

A nervous first date

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. You can also read the transcript.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a blind date
2. a dating app
3. to show up
4. to not have a clue
5. to break up
6. a sidecar
7. good to go
8. to settle in

Definition

- a. to be completely ignorant
- b. to end a romantic relationship
- c. ready/prepared
- d. to begin to feel comfortable in a place which is not familiar
- e. a small vehicle which is usually attached to the side of a motorbike
- f. to appear in a specific place
- g. an occasion when two people who have never seen each other go out together
- h. an app or website which people use to meet people looking for a romantic relationship

Task 1 – True or false?

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answers	
	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
1. Arunima doesn't normally use dating apps to meet new people.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
2. Simon knew before the date that Arunima was a wheelchair user.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
3. Simon has never had a real relationship before.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
4. Simon prefers watching films with his dog to watching films with a girlfriend.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
5. Arunima shares Simon's love for animals.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
6. Arunima says that when she's on a date, she thinks a lot about the other person's opinion of her.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
7. Simon suggests that he could help Arunima make her dream come true.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
8. At the end of the video, both Arunima and Simon say that they are still a little nervous.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>

Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. the worst. Going for me is a blind date on
2. a wheelchair. a clue that I'm in he doesn't have I'm so scared because
3. fun. on your own a film is not as Watching
4. check on some patients. I had to so I'm a vet
5. the other person what is thinking. constantly I'm worrying
6. me and not the chair. to see to rely I really have on the person that's looking at
me

Discussion

Do you think Arunima and Simon would make a good couple? Have you ever been on a blind date?

Transcript

Arunima: Going on a blind date for me is the worst. If it's on, let's say, a dating app, they've seen pictures of me in the wheelchair, they've asked the questions that they need to ask and they've made an informed decision about the fact that they want to turn up.

Waiter: It'll be all right.

Arunima: Really?

Waiter: Of course. The tension is good.

Arunima: Tension is never good.

Waiter: But the thing is, you carry it very well. You're full of life and energy, I can tell.

Arunima: OK.

Arunima: I'm so scared because he doesn't have a clue that I'm in a wheelchair. I don't want him to think that he's wasted his time.

Commentator: Arunima's blind date is veterinary surgeon Simon.

Waiter: How are you?

Simon: Very well, thank you. How are you?

Waiter: Very good, thank you. What's your name?

Simon: Simon.

Commentator: He already has one significant other in his life.

Simon: My dog's called Oliver. He's probably my most important relationship at the minute.

Waiter: How are you feeling?

Simon: A bit nervous.

Waiter: Yeah?

Simon: I broke up with my girlfriend back in the summer, so now I'm ready to find someone new. Watching a film on your own's not as fun.

Waiter: Would you like to follow me?

Simon: Oliver doesn't get the films either. He doesn't get the plots, it's ... He doesn't get the jokes, it's ... it's not as good.

Arunima: Arunima. Nice to meet you. How are you doing?

Simon: We're going two?

Arunima: Two! We're going to go two!

Arunima: I'm scared!

Simon: You're scared?

Arunima: Are you a little bit scared?

Simon: A little bit nervous.

Arunima: It'll all be fine, though.

Simon: It'll be all right. We'll have a bit of fun.

Arunima: Yeah, good.

Simon: Where have you come from, then?

Arunima: Angel.

Simon: Oh, are you London-based?

Arunima: Yeah, yeah. You?

Simon: Yeah, Kingston. Well, I was working this morning. I'm a vet so I had to check on some patients this morning.

Arunima: Really?!

Simon: Yeah.

Arunima: I prefer animals to people.

Simon: So do I.

Arunima: Yeah, in every single way.

Arunima: I think when you enter a room and you see somebody that you might be interested in, you make a judgement within five seconds. And with me, I'm worrying constantly what that other person's thinking.

Arunima: The dream is to have a dog. Well, to have, like, a little sidecar and it can just ride along with me.

Arunima: I really have to rely on the person that's looking at me to see me and not the chair.

Simon: Well, I've got a dog. It can work!

Arunima: Really?

Simon: Yeah, so ...

Arunima: What's his name?

Simon: Oliver.

Arunima: You should have asked if you could have brought him!

Arunima: You know, once we're sat down and chatting and I can ... I feel that the other person's OK with it, I'm all right, I'm good to go.

Arunima: Right. Let's cheers to our date.

Simon: Cheers.

Arunima: Cheers. I'm a bit less nervous now, so ...

Simon: We've settled in quite well. Have you?

Arunima: I know. We've grooved in, haven't we?

Answers

Preparation task

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

Task 1

1. False
2. False
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. True

Task 2

1. Going on a blind date for me is the worst.
2. I'm so scared because he doesn't have a clue that I'm in a wheelchair.
3. Watching a film on your own is not as fun.
4. I'm a vet so I had to check on some patients.
5. I'm worrying constantly what the other person is thinking.
6. I really have to rely on the person that's looking at me to see me and not the chair.