

Ladies, Mr Perfect does not exist!

Ladies, if you are looking for Mr Perfect forget it. He doesn't exist! That's according to a recent survey of 2,000 women who ranked their partner as only 69% perfect! Whilst many men have positive attributes it seems the majority are deeply flawed. Included in the list of 20 common shortfalls are failing to make an effort with their partner's friends, criticising their driving and the inability to multi-task. Other male failings include watching too much sport, leaving the toilet door open and poor personal grooming. Nikki McReynolds, marketing director for Remington, which commissioned the survey, said, "It seems women are quite realistic on what they look for from their partner. While they might happily overlook a few common flaws, there are certain behaviours that men just won't get away with."

The research found a third of women will turn a blind eye to their man watching too much sport – as long as they listen to them when it counts. But one in five women is convinced her mischievous partner only pretends to listen to them, while others believe it's 'in one ear and out the other'. One in five would forgive leaving the toilet seat up, while the leniency also stretches to those who don't help with the cooking. A quarter of women said dodgy dancing was forgivable, but bugbears such as clothes being left on the bedroom floor and snoring can count against him. And guys beware! Leaving the toilet dirty, not making the effort with their partner's family and using her toothbrush are definitely big no-nos. Leaving out nail clippings, growing a scruffy beard or being too much of a mummy's boy are other sure ways to guarantee 'imperfection'. When asked what would make a perfect man, a good personality came top, followed by a sense of humour and looks. Miss McReynolds: "The average guy may not be able to compete with the image of David Beckham, but there are still a number of small changes they can do to make a difference.

Top 20 imperfections in men: 1) Not getting on with her family; 2) Using her toothbrush; 3) Leaving the toilet dirty; 4) Hating her friends; 5) Not being good with children; 6) Being lazy; 7) Having a big bushy beard that you never shave; 8) Leaving nail clippings out; 9) Driving like a boy racer; 10) Being grumpy; 11) Being a mummy's boy; 12) Using the toilet with the door open; 13) Leaving dirty washing on the floor; 14) Unkempt facial hair; 15) Criticising her driving; 16) Burping or farting; 17) Not liking dogs; 18) Not helping with the washing up; 19) Watching too much sport; 20) Not helping with the cooking.

Category: Survey / Men / Women

Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

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EXERCISES

1. Imperfections about men: Think of three imperfections about men? Go round the room swapping details with others.

2. Dictation: The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

3. Reading: The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

4. Vocabulary: Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

5. The article: Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?
- c) Discuss the top 20

6. Imperfections in men: In pairs think of five imperfections from the article that you don't like about men's habits. Then add five of your own. Write them below. Discuss together. What made you choose these? What are your conclusions?

From the article	Your own thoughts
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

7. Let's roleplay 1: In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *BBC World Service* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *Mr Perfect*.

1	A typical man	3	A journalist
2	Nikki McReynolds	4	A typical woman

The teacher will choose some pairs to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

8. Let's think! In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **Mr Perfect**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

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9. **Let's roleplay 2:** In pairs. You are two women in a bar in your town/city. Start a conversation about *imperfections about men*. 5-minutes.

10. **Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A

- 1) How many women were surveyed?
- 2) Who commissioned the survey?
- 3) What is the No 1 imperfection?
- 4) What is the twentieth imperfection?
- 5) Name the superstar.

Student B

- 1) True or false – women like men with long beards?
- 2) Explain what mummy's boy means.
- 3) What does bugbear mean?
- 4) What are nail clippings?
- 5) What will a third of women turn a blind eye to?

11. **Mr Celebrity Perfect:** Think of three Celebrity Mr Perfects (e.g. like David Beckham). Write them below. Discuss together with your partner.

1
2
3

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

12. **Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a two minute presentation on: **Mr Perfect**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the good and weak points on each presentation. Learn from the results.

13. **Imperfections in women:** In pairs think of four imperfections about women! Write them below. Discuss together. What are your conclusions?

1	3
2	4

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

14. **Let's write an e-mail:** Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **Mr Perfect**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

15. **Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) Mr Perfect _____
- b) Men _____
- c) Ladies _____

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Do you like men with beards?
- 3) Do you clean the toilet after using it?
- 4) Where do you put your nail clippings?
- 5) Do you leave your dirty washing on the floor?
- 6) Do you know any lazy men?
- 7) Do you use other people's toothbrushes?
- 8) Do you get on with your relatives?
- 9) Do you drive like a boy racer?
- 10) Are you like David Beckham?

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?
- 3) Ladies, who is your ideal Mr Perfect? Why? (Or – Gents, who is your ideal woman?)
- 4) Does Mr Perfect exist?
- 5) Does *Miss/Ms/Mrs* Perfect exist?
- 6) What do women want in their man?
- 7) Do women put up with men's bad habits?
- 8) Do you know any mummy's boys?
- 9) Do you help with the washing up?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's discuss! Mr / Miss/Ms/Mrs Perfect

Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1

20 things about your Mr Perfect / Miss/Ms/Mrs Perfect

The teacher can moderate the session.

GAP FILL: READING:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

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Ladies, if you are looking for Mr Perfect forget it. He doesn't exist! That's according to a recent survey of 2,000 women who ranked their (1)_____ as only 69% perfect! Whilst many men have positive attributes it seems the majority are deeply flawed. Included in the list of 20 common (2)_____ are failing to make an effort with their partner's friends, criticising their driving and the inability to (3)_____. Other male failings include watching too much sport, leaving the toilet door open and poor personal (4)_____. Nikki McReynolds, marketing director for Remington, which commissioned the (5)_____, said, "It seems women are quite realistic on what they look for from their partner. While they might happily overlook a few common (6)_____, there are certain (7)_____ that men just won't get away with."

survey

multi-task

flaws

behaviours

grooming

partner

shortfalls

The (1)_____ found a third of women will turn a blind eye to their man watching too much sport – as long as they listen to them when it counts. But one in five women is convinced her (2)_____ partner only pretends to listen to them, while others believe it's 'in one ear and out the other'. One in five would forgive leaving the toilet seat up, while the leniency also stretches to those who don't help with the cooking. A quarter of women said dodgy dancing was forgivable, but bugbears such as clothes being left on the bedroom floor and snoring can count against him. And guys beware! Leaving the toilet (3)_____, not making the effort with their partner's family and using her toothbrush are definitely big (4)_____. Leaving out nail (5)_____, growing a (6)_____ beard or being too much of a mummy's boy are other sure ways to guarantee '(7)_____'. When asked what would make a perfect man, a good personality came top, followed by a sense of humour and looks. Miss McReynolds: "The average (8)_____ may not be able to compete with the image of David Beckham, but there are still a number of small changes they can do to make a difference.

mischievous

no-nos

imperfection

guy

scruffy

clippings

research

dirty

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Ladies, Mr Perfect does not exist!

Ladies, if you are looking for Mr Perfect forget it. _____! That's according to a recent survey of 2,000 women _____ partner as only 69% perfect! Whilst many men have positive attributes it seems the majority are deeply flawed. Included in the list of 20 _____ are failing to make an effort with their partner's friends, criticising their driving and the inability to multi-task. Other male failings include watching _____, leaving the toilet door open and poor personal grooming. Nikki McReynolds, marketing director for Remington, which commissioned the survey, said, "It seems women are _____ what they look for from their partner. While they might happily overlook a few common flaws, there are certain behaviours that men just _____."

The research found a third of women will turn a blind eye to their man watching too much sport – as long as they listen to them _____. But one in five women is convinced her mischievous partner only pretends to listen to them, while others believe it's 'in one ear and out the other'. One in five would forgive leaving the toilet seat up, while the leniency also stretches to those who don't help with the cooking. A quarter of women said dodgy dancing was forgivable, but bugbears such as clothes being left on the _____ snoring can count against him. And guys beware! Leaving the toilet dirty, _____ with their partner's family and using her toothbrush are definitely big no-nos. Leaving out nail clippings, growing a scruffy beard or being too much of a mummy's boy are other sure ways to guarantee 'imperfection'. When asked what would make a perfect man, a good personality came top, followed by a _____ looks. Miss McReynolds: "The average guy _____ compete with the image of David Beckham, but there are still a number of small changes they can do _____."

GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Ladies, Mr Perfect does not exist!

Ladies, if you are looking for Mr Perfect forget it. He doesn't exist! (1)___'s according to a recent survey of 2,000 women who ranked (2)___ partner as only 69% perfect! Whilst many men have positive attributes it seems the majority are deeply flawed. Included in the list of 20 common shortfalls are failing to make an effort with their partner's friends, criticising their driving and the inability to multi-task. Other male failings include watching too much sport, leaving the toilet door open and poor personal grooming. Nikki McReynolds, marketing director for Remington, (3)___ commissioned the survey, said, "It seems women are quite realistic on what (4)___ look for from their partner. (5)___ they might happily overlook a few common flaws, (6)___ are certain behaviours that men (7)___ won't get away with."

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their

(1)___ research found a third of women will turn a blind eye to their man watching too much sport – as long as they listen to them when it counts. (2)___ one in five women is convinced (3)___ mischievous partner only pretends to listen to them, while others believe (4)___ 'in one ear and out the other'. One in five would forgive leaving the toilet seat up, while the leniency also stretches to those (5)___ don't help with the cooking. A quarter of women said dodgy dancing was forgivable, but bugbears such as clothes being left on the bedroom floor (6)___ snoring can count against him. And guys beware! Leaving the toilet dirty, not making the effort with their partner's family and using her toothbrush are definitely big no-nos. Leaving out nail clippings, growing a scruffy beard or being (7)___ much of a mummy's boy are other sure ways to guarantee 'imperfection'. When asked what would make a perfect man, a good personality came top, followed by a sense of humour and looks. Miss McReynolds: "The average guy may not be able to compete with the image of David Beckham, but there are still a number of small changes they (8)___ do to make a difference.

can

her

but

who

it's

too

the

and



SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings:

Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20

1	believe	11	toothbrush
2	toilet	12	forgivable
3	scruffy	13	dodgy
4	farting	14	leniency
5	guarantee	15	mischievous
6	no-nos	16	research
7	definitely	17	unkempt
8	burping	18	grumpy
9	bugbears	19	shave
10	imperfection	20	personality

LINKS

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2074147/Mr-Perfect-does-exist-Majority-men-deeply-flawed-women-rate-partners-just-69-cent.html>

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/its-official-mr-perfect-does-not-exist/888118/>

<http://datingtipsforfindinglove.com/mr-perfect-does-not-exist-so-stop-looking-for-him/>

<http://www.thesouthasianimes.info/content/features/its-official-mr-perfect-does-not-exist>

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