

Friendship, People's Relationships



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Operační program Vzdělávání pro konkurenceschopnost

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Warm-up

Work in pairs.

a) Answer the questions.

- What kind of people do you get along with best?
- What quality do you admire in people the most?
- What behaviour of others mostly hurts you?
- Do you think that friendship is important in people's life?
- What role does forgiveness play in human relationships?
- What's important in getting along with people of different backgrounds and values?

b) Think of a close friend of yours. In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

- How long have you known him / her?
- Where did you meet?
- Why do you get on well?
- What do you have in common?
- Do you ever argue? What about?
- How often do you see each other?
- How do you keep in touch the rest of the time?
- Have you ever lost touch? Why? When?
- Do you think you'll stay friends?

Warm-up

Work in pairs.

c) How do you think people usually meet friends and partners nowadays? Number the phrases 1 – 5 (1 = the most popular). Then compare with a partner.

A at work

B at school or university

C on the Internet (e.g. on forums, social networking sites, etc.

D in a bar, club, etc.

E through friends

Vocabulary

a) Explain these expressions in English.

classmate, close friend, colleague, couple, ex, fiancé / fiancée, flatmate, partner

b) Match the words (above) and definitions.

- 1 two people that are married or in a romantic relationship
- 2 your husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend
- 3 the person that you are engaged to be married to
- 4 a person that you share a flat with
- 5 a person that you work with
- 6 (*colloquial*) a person that you used to have a relationship with
- 7 a very good friend that you can talk to about anything
- 8 a friend from school or college

Vocabulary

c) Complete the sentences with verbs or verb phrases in the past tense.

be together become friends break up get in touch get married get on get
to know get out together have (sth) in common lose touch meet propose

- 1 I Mark when I was studying at York University.
- 2 We each other quickly because we went to the same classes.
- 3 We soon, and we discovered that we a lot For example, we both liked art and music.
- 4 We in our second term and we fell in love.
- 5 We for two years, but we argued a lot and in our last term at university we
- 6 After we left university, we because I moved to London and he stayed in York.
- 7 Five years later we again on *Facebook*. We were both still single, and Mark had moved to London too.
- 8 This time we better than before, maybe because we were older.
- 9 After two months Mark and I accepted.
- 10 We last summer. A lot of our old university friends came to the wedding!

Reading

Love at Exit 19

He was a tollbooth operator, she was a soprano who sang in Carnegie Hall. **Their eyes met** at Exit 19 of the New York State Thruway when he charged her 37 ¢. The romance that followed was even less **likely** that the plot of an opera.

Sonya was a frequent **commuter** from her home in the suburbs to NY City. One day, when she was driving to an audition, she came off the Thruway and stopped at the tollbooth where Michael was working. She chatted as she paid to go through, and thought he was **cute**. For the next three months, they used to **exchange a few words** as she handed him the money, and he raised the barrier to let her pass. 'It was mostly "What are you doing today? Where are going?"' she said. They learned more about each other. But their conversations suddenly came to an end when Michel changed his working hours. 'He used to work during the day', said Sonya, 'but he changed to night **shifts**.' Although Michael still looked out for Sonya's white Toyota Corolla, he didn't see her again for six months.

When Michael's working hours changed back to the day shift, he decided to put a traffic cone in front of his lane. He thought, 'It will be like putting a **candle** in the window.' Sonya saw it, and their romance started up again. Finally, she **found the courage** to give Michael a piece of paper with her phone number as she passed through the toll. Michael called her and for their first day they went to see the film *Cool Runnings*.

They are now married and living in Kentucky where Sonya is a voice and music professor at Murray State College and Michael **runs** an activity centre at a nursing home. **It turned out** that she had given him her number just in time. A short while later she moved to New Jersey and stopped using the New York State Thruway. 'I might never have seen him again,' she said.

Exercises and speaking

a) *Read the article again and number the events in the order they happened.*

- A Michael changed his working hours.
- B Michael tried to find Sonya.
- C They got married.
- D Sonya moved to New Jersey.
- E Sonya gave Michael her phone number.
- F Michael changed his working hours again.
- G Sonya chatted to Michael.
- H They stopped seeing each other.
- I They had their first date.
- J Sonya and Michael moved to Kentucky.

b) *First answer the questions and after that retell their love story.*

Where did Sonya and Michael meet?

What were their jobs?

How did it happen that they started dating?

Why did their relationship nearly never happen?

Matching exercise

c) Read the article again and look at the highlighted words and phrases. Try to work out what they mean. Then match them with 1-10 below

- 1 a period of time worked by a group of workers.
- 2 a person who travels into a city to work every day.
- 3 attractive, good-looking
- 4 what has happened was
- 5 manages
- 6 probable
- 7 sth which is used to give light, made of wax
- 8 have short conversations
- 9 they looked at each other romantically
- 10 was brave enough

Speaking

d) *Think of a couple you know well, e.g. your parents or friends. How did they meet? Do you know any couples who met in unusual circumstances? Talk about where you met your partner.*

e) *Read sentences A-F below. Tick the ones you agree with and cross the ones you don't agree with. Give your own reasons.*

A You can only have two or three close friends.

B Nowadays people are in touch with more people but have fewer close friends.

C Men keep their friends longer than women.

D You should never criticize your friend's partner.

E You should never lend money to a friend (or borrow money).

F It's impossible to stay good friends with an ex-partner.

Listening

For some more practice, go to:

<http://www.esl-lab.com/small/smallrd1.htm>

Write a paragraph about what you have listened to.

Thanks for your attention



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