

CYBERDATING

The day has come when internet dating is considered a legitimate way of meeting new people in the endless search for the right person. Chat rooms have replaced bar rooms, and dating sites and personal ads no longer have the “stigma” that they once did. You may still get a raised eyebrow when telling people you are using the internet in your search for the perfect mate, but nowhere close to the reaction you would have gotten years ago.

Internet dating has gained popularity and unfortunately so have the dangers and horror stories some people have encountered. The anonymity of internet dating has afforded con artists a new playground for scams, and has allowed people to be anyone they think you want them to be because they are engaging you primarily through the written word.

It's not impossible to find love through internet dating, but people must be informed of the dangers that are out there. Internet dating is still a relatively new way of people connecting with people from all over the globe, and people need to understand the dangers out there so they can make their search a safe one.

<http://www.dangersofinternetdating.com/> (adapted)

READING COMPREHENSION

A. Read the text carefully and then answer true (T) or false (F). Correct the false statements.

1. The Internet is seen as a place where you can find a person to date.
2. Dating sites and personal ads are much criticized.
3. Along with internet dating, many dangers have arisen.
4. It's impossible to find love through the Internet.

B. Establish connections between the words from the text in column A and their correct meaning in column B.

COLUMN A

1. endless ☐
2. search ☐
3. replace ☐
4. ads ☐
5. raised eyebrow ☐
6. encounter ☐
7. con artist ☐
8. scams ☐

COLUMN B

- a. continuous ☐
- b. deceptions ☐
- c. cheater ☐
- d. chase ☐
- e. advertisements ☐
- f. substitute ☐
- g. disagreement ☐
- h. meeting ☐

C. Find opposites of the following words in the text.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. illegitimate (paragraph 1) | 4. old (paragraph 3) |
| 2. wrong (paragraph 1) | 5. unsafe (paragraph 3) |
| 3. popularity (paragraph 2) | |

D. Complete the sentences according to the text:

1. Bar rooms have been replaced by...
2. The anonymity of internet dating has allowed con artists...
3. People must be aware of the dangers...
4. Internet dating is still a relatively new way of people connecting...

GRAMMAR

A. Use the modal verbs *should* / *shouldn't*; *must* / *mustn't* to fill in the gaps.

1. _____ chat rooms replace bar rooms?
2. The dangers and horror stories that have come with the Internet _____ have gained so much popularity.
3. You _____ give you personal details online because you are engaging primarily through the written word and you don't really know who you are talking to.
4. You _____ understand the dangers out there so you can make your search a safe one.

B. Circle the correct option. The verb has to be in the past simple.

1. A friend recently told / telled me that the Internet chat rooms are becoming more of a problem with teenagers than even television, movies, videos, rock music, and such things.
2. I learned / learn of a man who has ruined his life and his family by developing a romance via a chat room.
3. I didn't know / didn't knew that there was any danger associated with chat rooms.
4. Did you use / Did you used chat rooms with extreme caution?

C. Fill in the gaps with the comparative of superiority of the adjectives given.

1. Chat rooms are _____ (dangerous) than you can imagine.
2. People feel _____ (happy) when they communicate using the MSN.
3. Some conversations on chat rooms are _____ (interesting) than others.
4. The dangers are _____ (big) if you give your personal information through the net.

D. Fill in the gaps with the correct verb form of present perfect.

1. Chat rooms and dating sites _____ (replace) bar rooms.
2. Internet dating _____ (gain) popularity.
3. People _____ (encounter) the dangers that are out there.
4. The anonymity of internet dating _____ (allow) con artists a new playground for scams.

[illegible]

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