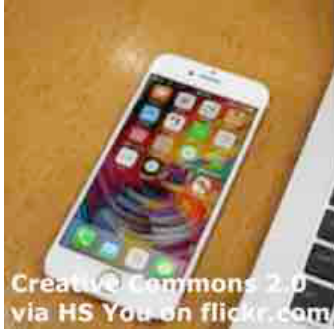


Dating apps are becoming less popular

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For nearly two decades, smartphones have played a huge role in romance, love and dating. Dozens of apps have been created to make it easier to meet a partner. However, dating app companies seem to be in trouble. The world's two largest companies

have lost more than \$40 billion in market value since 2021. Workers for these companies are losing their jobs. The reason for this is that fewer young people are paying to use the apps. The app companies rely on subscriptions to make a profit. However, many teenagers and people in their twenties no longer want to subscribe to use dating apps. Instead, they are choosing to use free platforms like Snapchat and TikTok to find romance.

In 2017, NBC News predicted that by 2040, the percentage of couples meeting online would be 70 per cent. Today in the United States, 30 per cent of adults, and over half of adults under 30, use dating apps. About a third of dating app users say they pay for them. However, times are changing. Younger people around the world have less money to spend on things like apps. The New York Times interviewed young people about dating apps. One 18-year-old student said she preferred to meet people in person or through direct messages on social media. She said dating apps were for "casual use, like a game". She added that none of her friends paid for them. She thought that paying for an app was a no-no.

Sources: nytimes.com / wikipedia.org / msn.com

Writing

Dating apps are the best way to meet a new partner. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

two decades / smartphones / romance / love / dating / jobs / subscriptions / profit / couples / adults / dating apps / meeting people / direct messages / social media

True / False

- 1) Online dating has been around for thirty years. T / F
- 2) The article said there are hundreds of online dating apps. T / F
- 3) Fewer young people want to pay for an online dating app. T / F
- 4) Many people are using platforms like TikTok instead of dating apps. T / F
- 5) Thirty per cent of adults in the USA use dating apps. T / F
- 6) Younger people are richer but do not want to buy dating apps. T / F
- 7) A student said she prefers to meet people in person rather than online. T / F
- 8) Some of the student's friends have paid for a dating app. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. decade | a. talked to |
| 2. romance | b. cause |
| 3. trouble | c. forecast |
| 4. reason | d. love |
| 5. choosing | e. would rather |
| 6. predicted | f. believed |
| 7. interviewed | g. ten years |
| 8. preferred to | h. notes |
| 9. messages | i. difficulty |
| 10. thought | j. opting |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Is using an app the best way to find a partner?
- c) Do you prefer meeting people in person or online?
- d) In what way are dating apps like a game?
- e) What are the worst things about dating apps?
- f) What will dating be like in the future?
- g) Is using dating apps a no-no?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the app makers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. For nearly two | a. on things like apps |
| 2. smartphones have played a huge | b. to make a profit |
| 3. Dozens of apps have | c. was a no-no |
| 4. app companies rely on subscriptions | d. meeting online |
| 5. teenagers and people in | e. role in romance |
| 6. the percentage of couples | f. in person |
| 7. a third of dating app users say | g. been created |
| 8. have less money to spend | h. they pay for them |
| 9. she preferred to meet people | i. decades |
| 10. She thought that paying for an app | j. their twenties |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of dating?
- What do you think of dating apps?
- How easy is it to find a partner?
- What are the best things about dating apps?
- Would you pay for a dating app?
- Are arranged marriages better than using dating apps?
- Are social media platforms better than dating apps?
- What advice do you have for people who want to find a partner?

Spelling

- nearly two eseacdd
- played a huge role in cnoaerm
- \$40 billion in market ulaev
- app companies rely on rupiscnotsbsi
- teenagers and people in their eiwtnets
- use free prtslfoam like Snapchat
- NBC News ecterddpi that
- the rnpcgateee of couples
- The New York Times evetndewrii young people
- she epdfererr to meet people in person
- through direct egsemsas on social media
- She said dating apps were for luscaa use

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. c	7. a	8. e	9. h	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Poetry

You think poetry is the most romantic thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as romantic. Also, tell the others which is the least romantic of these (and why): holding hands, candlelit dinners or walks along the beach.

Role B – Holding Hands

You think holding hands is the most romantic thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as romantic. Also, tell the others which is the least romantic of these (and why): poetry, candlelit dinners or walks along the beach.

Role C – Candlelit Dinners

You think candlelit dinners are the most romantic thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as romantic. Also, tell the others which is the least romantic of these (and why): holding hands, poetry or walks along the beach.

Role D – Walks Along the Beach

You think walks along the beach are the most romantic thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as romantic. Also, tell the others which is the least romantic of these (and why): holding hands, candlelit dinners or poetry.

Speaking – Romance

Rank these with your partner. Put the most romantic things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| • Poetry | • Candlelit dinners |
| • Chocolates | • Walks on the beach |
| • Red roses | • Holding hands |
| • Love letters | • Paying compliments |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	T	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.