

Unit 9



family & marriage

EXERCISE 1

 If you fill in an official form, such as a census, you may be asked to categorise your marital status into one of the following groups:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| ● single | ● married |
| ● divorced | ● widowed |
| ● separated | ● engaged |

Make sure you know what all these words mean.

EXERCISE 2

Match the males with the females in the following categories:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 mother-in-law | ☐ fiancé |
| 2 spinster | ☐ widower |
| 3 widow | ☐ father-in-law |
| 4 fiancée | ☐ ex-husband |
| 5 ex-wife | ☐ bachelor |

EXERCISE 3

Now complete these sentences to define the words given below:

spinster widower engaged ex-wife fiancé

- 1 A man whose wife has died is a _____.
- 2 A woman who has never married is a _____.
- 3 A man who is engaged to be married is somebody's _____.
- 4 A woman who has divorced her husband becomes his _____.
- 5 Before they get married, a couple usually get _____.

EXERCISE 4**Marriage**

Fill the gaps in the text with the following words:

weds married marriage wedding

Tom and Laura's _____ took place on a beautiful day in June. The priest who _____ them was an old friend of the family and made them feel very relaxed. After the ceremony, they all went to sign the _____ certificate and the newly-_____ joined their family and friends for the reception.

EXERCISE 5

 Do you know the difference between the terms 'marriage' and 'wedding'?
marriage - the legal union of husband and wife
wedding - the ceremony and all the festivities connected with marriage

Fill the gaps to complete the following sentences. Use *marriage* or *wedding*:

- 1 Do you believe in _____ ?
- 2 I've been invited to Paul and Sarah's _____ .
- 3 Their _____ lasted 22 years.
- 4 I went to their _____ but the rest of the family didn't approve of their _____ .

EXERCISE 6

Below is a text describing a typical English wedding. Rearrange the letters given in bold type to complete the paragraph. Then put them in the table on the next page:

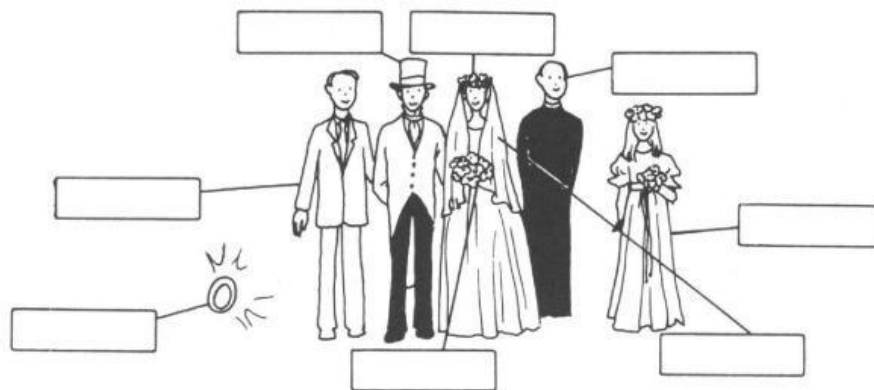
A wedding in England is a very special occasion which requires months of preparation. Traditionally, the **① RBEDI** wears a long white dress and **② ELVI** ; the **③ OGROM** wears a suit and all the guests dress up smartly. The bride may be attended by **④ DIABREMISDS** and/or pageboys while the **⑤ ETSB NAM** stands beside the groom.

Special religious songs called **⑥ YHSMN** are sung in church and after the **⑦ MERCENYO** is over, the newly-weds leave the church together and their friends and relatives throw **⑧ NOFITCET** over them. Later, everyone enjoys themselves at the reception, where they eat a wedding breakfast and toast the **⑨ UPOLCE** before they leave for their **⑩ NYONOEHMO** .

1		6	
2		7	
3		8	
4		9	
5		10	

Look at the sketch below and label the following:

bride groom bouquet veil ring best man bridesmaid priest



EXERCISE 7

Here are some verb phrases connected with family, marriage and relationships:

going out with am close to keep in touch with left on the shelf

Use them to fill the gaps in the following sentences:

- 1 My sister's been _____ her boyfriend for over two years but I don't think they'll get married.
- 2 I _____ my parents even though I don't live at home any more.
- 3 I still _____ my French penfriend and I hope one day she'll come and visit me.
- 4 She's thirty-five, still single and starting to feel as though she's been _____.

EXERCISE 8**Affixes**

Choose from the prefixes below to complete the following sentences:

un-	ex-	re-	be-
-----	-----	-----	-----

- I'll _____ name my children after I get divorced.
- My _____ -husband's family don't speak to me any more.
- She became another _____ married mother living in the city.
- He's been very _____ happy since the divorce.
- I tried to _____ friend her but she preferred to be on her own.

EXERCISE 9

Check your understanding of the vocabulary in this unit by answering the following questions:

- What is your present marital status? _____.
- A man who has never been married is called a _____.
- _____ is often thrown at the couple during the wedding.
- The bride throws her _____ of flowers over her shoulder after the wedding.
- People who are members of the same family are called relations or _____.