The following questionnaire is designed for you and your marriage partner (spouse) to explore your relationship together, to look at your expectations, ideas and attitudes, and to discuss them in an open and honest way.

The questionnaire is best approached by each spouse filling it in separately, having given careful consideration to each question. Please remember there are usually no right or wrong answers and that you may tick as many as you like!

The couple can then swap papers and go through each answer one by one, giving extra time to discussing those answers when there is a difference of opinion.

1. *The thing that attracted me to you first was:*-
   
a) your personality and good humour
b) your good looks
c) your status in society
d) your friendly and caring ways

2. *The way I best understand love is:*-
   
a) by affection and physical touch
b) by being helped and supported in my work
c) by being brought gifts and going places
d) by verbal praise and encouragement

3. *I believe the most important ingredient for a lasting marriage is:*-
   
a) romance
b) forgiveness
c) trust
d) honesty

4. *The thing I fear most about being married is:*-
   
a) conflict and having a major difference of opinion
b) unfaithfulness in my partner
c) the in-laws interfering with our relationship
d) lack of sufficient finance
5. My beliefs regarding 'decision making' are:-
   a) it is the husband's responsibility as head of the house [ ]
   b) the wife makes all the decisions regarding the home [ ]
   c) decisions should be made jointly by compromise [ ]
   d) each decision needs careful discussion and then the husband ultimately decides [ ]

6. The happiest time in our marriage was:-

   .................................................................................................
   .................................................................................................
   .................................................................................................

7. The saddest and most difficult time in our marriage was:-

   .................................................................................................
   .................................................................................................
   .................................................................................................

8. I believe finances are best handled by:-
   a) the husband [ ]
   b) the wife [ ]
   c) jointly with discussion and careful consideration [ ]
   d) by having a joint bank account [ ]

9. I believe the following statements are true:-
   a) 'sex is for procreation' [ ]
   b) 'sex is for pleasure' [ ]
   c) 'sex is for the promotion of marital happiness and therefore should be within marriage only' [ ]
   d) 'sex should always be initiated by the husband' [ ]

10. I consider the ideal number of children to be:-
    a) 0 [ ]
    b) 1-2 [ ]
    c) 3-4 [ ]
    d) 5+ [ ]
11. I believe a wife/mother should:-

a) be at home with the children [ ]
b) work part time while the children are at school [ ]
c) return to work after a short maternity leave, leaving the children with a child minder [ ]
d) be responsible for general household duties [ ]

12. I believe a husband/father should:-

a) be the sole provider for the family [ ]
b) share 50/50 the responsibilities at home [ ]
c) be responsible for disciplining the children [ ]
d) set aside special time each week for the family and also for romantic nights with wife! [ ]

13. I believe the children should:-

a) obey their parents [ ]
b) be allowed to explore life without too many boundaries [ ]
c) do their share of the housework [ ]
d) be loved and cherished regardless of their behaviour [ ]

14. If I felt my basic needs for security, self worth and significance were not being met in my marriage, I would:-

a) try to change my spouse [ ]
b) attempt to ignore it, and perhaps look elsewhere [ ]
c) verbally communicate to my spouse that my needs are not being met [ ]
d) withdraw my love and affection [ ]

You may like to keep your answers and review them on your next wedding anniversary!

Compiled by former Norfolk Marriage Resource Branch