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Level 5

Shanghai IKEA bans old people from dating

20th October, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

The furniture store IKEA has banned old people from dating at its store in Shanghai. Store managers decided to stop what they described as 'illegal date clubs'. Since the store opened, hundreds of lonely, divorced or widowed elderly people have gone to the cafeteria in search of love and friendship. Many of them did not buy anything. Management said they used seats for 'extended periods,' 'spoke loudly,' 'spat on the floor,' 'flirted' and had 'quarrels and fights'. The store said: "From today, the restaurant will only be for people who purchase their food first."

The elderly people are angry about the ban. They say they have nowhere to go. One regular said: "We've been to McDonald's and KFC, but there are barely any of our peers there. We feel like aliens there - surrounded by youngsters." Another frequent visitor said: "Few people know just how lonely old people are. Our kids are not around, and some visit only on weekends. I feel quite good when I come here. I talk with friends, but some elderly do meet people who become lovers." Customers have little sympathy for those in search of love. They complain that there is nowhere to sit.

Sources: <http://news.nationalpost.com/news/world/ikea-losing-patience-with-elderly-chinese-who-assemble-in-store-to-find-love>
<http://news.asiaone.com/news/asia/ikea-eatery-its-no-pay-no-stay>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/ikea-bans-illegal-blind-dating-group-store-cafeteria-in-shanghai-china-a7359271.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. banned old people | a. fights |
| 2. what they described as | b. search of love |
| 3. lonely, divorced | c. from dating at its store |
| 4. gone to the cafeteria in | d. their food first |
| 5. they used seats for extended | e. floor |
| 6. spat on the | f. 'illegal date clubs' |
| 7. quarrels and | g. or widowed |
| 8. for people who purchase | h. periods |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The elderly people are angry | a. sympathy |
| 2. They say they have | b. aliens there |
| 3. We feel like | c. quite good |
| 4. surrounded | d. is nowhere to sit |
| 5. Few people know just how | e. nowhere to go |
| 6. I feel | f. lonely old people are |
| 7. Customers have little | g. about the ban |
| 8. They complain that there | h. by youngsters |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

The furniture store IKEA has banned old people (1) _____ its store in Shanghai. Store managers (2) _____ what they described as 'illegal date clubs'. Since the store opened, hundreds of lonely, divorced (3) _____ elderly people have gone to the cafeteria in search of love and friendship. Many of (4) _____ buy anything. Management said they used seats for 'extended periods,' 'spoke loudly,' 'spat on the floor,' 'flirted' and (5) _____ fights'. The store said: "From today, the restaurant will only be for people who purchase (6) _____."

The elderly people are (7) _____ ban. They say they have nowhere to go. One regular said: "We've been to McDonald's and KFC, but there are (8) _____ our peers there. We feel like aliens there - surrounded by youngsters." Another (9) _____ said: "Few people know (10) _____ old people are. Our kids are not around, and some (11) _____ weekends. I feel quite good when I come here. I talk with friends, but some elderly do meet people who become lovers." Customers have (12) _____ for those in search of love. They complain that there is nowhere to sit.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

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DATING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dating in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161020-dating-5.html>

Write about **dating** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
