

1. A royal wedding

The subject of this week's lesson is the British royal wedding, which took place in London on April 29 and attracted possibly the largest worldwide TV audience for any event in history. The couple getting married were, of course, Prince William (grandson of Queen Elizabeth II) and Kate Middleton.

Level

Intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Brainstorm on the subject of the British royal wedding (presuming that at least some of your students saw some of it on TV and/or have seen pictures in newspapers/magazines). Who was getting married, and where? What elements of the occasion did your students find interesting/impressive/strange? If any of your students particularly enjoyed watching the wedding on TV, or deliberately avoided doing so, encourage them to explain why to the rest of the class.
2. Give your students between five and ten minutes to read through Worksheet A, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Note that many of the words that might be new are not in the glossary because they form part of Exercise 1.
3. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B, then divide the class into pairs and ask students to work together to complete Exercise 1, in which they have to find the words to match the definitions. (You might want to mention that the verbs defined on Worksheet B are not necessarily in their infinitive form on Worksheet A.)
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Keeping the students in their pairs, hand out Worksheet C and ask the students to complete the crossword.
6. Check answers in open class.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. lip-reader
2. cheer
3. affair
4. head of state
5. ceremony
6. carriage
7. hitch
8. persevere
9. precision
10. altar
11. pick up
12. bride
13. bonus
14. punctuality
15. audible

Exercise 2

1. dress
2. audience
3. joke
4. abbey
5. Catherine
6. residence
7. wedding
8. horse-drawn
9. proud
10. monarchy
11. honeymoon
12. flew
13. nervous
14. flags

If the sentences have been completed correctly, *Duke and Duchess* will read from top to bottom.

2. Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.officialroyalwedding2011.org/>

The official website of the royal wedding, with pictures and videos. Accessible to Intermediate level.

<http://www.royal.gov.uk/>

The official website of the British monarchy. Challenging for Intermediate level.

<http://www.frugalbride.com/traditionscustoms.html>

A summary of North American/British wedding traditions and their historical origins. Accessible to Intermediate level.