

## Select Readings, Second Edition Upper-Intermediate, Chapter 9 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

### Finding Love on *Craigslist*

*Craigslist* is a centralized network of online communities, featuring free online classified advertisements—with sections devoted to jobs, housing, personals, for sale, services, community, gigs, résumés and discussion forums.

Browse through the *Personals* section on **Craigslist** and you might stumble across an interesting little heading that says simply *Missed Connections*. Under this heading, people post descriptions of where and when they saw a stranger whom they thought they might be interested in. Some of the listings you can expect to see might go something like this: “I saw you walking your toy poodle in the park the other day, and wanted to introduce myself. But I was too shy.” or “You were wearing a green T-shirt and I was wearing a red tank top. We made eye contact at the gym last week.” Well, you get the idea. And as you might expect, most of these little online cries for love come to nothing.

However, that is not *always* the case. A few years ago, a young man named Dan and a young woman named Amy were on a plane together waiting in line to use the lavatory<sup>1</sup>. As they waited, they struck up a conversation with each other. It was obvious to both that they were ‘into’ each other, but too shy to actually make the move and exchange information. So, when the seatbelt sign went on for landing, they returned to their seats and that was it.

Returning home, it seems that neither Dan nor Amy could stop talking to their friends about each other. Their friends convinced them to try *Missed Connections*. Dan made the first move. By putting down the flight number and Amy’s name, he was eventually able to track her down and make a very strong connection. In fact, the connection was so strong that after a few months, they were engaged to be married!

Surprisingly, there are more than a few stories like Dan and Amy’s. However, before you start planning your perfect *Craigslist* romance, be aware that more often than not, ‘missed connections’ do not work out. The fact is that many people still do not even know about the section. So if someone doesn’t know where to look, you probably won’t find them.

Likewise, though Dan and Amy actually met, talked and interacted with one another, and made a connection, finding ‘the pretty girl in the light blue sweater at the theater last week’ will probably be next to impossible. If someone doesn’t even know that you were interested in them, it’s pretty likely they won’t be out there looking for you.

But if you want to take your chances on *Missed Connections*, go for it. Just don’t expect too much. After all, a fairy tale wouldn’t be special if we all lived them.

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<sup>1</sup> lavatory restroom

1. Which person might express the point of view "I noticed you when we were waiting in line on the plane. I liked your green skirt."
  - A. Dan
  - B. Amy
  - C. A flight attendant
  - D. Either Dan or Amy
  
2. True or false? *Craigslist* is just a website for personal ads.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
3. On *Missed Connections*, people post descriptions of people \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. they've seen but don't know
  - B. they know well
  - C. they want to meet but have never seen
  - D. who are famous
  
4. True or false? Most *Missed Connections* ads come to nothing.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
5. According to the reading, most people \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. know about the section *Missed Connections*
  - B. don't know about the section *Missed Connections*
  - C. don't care about the section *Missed Connections*
  - D. are against the section *Missed Connections*
  
6. We can infer that the author \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. doesn't want the readers to get their hopes up
  - B. thinks that the section is a great way to meet people
  - C. thinks the section is dangerous
  - D. thinks that you have a 50% chance of meeting someone through the section
  
7. In paragraph 3, 'struck up a conversation' is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. ended a conversation
  - B. started talking
  - C. interrupted someone
  - D. talked quietly
  
8. In paragraph 3, what does the author mean by 'and that was it'?
  - A. Amy and Dan were already in love.
  - B. Amy and Dan sat next to each other.
  - C. Amy and Dan didn't see each other after the flight.
  - D. Amy and Dan made the first move.
  
9. In paragraph 4, 'putting down' means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. criticizing
  - B. typing
  - C. lowering
  - D. writing a letter to
  
10. Which of the following is not true about Dan and Amy?
  - A. They were both convinced to try posting something on *Missed Connections*.
  - B. After they met in the airplane, they didn't see each other for some time.
  - C. Soon after finding each other again, they got engaged.
  - D. They exchanged e-mail addresses on the airplane.