

LÍNGUA INGLESA – QUESTÕES DE 06 A 10**Cybercourtship**

01 *It is hard to imagine the basic human behavior called “flirting” ever changing significantly. Yet, recently,*  
02 *there has been a strange new twist put on romantic courtship.*

03 *Internet technology has now made it possible for more people to meet and, in some cases, develop a*  
04 *romance online. There are numerous chat rooms, bulletin boards, online dating services and personal-ad*  
05 *posting services available on the World Wide Web – which some are discovering is a virtual meeting*  
06 *ground for couples. If you’re shy, meeting online can be a much less frightening experience than meeting*  
07 *in person for the first time. And if you’re busy, you can e-mail and develop an online relationship at your*  
08 *convenience. These days, the Internet allows users to meet in virtual reality and communicate the process*  
08 *of first love without going through those awkward moments in traditional face-to-face flirtation sequence.*

10 *Traditionally, humans have recognized their growing attraction for other people via stages of physical*  
11 *proximity. Except for maybe the platonic relationship that one might develop with a pen pal, it is natural that*  
12 *you want to see and know the other person before developing any genuine desire for that person. But*  
13 *Internet social life demonstrates that it is not necessary to see someone in order to begin to feel something*  
14 *for that person. Sometimes it is easier to get to know someone because online there are fewer of the*  
15 *inhibitions that normally go with visual contact.*

16 *With virtual romance there is no chaperone. The boundaries between people’s thoughts quickly become*  
17 *very “permeable,” that is, easy to pass or flow through. People say things to one another online that they*  
18 *would never mention to a new acquaintance at a party or in a bar. It can be easy to form a quick, intense*  
19 *bond online. This does not happen simply because the inhibitions of physical proximity are removed.*  
20 *Talking (writing) online has its own characteristics of freedom and speed – grammar and syntax rules no*  
21 *longer apply as they do in formal writing or even in speaking, and words therefore flow much faster and*  
22 *more expressively. It seems to be so free, completely without boundaries or rules. But is it?*

23 *Although informational boundaries and government controls are certainly decreased through the internet,*  
24 *strangely enough there still exist subtle interpersonal boundaries. In fact, although Internet*  
25 *communications technology has made some boundaries more permeable than they were before and*  
26 *allows us to make certain kinds of direct connections much faster, it has actually made the boundaries*  
27 *much more sensitive and difficult to predict. Anyone who has used e-mail much has noticed how easily*  
28 *one’s casual, quickly typed comment can be misunderstood, how suddenly the tone of e-mails can change,*  
29 *how small conflicts can develop rapidly from a few lines. That is, in cyberspace, because of the lack of*  
30 *physical cues and feedback, it is much easier to misunderstand, upset and insult the receiver, and*  
31 *likewise, become bothered by the message. Because communication happens very quickly and is based*  
32 *solely on written words without any physical feedback from body language, it becomes hard to control the*  
33 *interaction. In short, flirtation and courtship in cyberspace often require more, not less, sophistication in*  
34 *approaching complex interpersonal boundaries.*

35 *“Oh, I think I’m in love. This woman I met online writes the most beautiful things. I look forward to each*  
36 *e-mail. We are going to arrange to meet soon, and I’m so excited about it. But...I have this fear that she*  
37 *will be a disappointment in person,” writes one Internet romance seeker. Well yes, she may indeed be a*  
38 *disappointment, maybe even a disaster! You may be a disappointment to her, too. Too many singles*  
39 *seeking partners online have mistakenly concluded that cyberspace connections mean “real love,” without*  
40 *all the difficult effort of the actual relationship. But eventually we have to face the real, physical person in*  
41 *order to complete the courtship sequence toward marriage.*

(BUSHELL, B.; DYER, B. **Global Outlook**: high intermediate reading. New York: McGraw Hill, 2003, p. 51-52.)

ALL THE QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED **IN ENGLISH**.

06. Answer the following questions, according to the text:

a) What are the advantages of cybercourtship? Write a paragraph (4-6 sentences), using your own words.

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b) What are the problems of cybercourtship? Write a paragraph (4-6 sentences), using your own words.

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07. Use Reported Speech to rewrite the following passage, according to the suggestion below:

*“Oh, I think I’m in love. This woman I met online writes the most beautiful things. I look forward to each e-mail. We are going to arrange to meet soon, and I’m so excited about it. But...I have this fear that she will be a disappointment in person.” (lines 35-37)*

The Internet romance seeker said that \_\_\_\_\_

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08. According to the text, "*Internet technology has now made it possible for more people to meet*" (line 3). What is your opinion about this statement? Do you agree or disagree? In your own words, write a paragraph (4-6 sentences) to discuss your point of view.

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09. According to the author, "*flirtation and courtship in cyberspace often require more not less, sophistication in approaching complex interpersonal boundaries*" (lines 33-34). Explain what the author means by this, using your own words.

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10 Look at the cartoon below and answer the following question, using your own words:



*"Dennis, I would like to talk to you for a minute—off-line."*

What does this cartoon suggest about technology and communication in family relationships nowadays? Write a paragraph (4-6 sentences) to illustrate your answer.

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