

DISCUSSION

It gives me the ick! 2

Thirty-three habits that can kill the romance in a second. Instant ick or no big deal? Students decide, explain and pick the worst.

LEVEL

B2

TIME

35–45 min

SKILLS

Speaking

FOCUS

Expressing opinions and attitudes

01 HOW TO RUN IT

35–45 MIN

Define, react, rank.

1 • WHAT IS AN ICK?

5–8 MIN • WHOLE CLASS

Ask the class what an **ick** is. Aim for something like *a sudden cringe or turn-off that instantly kills your romantic or sexual interest in someone*. Then brainstorm a few obvious ones: wearing skinny jeans, wearing too much perfume, spitting on the ground ...

2 • ICK OR NOT?

20–25 MIN • PAIRS

Pairs put the cards **face down**, take them one by one and **both** decide whether it gives them the ick or not. They explain themselves **either way**. Encourage detailed answers. Monitor the class and join in the conversations.

3 • TOP 5

10 MIN • WHOLE CLASS

Students get **5 minutes** to put together their **TOP 5** worst icks, from the activity or from their own experience. They share them and you write them on the board; anything mentioned more than once gets points. Together, decide on the **worst icks**.

USEFUL LANGUAGE

That's an instant ick for me. · It's a total turn-off. · I could live with that. · It wouldn't bother me at all. · That's a bit harsh, but ... · It depends on the person / situation. · Honestly, I find it kind of cute.

always wearing caps backwards	talking about their family's wealth or money in general	not wearing socks with shoes
trousers a few inches too short	bragging about not having a TV at home	picky eaters
having ugly toenails	never having read a book	using too many exclamation marks or emojis in texts
drinking cow's milk from a glass	"I'm not like other girls / boys."	having a laundry pile in their room
having their Snapchat in their Instagram bio	not tipping properly or at all	still being obsessed with Harry Potter
caring too much about social media	eating with their mouth open	taking forever to get ready
sneezing too loudly	having poor personal hygiene	talking about themselves a lot
being a know-it-all	smoking or vaping	having a messy car
breathing heavily or with their mouth open	expecting sex too soon in a relationship	not showering before going to bed
trying to be funny with no real sense of humour	having body odour	always wearing clothes that are too tight
running in a weird way	being stiff and awkward when they try to dance	licking ice cream in an overly enthusiastic way