

ESL Topics: Dating

Beginner:

1.) Are you single?

*No, I'm in a **serious relationship**.*

2.) How long have you been together?

*We've been dating for **just shy of** 6 months.*

3.) How did you meet?

*We met on campus, through a mutual **acquaintance**, and have been madly in love ever since.*

4.) Do you live together?

*No we don't. It's not common to live together (**cohabit**) prior to marriage.*

Intermediate:

1.) What dates/anniversaries are important for couples in your country? Why?

Of course the one-year anniversary is important for people in my country, and of course, Valentine's Day.

2.) How would you dress on a first date?

*I would dress to impress. Appearance is **vital** for the early stages of a relationship.*

3.) Do you **keep in touch** with ex's?

Not directly. However, I hear through mutual friends and acquaintances' what is going on in their lives.

4.) Do you try to meet people when traveling on vacation? What foreign countries men or women do you find **irresistible**? Some

women love foreign accents, and some men love women with blonde hair. How about you?

*I have a **thing for petite** women. I am not **fond** of big women.*

Advanced:

1.) Who do you **turn to for love advice? Magazines? Friends? Television?**

I haven't had to turn to anyone for love advice in a while. However, when I was younger, I loved getting advice from blogs about women.

2.) What are some less **mainstream methods for finding a date these days in your country?**

Online dating has recently become a successful way to meet new people.

3.) What are some "do's and don'ts" on a first date? Have you even been on a date where the guy was nice but he **blew it with stupid conversation?**

*Obviously, being kind and sweet is a must. One important don't is to make sure not to talk about having children on the first date. It's really **off-putting**.*

4.) Do you have low or high standards when it comes to finding the perfect partner?

Over the years I've had to lower my standards to find the perfect partner.

Synonym Match:

Match the words from column 1 with the best-suited word in column 2.

Column 1	Column 2
1.) just shy of	a.) live together

Column 1	Column 2
2.) acquaintance	b.) essential
3.) cohabitate	c.) desirable; tempting
4.) vital	d.) some form of communication
5.) keep in touch	e.) well known and accepted
6.) irresistible	f.) someone you know of
7.) mainstream	g.) screwed-up
8.) petite	h.) undesirable
9.) off-putting	i.) not quite enough
10.) blew-it	j.) tiny

Synonym Answers:

Questions:

- 1.) What's the best way to enjoy a date in your city without spending any money? Where, and what would you do?**
- 2.) What did you find off-putting about your last relationship?**
- 3.) What are some qualities you find irresistible in the opposite sex? What are some foods you find irresistible?**
- 4.) Do you think it's important to share/have a lot in common with your partner? Do opposites attract?**

5.) What qualities do you find attractive in a man? (cleanliness, goal oriented, etc..)

6.) Do you split the bill or hope the man covers the tab on a date?

7.) Is dating co-workers frowned upon?

8.) describe your worst or most romantic date.

Vocabulary:

- **serious relationship**: A relationship that is leading towards marriage. " Our relationship has become serious ever since the question of marriage arose last month."
- **"just shy of"**: Slightly less than what is expected or required; under; less than. "He is just shy of 100 kg's". My salary is just shy of \$1000 a week.
- **acquaintance**: A person one knows slightly, but who is not a close friend. "Yes, I know of him we are acquainted, but not close."
- **cohabitate**: Cohabitation is an arrangement where two people who are not married live together without officially registering their relation as a marriage.
- **vital**: absolutely necessary or important; essential. "A good sense of humor is vital in finding a good girlfriend."
- **"keep in touch"**: To maintain communication with someone. "I thought you two kept in touch after you returned to Canada?"
- **irresistible**: too attractive and tempting to be resisted. "His bakery is famous for its irresistible cakes and pastries."
- **"thing for"**: to have a strong feeling about someone or something, especially feelings that are unusual or unreasonable. "I have a thing women with great laughs. I find them irresistible."
- **petite**: (of a woman) Having a small and attractively dainty build. "She is quite strong for such a petite woman."
- **turn to**: To seek or expect something from someone or something. "I turn to my mother for love advice, my father for financial advice, and my dictionary for spelling mistakes."
- **mainstream**: The most popular trend in either music, fashion, or opinion. "I'm so tired of mainstream music, it all sounds the same."

- "blew it / blow it": To ruin or spoil your chances of achieving something. "Don't blow your job interview today!" "I hate English, I blew my TOEIC test again!"
- off-putting: Something that is not desirable. "She is beautiful. However, her lack of intelligence is really off-putting."

Daily Expressions & Idioms:

1.) "have (good) chemistry": To share positive energy with someone and be attracted to them.

"The chemistry was really good. We had lots in common and the date went well."

2.) "cat calling": When you whistle at a woman and show her you are sexually interested in her. Usually considered rude and done by drunk men.

"Hey gorgeous come join us your beautiful" "I hate when men cat call at me!"

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