

# Life with the Internet

Answer the questions.

- 1 Where are they?
- 2 What are they doing?
- 3 What are they thinking?



“ I think there is a world market for maybe five computers. ”

Some people claim that Thomas Watson, then Chairman of IBM, made this statement in 1943.

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## Preview



KEY READING SKILLS  
STUDY SHEET 1, PAGE 148

- 1 There are two units in this section. Find the main texts and complete this chart.

	Text title	Text type	Topic
Unit 1			
Unit 2			

- 2 Ask and answer these questions with a partner.

How often do you go online?  
Is the Internet a big part of your life?  
Do you have your own homepage?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

# Unit 1 Cyber romance

KEY READING SKILL IDENTIFYING TEXT ORGANIZATION

KEY VOCABULARY SKILL PREFIXES

## Focus

1 Look at the ads and read this information.

FREE ONLINE PERSONALS

- REGISTER NOW FOR ROMANCE!

Find your perfect match

CLICK

Love at first byte!  
Never be lonely  
again.

Meet your dream date ... online!

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### Did you know ...?

- Millions of people worldwide visit online dating sites every month.
- Estimates suggest that thousands of couples marry each year as a result of online dating.
- Match.com is the world's largest online dating service, with over 20 million members in 37 countries and sites in 18 languages.

Online dating has become increasingly popular as more people get hooked up to the Internet. For anyone looking for love in cyberspace, there are thousands of Internet dating sites to choose from. But is the Internet the right place to find romance?

2 Close your book. Tell a partner what you can remember.

## Think about it

1 Ask and answer these questions with a partner.

- a Can the Internet help people find their perfect partners?
- b Is it possible to fall in love online?
- c What kind of people look for love on the Internet?
- d Have you ever had an Internet romance?
- e Would you go online looking for a date?

2 Make a group. How many advantages and disadvantages of online dating can you think of?

## Vocabulary skills: Prefixes



KEY VOCABULARY SKILLS  
STUDY SHEET 8, PAGE 165

### 1 Add a prefix to each word.

co-	dis-	good-	il-	im-	in-	ir-	mis-	un-
-----	------	-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	-----

- |                |                  |                   |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| a ____credible | d ____possible   | g ____satisfied   |
| b ____looking  | e ____understand | h ____responsible |
| c ____workers  | f ____logical    | i ____exciting    |

### 2 Add a prefix to each word. Then use the new words to complete the text below.

- |                |              |                   |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| a ____accurate | c ____like   | e ____traditional |
| b ____honest   | d ____secure |                   |

#### Dating online

Going to an Internet chat room is an <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ way to find love. People who prefer old-fashioned ways of meeting others may <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the idea of finding love using a computer. However, using the Internet can be an easy, comfortable way to find a date. It is especially good for people who are <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ about meeting face to face. It's also possible to be totally open online. There's no need to be <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ or give <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ information about yourself; you can just tell the truth. Plus, you are more in control. You have time to think about what to say. What's more, you don't have to dress up or worry about being unattractive. You can be yourself.

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## Predicting

Look at the title of the web page you're going to read. What do you think you will read about? Check (✓) your answers.

### Love Online Personals

- a ☐ true stories of people who found love on the Internet
- b ☐ names of people who met through a dating agency and then married
- c ☐ a comparison of online dating and other forms of dating
- d ☐ a discussion of why the Internet is so popular for finding a partner
- e ☐ details of a contest to find your perfect partner

## Reading fluently



Read the text quickly. Time yourself, and record your time in the chart on page 6.



**Success Stories**

Personals

Browse Members

Register FREE

## Love Online Personals

### Online success stories!



**Here are just a few success stories from all the people Love Online Personals has helped to find romance. Read their inspiring stories, and remember – you too could find love and happiness online ...**

#### **Jim and Paula**

Paula and I are crazy about each other. We fell in love the first day we met online, about three months ago! Now, we e-mail each other all the time – about five times a day – and I can't stop thinking about her. I love the way she writes. She's so creative, so honest. And so good-looking! She sent me a photo yesterday; she has beautiful black hair and an incredible smile. She works in a ski resort in Switzerland as an instructor. Did I mention she's smart, too? She speaks four languages! It's like a dream come true. I'm so happy I met her. Love Online is the greatest!

#### **Mike and Susan**

I met Susan eight weeks ago. Before, I was lonely and felt very dissatisfied with my life. I had nobody special, and my life was so unexciting – all I did was work, work, work. But after I met Susan in your chat room, and then in person, we started dating and everything changed. Now I'm more positive, much happier, and far more self-confident. I love her very much and I'm sure she loves me. Every time we meet, we get along really well and have an amazing time. I thought it was impossible to be this happy, but our love keeps growing every day. She rocks my world.

#### **Samantha and Lee**

I met my boyfriend, Lee, thanks to Love Online Personals! We chatted online for about 40 minutes, and then I asked him if he wanted to talk on the phone. He agreed! After I gave him my phone number, he called and we talked for hours and hours. We seemed to fall in love immediately. After that, he invited me to visit him for a short vacation, and the next weekend I drove to Vancouver to see him. That was six months ago, and we're still very much in love. We see each other every weekend. Next month, I'm leaving my job here in Calgary to go and live with him. My co-workers say I'm being irresponsible, but they misunderstand me. He has changed my life. For me, it's illogical not to follow my heart. We plan to get married, and I'm sure we'll be happy together forever. I wish that more people could have the confidence to find love this way.

#### **Suzanne**

Well, my brother works at home, so he doesn't get many opportunities to meet anyone special. That's why I suggested he join Love Online Personals. He had never done anything like this before (and neither had I), so we weren't sure what to expect ... In fact, neither of us had very high expectations at all! Anyway,

Richard was astonished when he met Teresa because she's actually perfect for him. They both share the same interests, and they are such a good match that I find it hard to believe how lucky he is. I mean, they've only known each other for four months, but they've been on tons

of dates ... and plan to marry after the New Year. Thanks to your service, they have found true happiness! Oh, and one more thing; I'm single, and because of Richard's success, I've made up my mind to go ahead and join. Wish me luck, everyone!

**Why not browse our ads for free? Just click [HERE](#) to register for your free trial membership. You can place an ad for free, too! Go ahead – try it yourself!**

**inspiring** *adj*

making you feel enthusiastic or excited about something

**expectation** *noun* ★ ★ ★

the belief that something will happen

**make up your mind** *phrase*

to make a decision

## Understanding the text

### 1 Answer these questions.

- What do Jim and Paula do five times a day?
- How has Mike changed since meeting Susan?
- What's Samantha going to do next month?
- Who isn't a member of Love Online Personals yet?
- Where does Paula work?

### 2 Choose the answer to each question.

- How many couples plan to marry next year?  
1 one                      2 two                      3 three                      4 all four
- How long have Samantha and Lee known each other?  
1 less than six months                      3 between four and six months  
2 six months exactly                      4 just over six months
- Who was most surprised to find love online?  
1 Mike                      2 Samantha                      3 Paula                      4 Richard
- What did Jim receive from Paula yesterday?  
1 a postcard                      2 a photo                      3 a present                      4 a phone call
- How often do Samantha and Lee see each other?  
1 every day                      2 every month                      3 every weekend                      4 twice a month

### 3 Write the names of the couple that ...

- has known each other the longest. \_\_\_\_\_
- has never met in person. \_\_\_\_\_
- has dated for about two months. \_\_\_\_\_
- had a long phone conversation after they met online. \_\_\_\_\_
- probably lives in different countries. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Make a group. Discuss which couple you think has the greatest chance of long-term happiness.



## Reading skills: Identifying text organization



KEY READING SKILLS  
STUDY SHEET 6, PAGE 153

1 Look again at the stories. Match each story with the way it's organized.

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| a Jim and Paula      | 1 comparison / contrast |
| b Mike and Susan     | 2 chronological order   |
| c Samantha and Lee   | 3 description           |
| d Richard and Teresa | 4 cause / effect        |

2 **Circle** six adjectives that Jim uses when writing about Paula.

3 With a partner, discuss how Mike's life changed when he met Susan.

4 Number the events from Samantha's story in the correct order (1–7).

- \_\_\_\_\_ They talk on the phone for a long time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ They talk online for 40 minutes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Samantha drives to Vancouver to see Lee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Samantha asks if Lee wants to call her.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lee calls Samantha.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Samantha and Lee meet through Love Online Personals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lee invites Samantha to visit him.

5 Read Suzanne's story. **Underline** every cause and **circle** every effect.

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6 Read this text, and then answer the questions.

### Internet dating dangers

Meeting via the Internet can cause problems. First, chat rooms can attract unpleasant people. Someone could seem friendly and exciting at first, but then become rude or threatening. Second, it is very easy for people to lie about themselves on the Internet. People who are married or who are already in serious relationships may pretend to be single and use the Internet to have affairs. You might think you have found a soulmate, only to be disappointed when the truth comes out. In addition, surfing the Internet is something you do alone. If you are alone at your computer at home, then you are not in the real world meeting people face to face. What's more, Internet romance often develops very rapidly, and can become very serious too quickly. Finally, always remember that meeting online is not "real" and cannot replace personal contact.

a How is the text organized?

- ☐ time order   ☐ description   ☐ comparison/contrast   ☐ cause/effect   ☐ listing

b **Underline** the words or phrases that help you identify the text organization.

c How many points against Internet dating can you find?

## Spotlight on grammar: Present perfect – simple and continuous

Study the examples, and then choose the best answer to complete each sentence.

Online dating **has become** increasingly popular in recent years.

**Have** you **found** romance online?

Janet and I **have been dating** for three months.

How long **have** you **been looking** for someone special?

- 1 Ana-Maria and Carlos \_\_\_\_ each other for six months. They met in an Internet chat room.  
a have known  
b have been knowing  
c has known  
d have to know
- 2 I'm exhausted because I've \_\_\_\_ online with a friend for hours.  
a chatted  
b been chatting  
c chat  
d chatting
- 3 How long has James \_\_\_\_ a member of that dating agency?  
a been  
b become  
c being  
d be
- 4 I've \_\_\_\_ for a reply to my online ad for weeks, but I haven't had any responses!  
a been waiting  
b being waiting  
c been waited  
d being waited
- 5 Gina and I used to be very close, but I haven't \_\_\_\_ an e-mail from her for weeks.  
a received  
b been receiving  
c being received  
d receiving
- 6 Susan has been thinking about online dating, but she hasn't \_\_\_\_ an agency yet.  
a join  
b been joining  
c joined  
d being joined
- 7 What \_\_\_\_ to find a date online?  
a you have been doing  
b have you doing  
c I have been doing  
d you have do
- 8 Since I met Takanori online, all my friends have \_\_\_\_ about him!  
a been asking  
b being asked  
c been ask  
d being asking

## Talk about it

1 Read these statements. Check (✓) your opinions.

- |   | Yes                      | No                       | Maybe                    |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a It's easier to get to know someone on the Internet before you meet in person. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b Internet dating is only for desperate people.                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c Dating agencies just want to make money out of lonely people.                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Make a group and compare your opinions.