

Our Traditions by Nora

My grandmother says before courtship was different. Young people spoke from the windows, and they never held hands or kissed. My parents got married very young. They were 17 years old. In my town the people say “If you don’t get married at 30 years, you are a *cotorro*, or a parrot. When my parents gave me permission to have a boyfriend, I spoke with him outside of my house. We sat on the sidewalk. They gave permission to speak 2 hours from 8:00 – 10:00 at night and we saw each other every third day. When I got married my mother told me “The marriage is for all the life”. I remember answering “What?”, and asked my husband, “Do you think you will live for much time?” My husband only laughed.



Now the girls say to the boys - Do you want to be my boyfriend? They invite them to eat, and they pay the bill together. Our dance was different. Now the dance is liberal. And they come back to the house in the dawn with the breath of alcohol. I would like my old custom to come back, especially for the education of my children.

Talk with a partner.

How have courtship traditions changed? What does Nora think of this?

Do you agree with Nora? Why or why not?

How did you meet your first boyfriend or girlfriend?

Write 3-4 new words that you learned.

Courtship Traditions by Nora

My grandmother says before courtship was _____. Young people spoke from the windows, and they never held hands or _____. My parents got married very young. They were 17 years _____. In my town the people say "If you don't get married at 30 _____, you are a *cotorro*, or a parrot. When my parents gave me _____ to have a boyfriend, I spoke with him _____ of my house. We sat on the sidewalk. They gave permission to speak 2 _____ from 8:00 - 10:00 at night and we saw each other every third day. When I _____ married my mother told me "The _____ is for all the life". I remember answering "What?", and asked my husband "_____ you think you will live for much time?" My husband only laughed.



old	different
outside	marriage
got	years
Do	permission
kissed	hours

Now the _____ say to the boys - Do you want to be my _____? They invite them to eat, and they _____ the bill together. Our dance was _____. Now the dance is liberal. And they _____ back to the house in the dawn with the breath of alcohol. _____ would like my old custom to come _____, especially for the education of my _____.

children	pay
different	come
boyfriend	I
girls	back

Talk with your classmate.

1. Write 3-4 new words that you learned. _____

2. How have courtship traditions changed? What does Nora think?
3. Do you agree with Nora. Why or why not?