

Modern Love

Activity 1

Read the following questions and use them to start a conversation with your partner.

1. What's the difference between affection, love, passion and infatuation?
2. What are the secrets of long-lasting loving relationships such as marriage?
3. Why do you think the divorce rate is rising in some countries?
4. Should people of the same sex be permitted to get married? Why/not?
5. What's the difference between 'a wedding' and 'a marriage'?
6. What does St. Valentine's Day mean to you? Do you celebrate it? If so, how?

Activity 2

Work with a partner to explain the words and phrases below.

**best man honeymoon speeches bride
guests the Big Day (bride)groom reception bridesmaids**

Activity 3

Write the phrases from Activity 2 in the spaces below then ask your partner the questions.

1. The is the woman who is getting married.
2. The is the man who is getting married.
3. The bride often invites her sisters, friends or nieces to be her They wear special dresses and help the bride on her wedding day.
4. The bridegroom often invites his brother or best friend to be his on the wedding day. The man in this role is responsible for looking after the wedding ring before the bridegroom gives it to the bride.
5. After the ceremony all the are invited to share a meal with the bride and groom.
6. After the wedding ceremony there is usually a which includes a meal and often a party with music, dancing, etc.
7. The father of the bride often makes a during the reception.
8. A is a holiday taken by the bride and groom after the wedding.
9. is a colloquial expression for 'the wedding day'.

Activity 4

Read the questions below and use them to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. How do weddings in your country differ from weddings in other countries?
2. Describe the best wedding you have ever been to. What made it special?
3. Do you think people spend too much on weddings? Why do they cost so much?
4. What are the advantages of having an 'arranged marriage'? Who would your parents choose/have chosen for you?
5. Do you think marriage should be for life? Why/not?
6. Is marriage too old-fashioned to survive in the 21st century?

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Activity 5

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which famous singer 'got married' to a same-sex partner at Windsor, UK, on 21st December 2005?
2. Why did the couple choose that particular day for the ceremony?
3. How many other people entered into civil partnerships in England and Wales that day?
4. Which European country was the first to grant same-sex partners the same rights as heterosexual married couples?
5. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 6

Should 'marriages' between people of the same sex be permitted?

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE TO DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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