



There are some tips that help in asking questions in proposal meeting to identify girls and boys in their relationships to gain a rational (not emotional) understanding of the other party, some of which are as follows:

1- Don't think that questions should be standardized, predetermined, and have specific answers. Don't be rigid like a robot during the conversation, and try to ask questions in the same session about anything that is unclear.

2- General questions are good to start with, but their benefits are limited. For example, these questions:

- What is your opinion on the hijab?
- What do you expect from your future spouse?
- What are your thoughts on ethics and faith?
- What are your criteria for marriage?
- What role do you see for women in the family or what role do you see for men in the family?

Because such general questions necessarily have a general answer, and because general answers are vague, the parties interpret them as they wish based on their own perceptions, and this distorts the concept of knowing each other.

3- Instead of general questions, try to draw concepts towards concrete examples and cases, and by posing the problem, put the person in the situation. Situations that occur every day in people's family life and couples react to them emotionally, intellectually, or behaviorally. For example, instead of asking the general question, "What is your opinion on the hijab?", you could ask the following specific questions:

- Should men also wear the hijab? If so, give some examples?
- Have you seen a family that has been broken up by the man because of not wearing the hijab?
- Do you think a chador is absolutely necessary for a woman's hijab?
- Do you consider the cloak and veil to be hijab?
- Are headscarves and clothes like blouses and pants considered hijab?

And hundreds of questions like this that focus on details, meaning examples that may arise more or less frequently in different lives (it is up to you to formulate the questions in detail, with examples, and in a way that suits your situation).

Now that we understand that the question shouldn't be general and should be flexible, it is time to consider what axes these questions should revolve around.



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**Student Counseling and
Mental Health Office**

Tips

- Try to ask open-ended and general questions.
- Gain multifaceted insights by asking multiple questions to help you decide whether to marry your partner.
- For a successful marriage, examine the personality traits of their family, those around them, and your partner with open eyes.

How to Ask?

(Questions for couples during the proposal meeting)

Some of the most important axes are as follows:

Responsibility and performance of one's duties

For example, their job, their education, the responsibilities they have to take on as a friend and family member, etc.

That is, we don't ask whether you are responsible or not. We ask specific questions about the person's previous life to find out whether the person was responsible or not.

The individual's mental and emotional stability

Try to find out by asking questions like: Have they changed jobs? Have they changed their field of study? Do they lose touch with friends often? And what have they saved for their age? Someone whose youth is unknown, whose education is unknown, whose wealth is unknown, and whose expertise is unknown, has a negative point in their stability. The question of their emotional relationships is also particularly important.

Flexibility

The important point is that one of the signs of inflexibility is the lack of proper relationships with family, friends, colleagues, etc. This means that someone who has not been able to show flexibility towards their parents will definitely not be flexible towards their spouse.

Distribution of duties and roles of men and women

You can use examples to present the tasks that occur in the family and ask who should do these tasks: shopping, making decisions, housework, childcare, continuing education, entertainment, etc.

Family economic issues

This section should also include detailed questions. For example, specify the amount of money you plan to spend on the wedding celebration and the type of hall. What is the residential area like and where is it? Is it shared? Is it private? Is it rented? What's its geographical location? How will the husband and wife's income be spent in the family? Who is the decision maker?

The degree of independence or dependence of the individual

Give hypothetical examples, for example, if you would like to live in another city, would you ask for their opinion?

Ask hypothetical questions like, if your mother and father or their mother and father had some advice for you, how would you deal with them?

Or questions like: How often do you think we should visit our families or relatives?

Or questions like: After marriage, would you accept one spouse traveling or having fun without the other with a friend? How many times a year or month?

Personal and psychological traits

Depression, aggression, anxiety, obsession, suspicion, irritability, loneliness, fears, hospitalization and treatment history... are among the most important issues that need to be examined (perhaps examining this section is one of the necessities that girls and boys should refer to a psychologist about).

Also, traits such as being stingy (calculating), being wasteful, being carefree and generous, being socially isolated (not interested in entertainment), being thoughtful and studious, being persistent (stubborn), not being careless, not being strict, etc. are among the issues that can be asked with practical examples. Don't forget that in questions, you should ask for the positive equivalent of the adjectives in parentheses, because the person may take a position. For example, you can tell the person, are you more calculating or generous? so that the person doesn't feel bad about the one they choose.

Belief and moral issues

- Explore these topics:
- Does a woman's makeup outside the home cause a problem?
- Do you agree that women should ask their husbands for permission to leave the house?
- When can you lie? What is a convenient lie? With a few examples of convenient lies.

Friends

If you can get to know and identify the person's friends through questions or research, you will learn a lot about your future spouse.

Questions like, "How many close friends do you have?". A high number indicates extroversion, while a low number indicates sensitivity, irritability, and introversion.

Ask which friend they are close to and what interesting qualities that friend has. Predict that if you want to get along very well with them in the future, you should be like that.

Ask which friend they have the least contact with and what that friend is like (it is important because if you are like that, you will have problems in your future life with this person).

One's family

Detailed questions about the various characteristics of the family and their affiliations, education, culture, occupation, other children in the family who are married, and how their daughters-in-law and sons-in-law relate to the family, etc., will help you get to know this family better.

Physical illnesses, disabilities, etc. in the individual and family

This should be asked directly. Many people don't lie during meetings, but they don't feel obligated to tell everything. For example, if you ask, "Have you had any chronic or acute illnesses?" they will answer correctly, but if you don't ask, they won't feel the need to explain these things.

Entertainment program hobbies and plans for communication within the family

You need to understand whether your future spouse will sacrifice family for work, or work for fun and entertainment, or... Asking about their past hobbies will also give you a picture of their method.

It is suggested at the end:

Since understanding is very important in marriage, if you can visit a family counselor with your partner and ask for their opinion, it will help you a lot in making a decision.