

2

Listen to a conversation between two women, Sarah and her friend Lucy. As you listen, note down the answers to questions a and b in your exercise book.

a Where was Sarah last night?

b What two things did Sarah say were different from her own wedding?

There were no men, only women. There were no speeches.

At an Omani friend's wedding.

Read the statements below. Then listen to Sarah talking to her Omani friend, Khalsa, about British wedding receptions. As you listen, decide if the statements are True, False or if there is no information given. Write down T, F or NG in your exercise book.

1 The reception is immediately before the wedding ceremony.

2 All weddings in Britain take place in a church.

3 The guests give the bride and groom presents at the wedding reception.

4 The bride's father usually gives a speech.

5 The main food at the wedding reception is toast.

6 The best man is usually the groom's father.

Read the information about some wedding traditions from around the world. As you read, look for the answers to the questions below.

In **Oman**, a henna party is held at the bride's family house. The bride wears a traditional green dress, and covers her face with green material. Her hands and feet are decorated with henna. During the party, the groom and his family come and throw money into a large bowl.

In **Turkey**, there are sometimes four or five hundred guests at a wedding. The guests pin money – cash, cheques and gold – on the bride's dress and the groom's suit. This money is for the bride and groom to buy things for their new home, and their future life together.

In **China**, the bride wears a wedding gown of red, the traditional colour of good luck, embroidered with flowers. The groom wears a black silk coat over a robe embroidered with a dragon. There are usually loud firecrackers as these are believed to scare away evil spirits.



In **India**, the bride at a Hindu wedding wears a red sari, a symbol of good luck. Her parents wash the feet of the bride and groom with milk and water to purify them for their journey through life. The groom's relatives put a small mark of red paste on the bride's forehead.

In **Spain**, a ritual called 'las arras' happens after the rings have been exchanged between the bride and groom. The groom puts thirteen gold coins into the bride's hand. These coins are a symbol of their intention of sharing all the worldly goods they are going to receive together.

In **Fiji**, it is traditional for a young man to present his bride's father with a gift of a whale tooth, a symbol of status and wealth. He also prepares a feast, and sends it to the bride's family. Before the wedding, the bride is tattooed, a sign of beauty in Fiji.

- a Where does the bride traditionally wear red?
- b Where does a young man have to give his bride's father a whale tooth?
- c Where do henna parties take place?
- d Where does a ritual involving coins take place?
- e Where are there sometimes hundreds of guests at a wedding?

- A) _____
- B) _____
- C) _____
- D) _____
- E) _____