

ESL Conversation Club: Weddings

Warm-Up Your Vocal Chords

Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes	Whether the Weather
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes. Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes. Eyes and ears and mouth and nose. Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.	Whether the weather be cold, Or whether the weather be hot, We'll weather the weather Whatever the weather, Whether we like it or not!

Conversation Questions in Groups of 2 People:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many weddings have you been to? 2. Have you ever taken part in a wedding? 3. What is the best part of a wedding? 4. What's the best and worst wedding you've ever been to? 5. What are weddings like in your country? 6. Why do you think weddings are universal among almost all cultures? 7. "Going to a wedding is the making of another." What does that proverb mean? Do you agree? 8. How do people celebrate after a wedding? 9. What colors are most often used in weddings in your country? 10. What do you think of arranged marriages? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. What is the worst thing about weddings? 12. What food is traditionally served at weddings in your country? 13. What gifts do guests usually give to the bride and groom? What do you think is the best gift? Have you heard of some unusual gifts given to a couple? 14. How much does it cost to organize a wedding ceremony? What are the main expense items? 15. Do you wish you could go to more weddings? 16. When you've been invited to a wedding, do you go out and buy a suit/dress and/or a pair of shoes for the occasion? Why do some people feel that they have to do this?
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Vocabulary to Practice

- **Proposal:** A heartfelt moment when one partner asks the other to marry them, expressing their love and commitment.
- **Engagement:** The period between the proposal and the wedding, symbolizing the commitment and intention to marry.
- **Engagement ring/wedding ring:** A precious symbol of love and commitment, usually worn on the ring finger. The exchange of these rings during the wedding ceremony is a cherished tradition.
- **Fiancé/fiancée (status after engagement but before the wedding):** The terms used to refer to a person who is engaged to be married.
- **Bridal shower:** A celebratory event held in honor of the bride-to-be before the wedding day.
- **Stag night/bachelor party:** An occasion for the groom and his male friends to celebrate his last days of bachelorhood.
- **Wedding:** The culmination of love and commitment, where two individuals exchange vows and are united in marriage.
- **Bride:** The central figure in a wedding, the woman who is getting married.
- **Maid of honor:** The bride's closest female friend or family member who plays a significant role in supporting and assisting her throughout the wedding planning process.
- **Bridesmaids:** Close friends or family members chosen by the bride to be a part of her wedding party.
- **Groom:** The man who is getting married, the partner of the bride.

- **Best man:** The groom's most trusted friend or family member who plays a significant role in supporting him throughout the wedding planning process.
- **Groomsman:** The male friends or family members chosen by the groom to be a part of his wedding party.
- **Ringbearer:** A young boy or girl who has the honor of carrying the wedding rings down the aisle during the ceremony.
- **Wedding gown/wedding dress:** The exquisite attire worn by the bride on her wedding day.
- **Veil:** A delicate and often sheer fabric worn by the bride that covers her face before she walks down the aisle.
- **Wedding suit/tuxedo:** The stylish attire worn by the groom on his wedding day.
- **Ceremony (at a church or outdoors):** The formal part of the wedding where the couple publicly declares their love and commitment to each other.
- **Wedding vows:** The heartfelt promises made by the couple during the wedding ceremony.
- **Exchange the rings:** The moment during the wedding ceremony when the couple symbolically exchanges their wedding rings.
- **Throwing rice, confetti, or coins:** A joyful tradition where guests shower the newlyweds with rice, confetti, or coins as they exit the ceremony venue.
- **Breaking glass:** A symbolic act often associated with Jewish weddings, where the groom smashes a glass with his foot.
- **Wedding bouquet:** A carefully arranged collection of flowers held by the bride as she walks down the aisle.
- **Tossing the bouquet:** An age-old tradition where the bride throws her bouquet into a group of single women. It is believed that the woman who catches the bouquet will be the next to get married.
- **Wedding cake:** A delectable centerpiece of the wedding reception.
- **Wedding party:** The collective term for the group of people involved in the wedding, including the bridesmaids, groomsmen, maid of honor, best man, and other close friends and family members who support and celebrate the couple's special day.
- **Honeymoon:** A romantic getaway taken by the newly married couple after the wedding.
- **Husband:** The title bestowed upon the male partner in a marriage.
- **Wife:** The title given to the female partner in a marriage.
- **Flower girl:** A young girl who walks down the aisle before the bride, scattering flower petals.
- **Newlyweds:** The term used to describe a couple who has recently gotten married.
- **Registry office:** A government office where civil weddings are conducted.