

11 USEFUL DATING EXPRESSIONS FROM FILMS AND TV SERIES!

How many **dating** words and expressions do you know? Love and dating are often topics in films and TV series. But the language can be confusing as there are lots of idiomatic phrases. But don't worry, in this article, we'll help you learn **11 useful dating expressions from films and TV series.** by Caitlin Brune

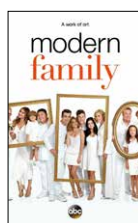


1 A match made in heaven

Dale: "Jill called her engagement a **match made in heaven.**" [*Slightly Single in L.A.* (2013)]

Definition: If two people are in a relationship that's a "match made in heaven", these two people are perfect for each other

Source: *Slightly Single in L.A.* is a **romcom** about Dale, who decides she's going to **take a break** from dating. In this scene, Dale is talking to a friend.



2 To have a crush on someone

Broderick: "The important thing is, I **have a crush on** you." [*Modern Family* (2011)]

Definition: If you "have a crush on" someone, you like that person a lot and you want to have a relationship with them.

Source: *Modern Family* is an 11-season show about 3 related families. This quote comes from a scene with lawyer Mitchell who is talking to his assistant, Broderick.



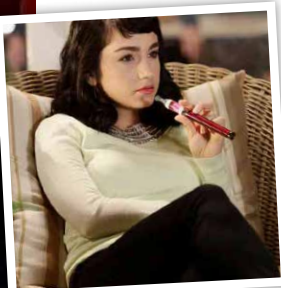
3 To get dumped

Mandy: "I was in love, and I **got dumped.**" [*Last Man Standing* (2012)]

Definition: If you "get dumped", your partner ends the relationship, often suddenly and unexpectedly.

Source: *Last Man Standing* is a **sitcom** about Mike Baxter (Tim Allen). In this scene, one of Mike's

daughter's (Mandy) is talking about her love life.



4 To tie the knot

Secretary: "Once Sack and Claire **tie the knot**, two of the great American families, the Clearys and the Lodges, will finally unite."

[*Wedding Crashers* (2005)]

Definition: If two people "tie the knot", they get married.

Source: *Wedding Crashers* stars Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson as two **divorce mediators.**

They spend their free time **crashing** weddings so that they can meet women.



5 Love at first sight

Gertrude: "Was it **love at first sight?**" [*The Proposal* (2009)]

Definition: If you experience "love at first sight",

you start loving someone as soon as you see or meet them

Source: *The Proposal* is about Margaret (Sandra Bullock) who is facing **deportation** from the United States. She decides to **fake** a marriage to her assistant Andrew (Ryan Reynolds) so she can stay in the country. In this scene Margaret is talking to a friend, Gertrude.





6 To pop the question

Maitre d': "Oh, so you want to **pop the question** tonight, huh?" [*Spider-man 3* (2007)]

Definition: If you "pop the question", you ask someone to marry you.

Source: *Spider-man 3* is a continuation of the Spider-man series. In this movie, Peter Parker (Toby Maguire), also known as Spider-man, has to fight against the **villains** Sandman and Venom. The quote comes from a scene in a restaurant with the **maitre d'**.



8 On the rocks

Ex: "My relationship with Lily was **on the rocks**."

[*Gossip Girl* (2012)]

Definition: If your relationship with someone is "on the rocks", it's going badly and will probably end soon.

Source: *Gossip Girl* is a TV series about a school in New York City. The "Gossip Girl" is an anonymous person who sends out messages full of **gossip** about students there. Lily is one of the characters from the series.

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10 To go out with someone

Ned: "Hey, you wanna **go out with** me sometime?"

[*Our Idiot Brother* (2011)]

Definition: If you "go out" with someone, you have a relationship with that person; when people say they're "going out", it usually means they're in a **stable** relationship.

Source: *Our Idiot Brother* is a 2011 film starring Paul Rudd and Elizabeth Banks.

After Ned (Paul Rudd) is **released** from jail, he tries to **put his life back together** again. In this scene, Ned is talking to a friend.



7 To get back in the game

Ron: "Sounds to me like you're ready to **get back in the game**, Courtney." [*Parks and Recreation* (2011)]

Definition: If you "get back in the game", you start dating again, usually after a period of not doing this.

Source: *Parks and Recreation* is a comedy series that takes place in the Parks and Recreation Department in Indiana. This quote is from a scene with two of the characters, Ron and Courtney.



9 To hit it off

Sandy: "I think we're really **hitting it off**, don't you?"

[*Identity Thief* (2013)]

Definition: If two people "hit it off", they like each other and become friends very quickly.

Source: *Identity Thief* is a comedy starring Melissa McCarthy and Jason Bateman. Sandy Patterson's **identity** is stolen by Diana (played by McCarthy). Sandy needs to find her so he can save his **credit rating**.



11 To fall head over heels (in love with someone)

Bill: I say, **fall head over heels**. Find someone you can love **like crazy** and who will love you the same way back." [*Meet*

Joe Black (1998)]

Definition: If you fall "head over heels" in love with someone, you start loving that person very much.

Source: *Meet Joe Black* is a romantic fantasy movie starring Anthony Hopkins and Brad Pitt. Bill Parrish (Hopkins) is visited by Death (Pitt), who has taken human form as Joe Black. The two make a deal: Bill can have a few more days of life while Joe will be able to see what it's like to be human.



GLOSSARY

dating

the action of going to bars, restaurants, pubs, etc. with people you like in the romantic sense

an engagement

if there's an "engagement" between two people, those people have promised to marry

a romcom

a romantic comedy TV series or film

to take a break

if you "take a break" from something, you stop doing that thing for a period of time

to dump

literally, if you "dump" rubbish, you throw that rubbish away, or leave it somewhere outside, without worrying about what will happen to it, etc.

a sitcom

(situation comedy) a television series that follows the lives of the same characters who are often in funny situations in each episode

a divorce mediator

a person whose job is to help people who want to get divorced, providing them with information, etc.

to crash

if you "crash" a party, you go to that party even though you aren't invited.

deportation

if someone is facing "deportation", the authorities want to make this person leave the country

to fake

if you "fake" something, you act as if it's true, even though it isn't

a villain is the bad person in a story, film, book, etc.

a maitre d'

a type of restaurant manager in charge of the waiters and waitresses, etc.

recreation

a general word that refers to fun activities: walking, doing sport, kayaking. The Parks and Recreation department is a local government organisation in charge of parks, nature reserves, and any structures for sport or arts programs

gossip

stories and information about someone's private life (often their love life)

an identity

your "identity" is who you are; if someone steals your "identity", they use false documents to prove that they are you, often in order to get credit cards or bank loans and steal your money, etc.

a credit rating

if you have a good "credit rating", the banks will lend you money based on your previous financial history

stable

a "stable" relationship is a very strong one that won't break or end

to release

if someone is "released" from prison, they are allowed to leave that prison

to put something back together

if you "put something back together", you repair or fix it. If you "put your life back together", you start having a good, normal life after a bad period

like crazy

we use this expression for emphasis. So, if you love someone "like crazy", you love them a lot; or if you work "like crazy", you work a lot

a heel

the back part of your foot below your ankle

11 USEFUL DATING EXPRESSIONS FROM FILMS AND TV SERIES! EXERCISES



Now try these exercises to see how much you can remember!

Answers on page 44

1 Description completion

Write a word from below next to each definition.

- question sight heels heaven rocks
game dumped knot hit crush out

- If you start dating again after a period of not doing this, you get back in the _____.
- If two people like each other and become friends very quickly, they _____ it off.
- If you start loving someone very much, you fall head over _____ in love with them.
- If you like someone a lot and you want to have a relationship with them, you have a _____ on them.
- If two people get married, they tie the _____.
- If two people are perfect for each other, they're a match made in _____.
- If you ask someone to marry you, you pop the _____.
- If you have a relationship with someone, you're going _____ with that person.
- If your partner ends the relationship, you get _____.
- If a relationship is going badly and will probably end soon, it's on the _____.
- If you start loving someone as soon as you see or meet them, you experience love at first _____.



2 Expressions completion

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

- When you saw him, was it love at first _____?
- I was in love, and then I got _____. Life sucks!
- I think we're really hitting it _____, don't you?
- They described their relationship as a match made in _____.
- I fell head over _____ in love with her.
- I had a _____ on him while we were at school.
- After 6 months of being single, I'm ready to get back in the _____.
- I asked him if he wanted to go _____ with me, but he said no.
- They're going to tie the _____ next week.
- Are you going to _____ the question any time soon?
- My relationship with him was on the _____, and it ended shortly afterwards.

