

Unit 4

Our Customs And Traditions



C. READING

IX Read the passage. Answer the question below.



Wedding custom in Vietnam is quite complicated. Before an official wedding, a ceremony of engagement must be held first. In Vietnamese tradition, engagement ceremony is an official occasion for families of fiancé and fiancée to mark their relationship and to arrange the wedding.

Each family need to prepare a representative who is a family member having a happy life and high-ranking position in the family. In the day of engagement, the representatives of two families will have some announcement about the wedding and exchange gifts. The time of wedding is chosen suitably based on lunar calendar. Gifts which are put in trays are prepared by the family of fiancé a few days before the engagement ceremony. The number of trays must be an odd number. In Vietnamese habits, odd numbers are thought to bring luck to the couple. In the trays, there are betel leaves, areca nut fruits, wine, tea, husband-wife and sticky rice. In the wedding day, the couple has to stay apart to avoid unlucky things. The wedding ceremony starts in front of the ancestor altar. The master of the wedding ceremony will declare the couple becomes a new family.

1. What ceremony occurs before the official wedding?
.....
2. Who is selected to be the representative of each family?
.....
3. Who prepares gift trays for the engagement ceremony?
.....
4. Why must the number of trays be an odd number?
.....
5. Where does the wedding ceremony occur?
.....

X Read the passage.

Tipping in the U.S



Another odd (1) associated with the United States is its tipping culture. Unlike many other countries who don't tip at all or who only tip in small amounts when the food was particularly (2), tipping is rather (3) at most restaurants in the U.S. In fact, it is (4) that patrons leave between 10-20 percent of the bill in tips. Wait staff rely (5) this gratuity for a living because legal wages for waiters are (6) You may be surprised to know that waiters at the restaurants typically get only \$ 2.13/ hour. Further, there are (7) for tipping bartenders, delivery people and other service personnel. You can either include the tip in the credit card slip itself or you can pay separately by cash. While some criticize this practice as irrational, there's no doubt that tipping culture in the U.S. gives an incentive for waiters and waitresses to (8) better service.

1

Choose the most suitable word/ phrase to fill in the blank.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1. A. tradition | B. costume | C. custom | D. rule |
| 2. A. bad | B. good | C. cooked | D. served |
| 3. A. mandatory | B. optional | C. unnecessary | D. uncommon |
| 4. A. needed | B. thought | C. expected | D. said |
| 5. A. in | B. on | C. from | D. over |
| 6. A. high | B. tall | C. low | D. short |
| 7. A. laws | B. regulations | C. ways | D. rules |
| 8. A. propose | B. provide | C. produce | D. promote |

2

Decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Tipping is not very popular in many other countries. | |
| 2. In the US, it is almost obliged to leave a tip after being served. | |
| 3. It is not satisfactory if you tip 15% of the bill. | |
| 4. Salaries of waiters in the US are quite high. | |
| 5. Waiters don't rely much on customers' tips. | |