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Vocabulary: romance 词汇: 浪漫

Are you a **hopeless romantic**? Do you get excited by the idea of falling in love with the man or woman of your dreams? Does watching a **romcom** or a **period drama** on TV make you cry? Or are you someone who thinks romance is based on an **idealised** view of reality that doesn't really exist? Well, you could be right!

I'm no romantic and more of a **realist** – taking a more practical approach to love - maybe that's why I never had many girlfriends! But if you really are expecting the kind of love that **makes your heart flutter** with happiness you may be dissatisfied.

Our expectation of what romance is, probably originated from the **Romantic period** - an artistic, literary, musical and **intellectual** movement that originated in Europe in the 18th Century. The **notion** of falling in love, getting married and living happily ever after were culturally held ideas formed during this period and still exist today.

Of course there's nothing wrong with liking the idea of romance; it makes us feel good – but we must be careful not to use it as a **benchmark** for our own relationships. This idealised version of love leaves out **the nitty-gritty** of real-life relationships. There's usually work, finances and other stresses of everyday life to deal with. You can't expect **romantic gestures** like a bunch of red roses every day – there are bills to pay!

Many popular love stories end at the point where the characters get together or **tie the knot**. That puts the focus on finding someone special. But very few show us how to keep that **perfect catch** over a long period of time. A relationship is hard work. It's frustrating, messy and can be **emotionally damaging**.

If you're still convinced romance isn't dead, how will you ever find it? Historian and TV presenter Lucy Worsley thinks nowadays, any idea of romance is dying because it has become "too easy" to meet new people via **dating apps**. She told the BBC the "slow **exquisite** torture of love in Jane Austen novels no longer existed in the age of Grindr and Tinder [apps]."

Perhaps romance is best left to the movies – a **fantasy** that makes us feel good – and instead concentrate on finding a good and healthy relationship with its **ups and downs** but one that is full of love. Do you believe romance really exists?

词汇表

a hopeless romantic	无可救药的浪漫派
romcom	浪漫爱情喜剧，多指影视节目
period drama	古装剧，历史剧
idealised	理想化的
realist	现实主义者，注重实际的人
makes your heart flutter	迷得你的心怦怦直跳
Romantic period	(艺术)浪漫主义时期，源自十八世纪欧洲
intellectual	思想知识上的
notion	概念，观念
benchmark	衡量标准，参照
the nitty-gritty	(口语表达)指(事情、问题的)实质，实际情况
romantic gestures	浪漫之举
tie the knot	(口语表达)结婚，
perfect catch	完美的、般配的恋爱对象
emotionally damaging	伤感情的
dating apps	约会应用软件
exquisite	甜蜜又痛苦的
fantasy	幻想
ups and downs	曲折起伏

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What expression does the writer use to mean your perfect partner?
2. Where did the Romantic period begin?
3. True or false: *It's romantic to pay the bills with red roses.*
4. What do popular love stories concentrate on?
5. Which word in the text means 'feeling annoyed and impatient because you can't achieve what you want to'?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Alan's been making the girls hearts _____ ever since he started college.

flatter	flitter	flutter	flap
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2. Gita has an _____ view of her school days – at the time, she hated being there.

realised	idealised	exquisite	notion
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3. The quality of his workmanship has set a _____ for other builders to follow.

bench	benchmark	benchmarks	markbench
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4. He was a heavy smoker and died of lung cancer, which proves the _____ that smoking kills.

fantasy	movement	notion	nitty-gritty
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5. We've been living together for years but only now I have persuaded my boyfriend to _____.

tie knots	tie up knots	tied the knot	tie the knot
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What expression does the writer use to mean your perfect partner?

The man/woman of your dreams.

2. Where did the Romantic period begin?

The Romantic period - an artistic, literary, musical and intellectual movement that originated in Europe in the 18th Century.

3. True or false: *It's romantic to pay the bills with red roses.*

False. It's romantic to give red roses to someone but impossible to pay the bills with them!

4. What do popular love stories concentrate on?

Many popular love stories put the focus on finding someone special, not what happens afterwards.

5. Which word in the text means 'feeling annoyed and impatient because you can't achieve what you want to'?

Frustrating. (A relationship is hard work. It's frustrating, messy and can be emotionally damaging.)

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Alan's been making the girls hearts **flutter** ever since he started college.

2. Gita has an **idealised** view of her school days – at the time, she hated being there.

3. The quality of his workmanship has set a **benchmark** for other builders to follow.

4. He was a heavy smoker and died of lung cancer, which proves the **notion** that smoking kills.

5. We've been living together for years but only now I have persuaded my boyfriend to **tie the knot**.