

The Science of Attraction



VOCABULARY

- *Veto to forbid something, or stop it being put into action
- *Pheromones are chemical substances secreted outside the body, and they influence the behavior of another individual. They induce activity in other individuals, such as sexual arousal.
- *Ovulation is the release of an egg, or ovum, which may then be fertilized by a sperm cell or dissolved during menstruation
- *Testosterone a hormone found in men and male animals, which can also be produced artificially. It is thought to be responsible for the male sexual instinct and other male characteristics.
- *MHC (Major Histocompatibility Complex) a set of genes that code for cell surface proteins essential for the acquired immune system to recognize foreign molecules in vertebrates, which in turn determines Histocompatibility
- *Histocompatibility compatibility between the tissues of different individuals, so that one accepts a graft from the other without having an immune reaction
- *Norepinephrine a hormone that is released by the adrenal medulla and by the sympathetic nerves and functions as a neurotransmitter. It is also used as a drug to raise blood pressure.

COMPREHENSION

- 1. What do we call the chemical messenger emitted from one organism that activates a physiological or behavioral response in another?
- 2. Can a man's testosterone possibly increase when he smells a shirt worn by an ovulating woman?
- 3. Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) molecules are part of what system?
- 4. In the coffee study, how did participants who held the hot coffee rate the hypothetical person?
- 5. What does your bloodstream flood with once attraction is confirmed?



The Science of Attraction



- 6. What do things like long lustrous hair and smooth scar free skin indicate and why would that be important?
- 7. Why would a woman be most attracted to a man with opposite Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) molecules?

LET'S TALK

- 1. Does this video change your definition on What love is? What relationships are? Or make you question if there really is such a thing as love or its really just biology?
- 2. What would you consider the most important sense in attraction and why?
- 3. So, how do you explain virtual romantic attraction to another person that you have never physically met, but only interacted with online?