

### All that glisters

#### Two cheers for a 'slow-dating' app

- 1 In *The Merchant of Venice*, Portia's suitors may win her hand only by working out which of three metal caskets conceals her image. The golden box, inscribed with a promise to deliver "what many men desire", turns out to contain only death. It is the leaden casket, with its sullen legend – "Who chooses me must give and hazard all he hath" – that holds true happiness (or, at least, marriage to a fabulously rich and beautiful woman).
- 2 There is a useful lesson here for those with ears to hear it in the frenetic and often shallow world of online dating: the first glance is overrated. Tinder, an app that is particularly popular among the young for arranging hook-ups with strangers, is a grand bazaar of golden caskets. Users start by sizing up one another's pictures and only then get around to talking. It is by all accounts a highly efficient tool for procuring casual encounters; but not, perhaps, so very conducive to forming the bonds of mutual curiosity and affection that hold durable relationships together.
- 3 Appetence, a new rival to Tinder, turns this etiquette on its head. The app matches its customers according to their interests. You begin with your photograph hidden beneath a panel of 50 coloured shards. Each time you 'like' something your match has said, one of these shards is dispelled, so that your face is slowly revealed.
- 4 As an attempt to revive the arts of patience and conversation, it is welcome but not quite satisfactory. Likes are a pretty poor measure for the earliest glimmers of intimacy. As a universal medium of exchange, they risk undervaluing flashes of wit or kindness and overvaluing a shared taste for craft lager or Richard Curtis films.
- 5 Appetence is a start. But it seems that there is still room in the market for a truly disruptive dating concept: why not try turning off your smartphone, going outside and meeting people?

*The Times, 2017*

### Tekst 3 All that glisters

---

1p 3 What is the main point made in paragraph 1?

- A All relationships are imperfect.
- B Appearances can be deceptive.
- C Romantic love is generally undervalued.
- D Wealth and matrimonial bliss are unrelated.

“a grand bazaar of golden caskets” (paragraph 2)

1p 4 Why does the writer characterise Tinder in this way?

He wants to make clear that using Tinder

- A improves the process of finding a compatible partner for singles looking for true love.
- B leads to indecisiveness as users are trapped in a never-ending cycle of swipes.
- C offers numerous opportunities to find potential dates on the basis of superficial qualities only.
- D results in people feeling isolated in a deceitful environment of fake interactions.

“this etiquette” (alinea 3)

1p 5 In welke zin staat beschreven hoe ‘this etiquette’ werkt?

Citeer de eerste twee woorden van deze zin.

---

#### Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.