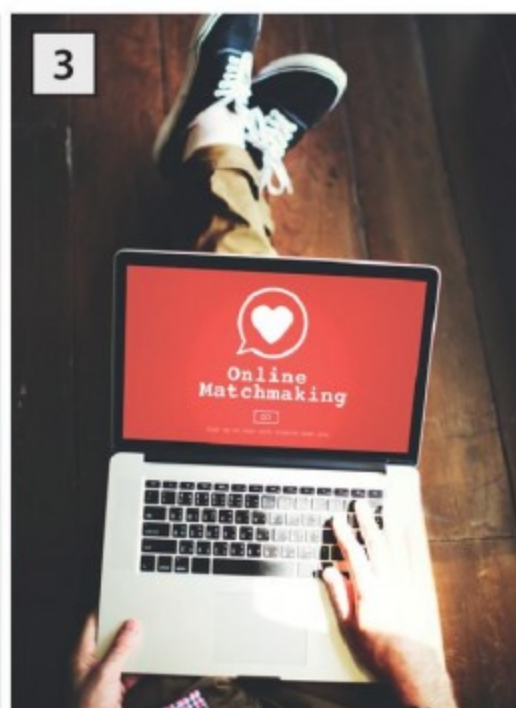
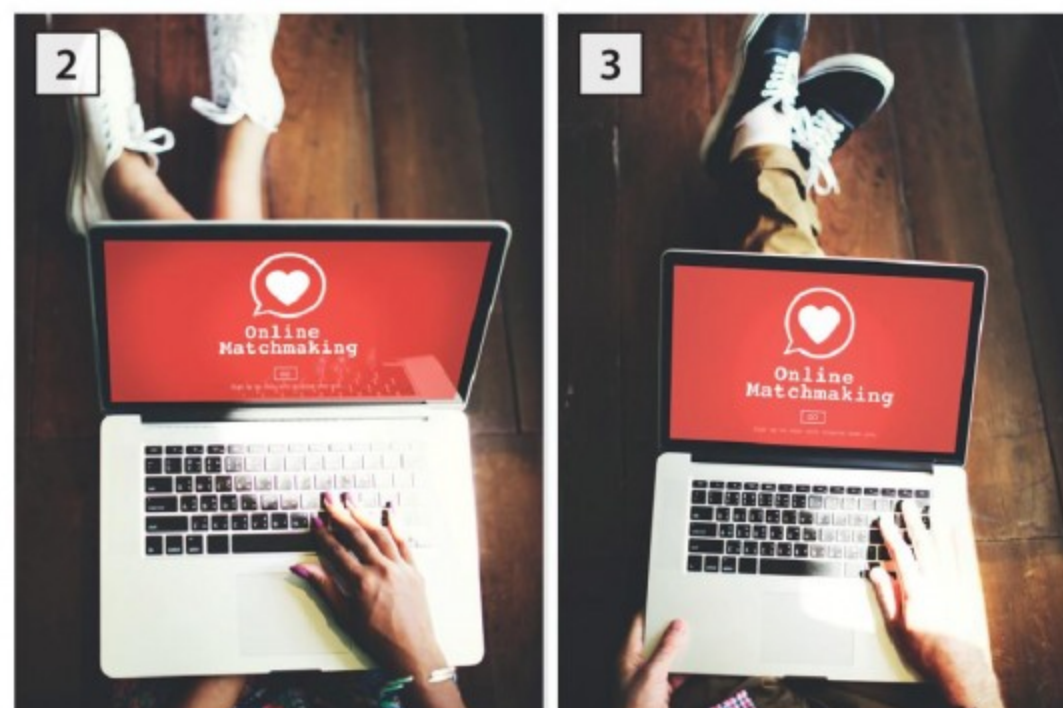


Listening and speaking

Professional matchmakers!

1 Work in small groups. Discuss together.

- What story do photos 1–5 illustrate?
- What are common ways for people to meet their marriage partner?
- How did your parents meet?
- How and why do people sometimes 'matchmake' for each other?



2 7.10 Listen to and read the introduction to a radio programme about matchmakers. Answer the questions.

- 1 What does the presenter say may be 'antiquated' today? Why?
- 2 Where are the two matchmakers from?
- 3 How do you think their approach to matchmaking might differ?

BBC WORLD SERVICE – The Conversation: 'Matchmakers'



Kim Chakanetsa:

Hello, and welcome to *The Conversation*. Today we are talking about love with two matchmakers.

In an age where meeting the love of your life is a matter of logging on, the notion of paying someone to help you find love may seem a little antiquated. 'Not so,' say my guests, who have brought together many couples over the years. My first guest is **Aleeza Ben Shalom**. She's based in Philadelphia in the United States. Aleeza, welcome.

ABS: Hi Kim, thank you.

KC: My other guest, **Geeta Khanna** describes her role as that of a professional matchmaker and she's based in New Delhi. Geeta, hello.

GK: Hello, how are you?

KC: Very well, thank you. Now, let's get started.

3 7.11 Listen to the rest of the programme. Answer the questions.

- 1 Aleeza and Geeta both compare a first date to a job interview, but they have different views. What are they?
- 2 What examples do they give of 'typical questions'? What are less typical?
- 3 Why does Aleeza say that a bit of coaching is necessary? What does Kim say about this?
- 4 Who charges the most for their services? What does Kim think of their fees?
- 5 Why do you think Aleeza says 'How expensive is divorce?'
- 6 Why does Kim say 'Wow!' when she hears how Geeta met her husband?
- 7 Why does Geeta think marrying young is a good idea?
- 8 What has changed about the gender balance and people's expectations over the years?

What do you think?

- What is the best age to get married?
- Are matchmakers a good or bad thing? Make a list of possible advantages and disadvantages.
- Is a blind date matchmaking?
- Would you ever use any kind of matchmaking?

➔ Writing p137 Arguing your case – For and against