

## Reading extension – the six styles of love

### Gender Differences

The Hendricks identified differences between the genders in regards to lover types. They consistently found that men are more likely to be Ludic, while women are more Storgic and Pragmatic. In general, however, the Hendricks concluded that the genders share more similarities than differences, as both are generally passionate and altruistic when it comes to love.

### Falling in and out of Love

The Hendricks caution that the phenomenon of falling in love should be distinguished from these love categories. When people first fall in love, they are overwhelmed by what researchers have identified as a chemical reaction in the brain that makes them see the object of their affection in only the most positive light. The Hendricks found that when people begin to fall in love, they score much higher on Eros and Agape on the Love Attitudes Scale, and much lower in the Ludus category. These effects are only temporary, however, and later the lovers return to their natural state. Research has found that the chemicals involved in early love usually wear off after one to three years.

When people go through a difficult breakup, they also may answer differently on the Love Attitudes Scale. Susan notes, “We would expect love attitudes to change after a breakup. Certainly the attitudes toward that breakup partner would change, and one might become more Ludic for a while.” Again, over time, people usually return to their normal state.

### 1 Read the text and check the sentences True (T) or False (F).

- a Men are more likely to be unfaithful to their partners than women. T ☐ F ☐
- b Men tend to be more practical than women in determining what kind of person is right for them. T ☐ F ☐
- c Men and women fundamentally have different goals for relationships. T ☐ F ☐
- d Generally, people’s answers to the Love Attitudes Scale are constantly changing as they have more experiences in relationships. T ☐ F ☐
- e It can be inferred that after people go through a breakup, they might score lower on Eros and Agape for a while. T ☐ F ☐

**2 Match the words (a–h) to the definitions (1–8).**

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|---------------------|---|
| <b>a</b> gender     | <b>1</b> to experience  |
| <b>b</b> consistent | <b>2</b> the fact of being either male or female                        |
| <b>c</b> conclude   | <b>3</b> doing something for the benefit of other people                |
| <b>d</b> altruistic | <b>4</b> to decide that something is true after looking at the evidence |
| <b>e</b> phenomenon | <b>5</b> an event or situation  |
| <b>f</b> overwhelm  | <b>6</b> not changing   |
| <b>g</b> wear off   | <b>7</b> to be too much for someone to deal with                        |
| <b>h</b> go through | <b>8</b> to gradually disappear   |