comes to romantic relationships, all of these usually begin with a date, whether it is going to the cinema, going for a coffee together or something like that.

To **date** someone = to go out with someone (romantically)

To go **on** a date = to have one romantic meeting

A **one-night stand** = to just be with someone for one night

A short **fling** = a brief romantic relationship

A **long-term** relationship

To **be** / **fall** in love

Online dating

The following 4 phrases all mean ‘to get on well with someone’

- To click **with** someone
- To get **on** like a house on fire
- To be **on** the same wavelength
- To hit it **off**

When a couple stop seeing each other romantically, we can use one of the following verbs:

- To break up
- To split up
- To separate
- To go your separate ways

Mary and I have broken up

We have gone our separate ways

IELTS Speaking Question:

How are relationships between young people today different from in the past?

In the past, people used to meet potential partners in a pub or even a disco. Nowadays, online dating is much more prevalent.

Whatever the generation, I think people still predominantly look for a partner at work or on campus.

Youngsters may use a dating app or even a dating agency these days.

Relationships are much faster these days. I mean people focus on short-term relationships rather than the long term.

For many young people, it's all just about short flings, rather than looking for the ideal long-term relationship.

Find out why modern dating can be so challenging here:

<https://hackspirit.com/reasons-modern-dating-makes-it-so-hard-to-find-someone/>

Listening Task

Watch and listen to this grandad talking about modern relationships.

Are these statements True or False, according to the passage?

1. He thinks dating is harder these days.
2. In the past, you would meet a girl or boy in a museum.
3. In the past, you would take someone on a date to a cafe.
4. In the past, people used to ghost a lot.
5. He is jealous of young people today.

Answers at bottom of PDF

The speaker uses quite a few modern words about relationships that have become popular in recent years, with the rise of social media. Such words as,

- Ghosting
- Submarining
- Orbiting
- Benching
- Situationships

Find out the meaning of these **Modern relationship words** here:

<https://www.themanual.com/culture/modern-relationship-terms-explained/>

Writing Love Messages

If want to write some love messages or text messages to your loved one, here are some good ones you can start with!

Reference: these are taken from the website Southern Living.

- I love you more than I did yesterday, but less than I will tomorrow
♥
- If Van Gogh had you as a subject, the sunflowers would have gone in the trash 🌻🌻🌻
- "If you wish to be loved, love." – Seneca
- 🍊 you glad we found each other? You're a great 🧒

Notice the 'orange emoji + you' here is connected speech and so pronounced almost the same as 'aren't you'.

This emoji 🧒 means 'a catch'.

Find out lots more **love messages** for every occasion here:

<https://www.southernliving.com/culture/romantic-love-messages-for-him-and-her>

Idioms to Talk about Relationships

To fall head over heels in love = *To fall madly/deeply in love*

She fell head over heels in love with Carlos!

To walk in someone's shoes = *to try and understand someone*

To have a good relationship, you really need to walk in your partner's shoes

To be love at first sight = *To fall instantly in love*

When I met Anny, it was love at first sight!

To be a match made in heaven = *to be a perfect match!*

Mary and John get on so well together, they are a match made in heaven

To tie the knot = *to get married*

After 3 years of dating, Mary and John have decided to tie the knot!

To have ups and downs = *to have good times and bad times*

They are still happily married after 10 years, despite having some ups and downs

Answers to the Listening task:

1. He thinks dating is harder these days. **T**
2. In the past, you would meet a girl or boy in a museum. **F**
3. In the past, you would take someone on a date to a cafe. **T**
4. In the past, people used to ghost a lot. **F**
5. He is jealous of young people today. **F**

Listening task Tape script:

You see, when I was younger, dating was so much easier than nowadays. It was straightforward whether you wanted a one-night stand or a short fling or even a long-term relationship.

You would just start by going down the disco meeting somebody or even going down the pub with some mates and usually your friends would introduce you to someone, a boy or a girl, and then you'd start going out. You'd start dating.

Straightforward and sometimes you would just get on like a house on fire, or things would click, and if you clicked with someone, then great! You'd start going out, maybe you took them to the cinema, or for a coffee.

Mind you, we didn't have many coffee bars in those days. Maybe you'd invite them home for a cup of tea, but here's the thing right, you would only ever invite a girlfriend home to meet the parents, if you were serious, I mean really serious about going the next step. About popping the question and getting engaged, ultimately to get married.

But nowadays things things are different. Things are no longer the same, are they?

People are either **ghosting** and if they're not ghosting they're **orbiting** and then suddenly, they're **submarining**, and if people are not **benching**, then they're getting into a **situationship**.

Things have changed a lot, haven't they? Now with online dating apps your swiping left, swiping right and who knows, I do not envy young people today trying to go on a date.

It just seems super complicated. Anyway, to all of you young people, good luck!