

Speechless

Language level:	Intermediate (B1) +
Learner type:	Teens; Adults
Time:	20 minutes
Activity:	Videotelling
Topic:	Sport; Love
Language:	Collocations



Preparation, materials and equipment

1. For this activity, you will need a video clip titled: ***Marriage Proposal Rejected at Basketball*** game.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtPkxzHKLpk>
2. Set up the video so that it is paused at 00:12 - the moment when the woman is standing with her hand over her mouth (see page 3). Turn off the screen or projector so that students can't see the picture.

Decide how you are going to display the clip and slideshow in class. Possibilities include:

- Mobile device (For one-to-one situations)
- Laptop, desktop, tablet computer (For small groups)
- Computer, projector + screen (For larger classes)

Don't forget the loudspeakers.

If you don't have Internet access in class, you could download or 'capture' the video from YouTube. Use www.savevid.com or a similar site. Note, however, that in doing so, you will be breaching YouTube's

Lesson plan

1. Tell students that you have a puzzle for them. Dictate the paragraph below and put students into pairs to share their ideas and explore possibilities.

A woman stands in the middle of a court. She can't believe what is happening. She has her hand over her mouth. She is speechless. What is going on?

2. Take feedback. Invite students to share their ideas with the rest of the class.

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• Note that most people will assume that the word 'court' refers to a court
• of law. They may think, for example, that the woman has been found guilty
• of a crime, etc.
.....

3. Tell students that in order to work out what is going on, they will have to look at alternative meanings of one of the words in the paragraph (i.e. 'court') Ask students to identify the word and then brainstorm meanings and collocations. Write these on the board as they arise (see possibilities below).

<i>A court (of law)</i> To take someone to <i>court</i>	<i>A basketball court</i> <i>A badminton court</i> <i>A tennis court</i>
<i>A royal court</i>	<i>A squash court</i> <i>A volleyball court</i>

4. Use this as an opportunity to elicit other sports areas:

Golf course

Football pitch
Rugby pitch
Hockey pitch

Ski slope

5. Show students a still from the video or the video on pause (see **Preparation, materials and equipment** on page 2). They will see that the woman is standing on a basketball court.



6. Repeat the paragraph from step 1 (A woman stands in the middle of a court. She has her hand over her mouth, etc.) Ask students to reconsider their answer.
7. Take feedback and ask students to share their new ideas.
8. Tell students that the incident is taking place at half time in a basketball match. Tell them that the key to working out what is happening is to identify who else is on the court. Elicit the people that you would expect to find on a basketball court. Add these to the board (see possibilities below).

Basketball players
Referees
Cheerleaders
Mascots
Unruly spectators

9. Tell students that the woman's boyfriend is also present. Ask them to guess what he is doing (answer = he is kneeling in front of her asking her to marry him live on TV).
10. Ask students to guess what happens next. Find out:
 - Who thinks the woman will say 'yes'
 - Who thinks the woman will say 'no'
 - Who wants the woman to say 'yes'
 - Who wants the woman to say 'no'
11. Watch the video from beginning to end. Students will see the woman rejecting her boyfriend's marriage proposal.
12. Put students into pairs or small groups ask them to discuss the following:
 - Is it a good idea for a man to propose in this way? Why or why not?
 - Who do you feel more sorry for - the woman or the man? Why