

Relationships

A marriage of convenience – брак по расчету
Unequal match, unequal marriage – неравный брак
A blind date - a date where the two people have never met before

To break up/to split up - end a relationship
dump someone/walk out on someone - end a relationship by telling someone that you don't want to see him or her

To date someone - go on or have a date with someone
To go out with someone - go on a date or be dating someone
To be seeing each other - be dating someone
To get engaged/hitched (married)
pop the question- ask someone to marry you
To get serious - a relationship becomes serious and long-term
settle down- establish a regular routine after getting married

To be inconsistent with – идти вразрез с
Not to make any difference to someone
Prejudice against – предрассудки о чем-либо
To cause misunderstanding вызывать недопонимание
Bias against – предвзятое мнение о чем-либо

Falling in love with someone

Love at first sight
To fall for someone - fall in love with someone
To be attracted to someone - feel a physical or emotional attraction to someone
To be head over ears/heels in love with someone
To be crazy about someone - think that another person is wonderful
have a crush (on someone) - have strong feelings of love for someone (often for a short time and with no results)
have a thing for (someone) - be attracted and care a lot about someone
find Mr. Right - find the right or perfect person
meet/find the right girl/guy- find the right partner, the one to marry
the one (for someone) - the right partner, the one to marry
to be someone's number one - the right partner, the one to marry
To go hand in hand with someone – идти рука об руку с кем-то

Positive relationship

get on like a house on fire = to get on really well with someone: "They get on like a house on fire."
To be like two volumes of one book
To be good together - two people who get along well with each other
get along with someone- have a good friendly relationship with someone
hit it off (with someone) - get along well with someone (usually from the beginning)
made for each other - two people who get along extremely well
a match made in heaven - a couple who get along perfectly

Negative

get off on the wrong foot with someone = to start off badly with someone
keep someone at arm's length = to keep someone at a distance
they're like cat and dog = to often argue with someone
rub someone up the wrong way = to irritate someone

inequality

wear the trousers = to be in control: "She wears the trousers in their relationship."

be under the thumb = to be controlled by someone else: "He really keeps her under the thumb."

Questions for discussion

What features of character do you consider when looking for a life-time partner? What else do you take into account?

What do you consider first when meeting a person?

Do you believe in love at first sight?

What other considerations can make you believe you have met the one?

Describe your Mr./Mrs. Right.

Does the financial status of your partner matter when choosing to get serious about your relationship?

Is being in love obligatory for a successful relationship?

What do you think of an unequal match? What are the pros and cons of an unequal marriage?

What are people looking for when getting into an unequal marriage?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of dating an age mate? What about a person elder/younger than you?

What obstacles may occur when seeing a person far older/younger than you?

Can you think of an upside of this kind of relationship?

What is your opinion on a marriage of convenience? Do you consider it appropriate? Is it likely to happen to you?

What are people's possible intentions when getting into a marriage of convenience?

Have you ever thought of dating a foreigner?

What are the major challenges one faces when going out with a foreigner/a person with a different cultural/religious background?

Can people with different social, cultural, religious backgrounds find common ground?

What are the ways to handle differences in an intercultural relationship?

What sacrifices does a relationship with a foreigner involve?

What makes people choose to go for it? What might be their intentions?

Sayings:

Love has got no color

Success in marriage does not come merely through finding the right mate, but through being the right mate.

~Barnett R. Brickner

There is no such cozy combination as man and wife. ~Menander

If two stand shoulder to shoulder against the gods,

Happy together, the gods themselves are helpless

Against them while they stand so.

~Maxwell Anderson

Spouse: someone who'll stand by you through all the trouble you wouldn't have had if you'd stayed single. ~Author Unknown

Marriage means commitment. Of course, so does insanity. ~Author Unknown

Don't marry the person you think you can live with; marry only the individual you think you can't live without.

~James C. Dobson

We have the greatest pre-nuptial agreement in the world. It's called love. ~Gene Perret

Fools rush in, where wise men never go

But wise men never fall in love

So how are they to know. - Songwriter Johnny Mercer

The heart has reasons that reason does not recognise