Dating

The topic of this unit is dating. In this unit you will discuss dating and who should pay on a date. You will also learn how to agree and disagree with each other.



Task 1 – Warm-up questions

Work in pairs or small groups and discuss the questions about dating. Try to give long answers and ask follow-up questions. The best ways to do this are explained on pages 60-61.

- 1. What do you think is a good age for people to start dating? Why?
- 2. Are you dating anyone at the moment? If "Yes," how long have you been dating?
- 3. Where do you like to go on dates?
- 4. What places are popular in your hometown for dating couples?
- 5. Is it easy to get a boyfriend or girlfriend in your country? Explain.
- 6. Where/How do young people usually meet boyfriends or girlfriends?
- 7. Who usually pays on your dates in your country: you, your boyfriend or girlfriend, or does each person pay half of the cost?
- 8. Do you think that boys/men should pay for the girl/woman on dates?
- 9. How many times is it good to meet a boyfriend or girlfriend each week? Explain.
- 10. Do you think it is good for high school or university students to have boyfriends or girlfriends or not? Explain.



Task 2 – Vocabulary

Below are some of the words that you will hear in the conversation. Match the words on the left with the explanations on the right.



(n) = noun (v) = verb (adj) = adjective

(adv) = adverb



 disappointed (adj)	a) a word that shows something is more important
 mean (adj)	b) to use or pay for something with other people.
 shocked (adj)	c) not changing quickly
 share (v)	d) old ideas or actions or with old style looks
 especially (adv)	e) bad or stupid
 crazy (adj)	f) feeling sad or unhappy
 equal (adj)	g) sometimes but not many times
 old-fashioned (adj)	h) surprised by something that it is not good
 traditional (adj)	i) being the same
occasionally	j) not wanting to give or use money

A technique to help you learn and remember this vocabulary is on pages 61-62.



Task 3 – Listening and note taking

Listen to the conversation about dating and make notes. The best way to do this is explained on pages 62-63.

Exercise 1 - Main points

Answer the questions about the main points discussed in the conversation.

1. What is the name of Miyuki's new boyfriend? 2. Where did Miyuki go for her date? 3. What does Ashley say she always does with her boyfriend? 4. What does Miyuki's boyfriend do? 5. What does Miyuki say about her country?

Exercise 2 - Details

According to what people say in the conversation, which of the following sentences are true and which are false? Circle T for true or F for false.

1.	Miyuki really enjoyed her first date.	T	F
2.	Miyuki thinks that she should pay half for the meal.	T	F
3.	Ashley disagrees with Miyuki about who should pay on dates.	T	F
4.	Ashley thinks Miyuki is a little old-fashioned.	T	F
5.	Miyuki's boyfriend has a lot of money.	Т	F



Task 4 – Pair-work comprehension

Compare your notes and answers with your partner or group to check your understanding of the conversation. The language you need to do this is on page 63.



Task 5 – Reading

Read the conversation on page 55 and check how much you understood. Ask your partner, ask your teacher, or use your dictionary if there is anything you did not understand.



Task 6 - Speaking practice

Practise reading the conversation with a partner. Try to sound like the people in the audio clip.







Task 7 – Further discussion

Discuss the following questions with your partner or group.

- 1. Who do you agree with most, Ashley or Miyuki? Why?
- 2. Have you ever had a disappointing first date? Explain.
- 3. How much money does it usually cost to go on a date?
- 4. Is it usual for couples to share the costs in your country? Explain.
- 5. Do you agree that it is old-fashioned for men to pay for everything on a date or not?
- 6. Do you think your country has traditional or old ideas about dating or not?
- 7. Do you think it is okay or normal for a woman to ask a man for a date? Explain.
- 8. Would you go on a blind date? (A date with someone you have never met before.)
- 9. What would you do if your boyfriend/girlfriend was really mean with money?
- 10. Do you think Miyuki should change her way of thinking?



Task 8 – Language focus

Agreeing and disagreeing

When people tell you their opinions and reasons, you must decide and say if you agree or disagree with their ideas.

Look at how each person agreed or disagreed in the example conversation.

Miyuki says:

- Men should pay on dates.
- One of the things that [men should do] is pay for dates.

Ashley replies:

- Well, I don't agree with that idea.
- Well, I am sorry but I don't believe that.

Ashley says:

- It's normal to share the cost these days.
- I always offer to share the costs with my Why? That's a crazy idea. bovfriend.
- I think men and women should be equal Well, I agree that we should be equal. in everything.
- That's an old-fashioned way of thinking.
- Remember that Johan is a student, too.
 Yeah, that's true, I guess.

Miyuki replies:

- Normal? No, I don't think so.

- I disagree.

Here are some other ways to agree and disagree with someone.

Agreeing

- I completely/totally agree (with you).
- I agree one hundred per cent. [100%]
- I agree (with you).
- Yes, I think that's/you're right.
- That's true.

KARACKE

- Yes, I believe that, too.
- I think so, too.
- Perhaps (you're right).
- I guess so/not.

Disagreeing

- I completely/totally disagree (with you).
- I disagree one hundred per cent. [100%]
- I disagree (with you).
- No, I think that's/you're wrong.
- That isn't true.
- No, I don't believe that.
- I don't think so.
- I'm not (so) sure (about that).

Exercise 1

Look at the opinions below and decide if you agree or disagree with the opinion. Use the language above to write your replies.

- 1. I'm sure that ghosts don't exist.
- 2. Learning English is very important. ____
- 3. Football is more interesting than baseball.
- 4. Men are better drivers than women.
- 5. My country is the best in the world to live in.

Exercise 2

Ask your partner what he or she wrote about each opinion and tell your partner how you feel about each opinion.



Task 9 – Telling a story about a date

Choice 1

Your teacher will put you into small groups. Tell your group about an interesting date that you have had. You can choose:

- A surprising date
- A strange date
- A wonderful date
- A terrible date

Choice 2

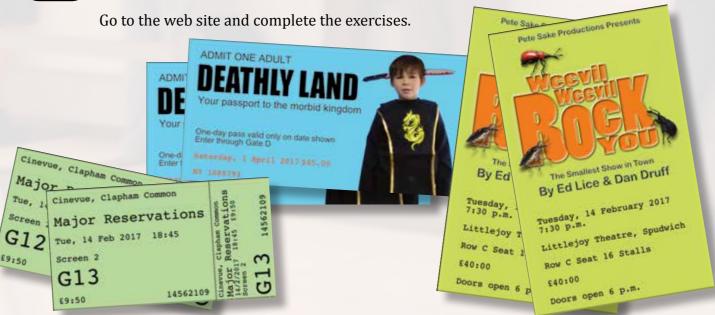
Tell your group about a perfect fantasy date. Explain where you would go and what you would do.

Talk for as long as you can. When you finish, your group must decide who told the best story.



Task 10 – Follow-up

Write a paragraph about dating. You can write on notepaper or on the web site.



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