



LESSON 4 - Love and Hate Printout B

How Technology Is Affecting Relationships

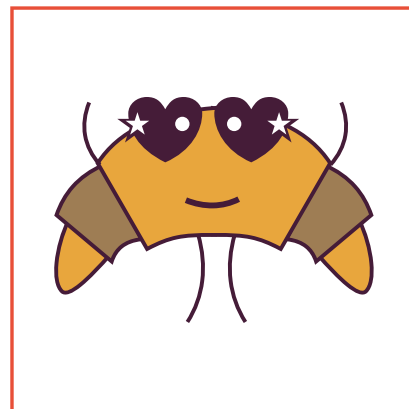
In the old days, life was simple. A young man (1)**would**..... meet a girl at a dance, ask her father permission to marry her, and they would live happily ever after. Then came the iPhone and everything changed.



These days, young people don't (2)**ask**..... each other out. There aren't romantic, awkward first dates, or the growth of attraction as people slowly take (3)**to**..... each other. Young people simply swipe left or right on dating apps. They don't exchange love letters. They send each other emojis. They don't even (4)**break**..... up face to face. Instead, they send their partner a meme saying 'ya dumped' - after updating their social media profiles to read 'relationship status: single'.

In the past the main thing that would come (5)**between**..... a couple was money. Today a couple is (6)**more**..... likely to break up because one didn't 'like' the other's Instagram photo of a croissant.

And (7)**what**..... about other kinds of relationships? In school, bullying is easier than (8)**ever**..... . Now, a child can be picked on (9)**by**..... the 'cool kids' 24 hours a day through the miracle of Whatsapp. Famous people don't (10)**put**..... effort into meeting fans - they hire someone to run their Twitter account. And social media allows extremist groups to spring (11)**up**..... in incredible numbers.



Perhaps Facebook is right and we are all more connected than we have ever been before. But that dubious benefit is more than (12)**canceled**..... out by how lonely this technology can make us.