Love on a laptop? 网上寻真爱

英语学习点: 恋爱词汇 Vocabulary: Dating

"So, where did you guys meet?"

New **couples** often face this question from eager friends who are keen to hear about the beginnings of their love story.

Increasingly, the answer is "on the internet". **Online dating** is a booming industry, worth an estimated £2.5 billion (25 billion yuan) across the world.

So what is it that is making so many of us turn to our computers to find love?

In the past, love may have **blossomed** in the workplace or in the pub and some brave individuals may even have agreed to be **set up** on a **blind date**. But nowadays, busy lifestyles and the popularity of online **social networking** have changed our attitudes towards **romance.**

Internet dating websites have become popular as a way of searching for the **perfect mate**. People who use the sites can search **profiles** of hundreds of **single** people, and with just a few clicks can see instantly whether someone is **attractive** or not.

But are we becoming too **dismissive** of potential dates? Site users can make **snap judgements** based on people's profile pictures and don't consider whether they may actually have real things **in common**.

For this reason, some sites place more importance on personality tests rather than pictures to match users who may be **compatible**. On one British site, single people complete a test of 250 questions before the site uses complex algorithms to select **suitable** partners.

Of course, for some people, regardless of the technology, the whole process is distasteful - like 'shopping' for a partner.

But as the growth in the sector shows, there are plenty of **singletons** who don't have time for such romantic ideas, and are more than happy to pay **Cupid** for a strike.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部

Take Away English 随身英语

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Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. According to the article, what has become a popular way of finding a new partner?
2. Why have our attitudes towards dating changed?
3. True, false or not given: *Dating websites give people lots of choice when finding a partner.*
4. Look at the article. What verb collocates with the word 'love' and describes a growing affection?
5. Look at the article. Can you find an adjective to describe people that suit one another?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I think that romance has _____ between Dave and Susan!

started	opened	blossomed	set up

2. Take time to think about the job offer; don't make a _____ decision.

snap	fast	slow	snip

3. Can you come over to my place tonight? I've joined an online dating site and I need to write my _____.

info page	profile	factfile	picture page

4. Don't be too _____ of online dating until you've tried it!

displeased	disinterested	disappointing	dismissive

5. I'm so surprised they've been married so long – they've got nothing _____.

attractive	compatible	in common	suitable

Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. According to the article, what has become a popular way of finding a new partner? <u>Online dating</u>
2. Why have our attitudes towards dating changed? <u>Due to busier lifestyles and the popularity of social networking</u>
3. True, false or not given: *Dating websites give people lots of choice when finding a partner.* <u>True – "People who use the sites can search profiles of hundreds of single people."</u>
4. Look at the article. What verb collocates with the word 'love' and describes a growing affection? <u>To blossom.</u>
5. Look at the article. Can you find an adjective to describe people that suit one another? <u>Compatible</u>

Exercise 练习
1. I think that romance has <u>blossomed</u> between Dave and Susan!
2. Take time to think about the job offer; don't make a <u>snap</u> decision.
3. Can you come over to my place tonight? I've joined an online dating site and I need to write my <u>profile</u>.
4. Don't be too <u>dismissive</u> of online dating until you've tried it!
5. I'm so surprised they've been married so long – they've got nothing <u>in common</u>.

Glossary 词汇表

couples	情侣
online dating	网上交友
for love to blossom	让爱滋长
to set something up	设定（约会）
a blind date	（由第三方安排的）男女初次约会
social networking	社交
romance	爱情，情感
perfect mate	完美的配偶
profiles	个人资料
single	单身的
attractive	吸引人的，有魅力的
dismissive	不屑的
a snap judgement	一瞬间做出的判断
in common	有共同语言的
compatible	合得来的，能共处的
suitable	合适的
a singleton	单身人士
Cupid	丘比特，爱神