

READING AND SPEAKING

A blind date

1 In a survey, 10,000 couples were asked how and where they first met. How do you think most couples meet? Look at the chart and match a line with a percentage.

How did they meet?	%
at school or university	12%
at work	15%
at a bar or club	20%
online	5%
through friends	8%
through family	4%
a blind date	13%
while shopping	22%
none of these	1%

TIP Listen to the survey results. Did anything surprise you? Talk about couples you know. How did they meet?

2 Each week the *Guardian* newspaper organizes a blind date between two of its readers. Look at the pictures and read the introduction.

- Who are the people? How old are they?
- What are their jobs?
- Where did they meet?

3 Work in two groups.

Group A Read what Sally says about Dominic. Group B Read what Dominic says about Sally.

Answer the questions in your group.

- 1 Were they both nervous when they met?
- 2 How does he/she describe her/him?
- 3 What did they talk about?
- 4 Why was she/he embarrassed?
- 5 What did they use to eat their food?
- 6 What were the best things about him/her?
- 7 What didn't he/she talk about?
- 8 How did the evening end?
- 9 How did she/he travel home?

4 Compare answers with someone from the other group. What do Sally and Dominic have in common? What don't they have in common?

What happened next?

5 Do you think Sally and Dominic will meet again? Take a class vote.

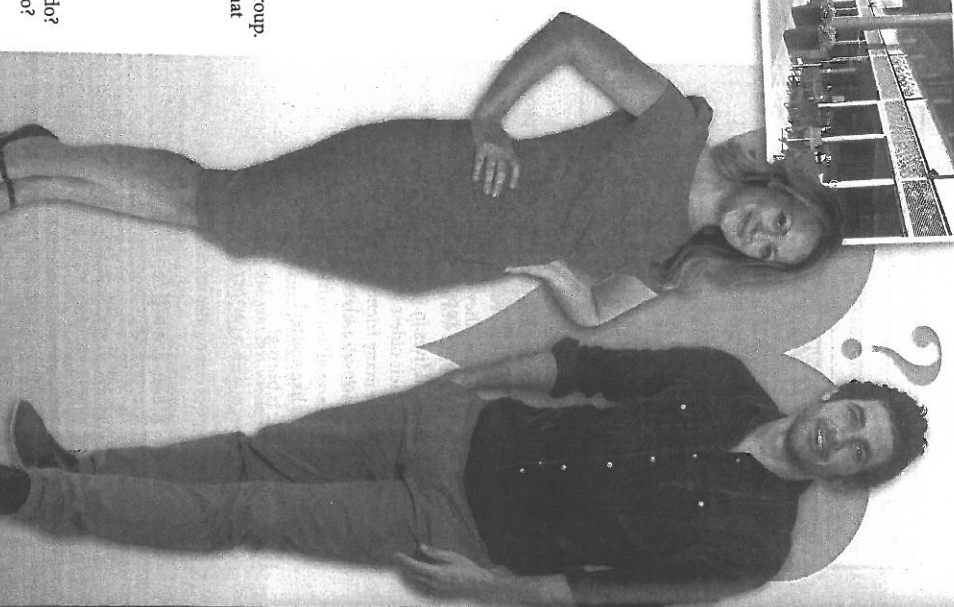
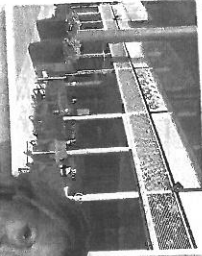
6 **TIP** Listen to Dominic and Sally. What did they do? What are they doing now? What are they going to do?

Blind date

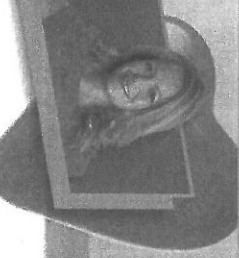
This week

Sally Fox, 25, tennis coach meets Dominic Evo, 29, actor.

They met in a Chinese restaurant called Ping Pong. Will they ever meet again?



Sally
talking
about Dominic



Dominic
talking
about Sally



First impressions? He was friendly, tall, and attractive. We laughed together from the start, I think because we were both a bit nervous.

What did you talk about? So many things – places we want to travel to, such as South America. Sport, of course. Unfortunately Dom doesn't play much sport, but he's going to run the marathon this year. His acting – I don't often go to the theatre so I didn't have a lot to say.

Any difficult moments? I couldn't decide how to greet him when we first met. I shook his hand and he tried to kiss my cheek. That was a bit embarrassing, but we laughed about it.

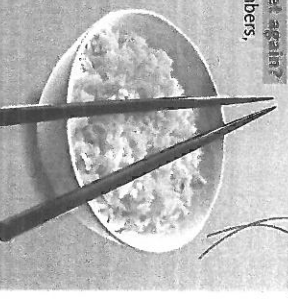
Good table manners? Yes, very. He couldn't use chopsticks, but he tried.

Best thing about him? He was chatty and funny. He didn't just talk about himself, he asked me questions. It was nice to meet a guy who wasn't crazy about football.

Did you go on somewhere? Just to the square next to the restaurant. There was a piano with a notice 'please play me' – so Dom did. He can play the piano very well. It was a great way to end the evening. He lives out of town, so he went to get his train.

Marks out of 10? I liked him more and more as the evening progressed. 8.

Would you like to meet again? Maybe. We swapped numbers, so we'll see.



First impressions? She smiled a lot. She has a lovely smile and amazing green eyes. I think she was a bit nervous. I loved her red dress – it was very red indeed.

What did you talk about? Everything – travel, we both want to visit Chile; cooking, I love it, Sally hates it; sport, I hate it, Sally loves it, but I am training to run the marathon for charity; the theatre, I have a small part in a small theatre at the moment.

Any difficult moments? Not really. Oh yes, I could see that the waiter knew it was a blind date. That was embarrassing.

Good table manners? Very good. I like a girl who enjoys her food and she could use chopsticks. I was impressed with that.

Best thing about her? The green eyes! And she was really easy to talk to. She was interested and interesting. She didn't just talk about sport.

Did you go on somewhere? Well, we didn't go far. We found a piano – they are all over the city at the moment with signs saying 'please play me'. I played, but I'm not very good. Sally sang, she can't sing at all. We made a terrible noise! It was good fun. Then she caught the bus home.

Marks out of 10? She can't sing, but I like her. 9

Would you like to meet again? Definitely. She left very hurriedly, but she has my number.

Vocabulary

7 Match the lines about Sally.

Sally was interested _____ because she was funny and made him laugh.
Sally was interesting _____ so she asked him a lot of questions.

8 Complete the adjectives with *-ed* or *-ing*.

- 1 Thank you. That lesson was really interest _____.
- 2 It's my birthday tomorrow so I'm very excit _____.
- 3 Look at the view! It's amaz _____.
- 4 I didn't like her new boyfriend. He was very bor _____.
- 5 Don't be embarrass _____. Everybody cries sometimes.