



Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion

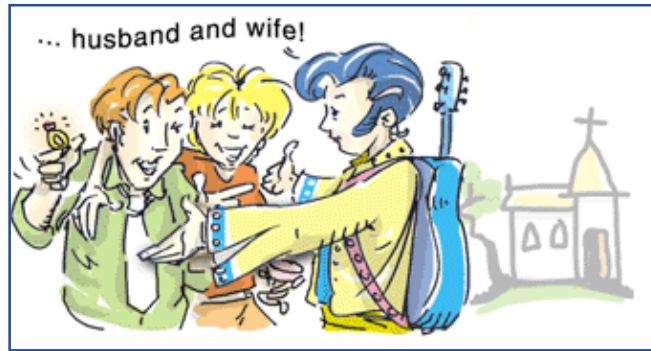
In today's article the city of Las Vegas is mentioned. Work with a partner and discuss the questions below.

1. Where is Las Vegas?
2. What is Las Vegas famous for?

B: Predicting

The words below are from today's article. Match them with the correct picture.

getting married / ceremony / drunk / a few drinks / dumped / bride / groom / girlfriend / boyfriend



Work in pairs. Look at the three pictures again and tell your partner what you think today's article will be about.

Reading Activities

A: Mixed Sentences

Below is the first sentence in today's article but the order is mixed up. Work with a partner and put the words in the correct order.

and got / went to / A British student / Las Vegas, / few drinks / married / had a

Now answer the question below.

1. What did the British student do ?

Here is part of the next sentence in today's article. Put it into the correct order.

he already / was that / had a girlfriend / His problem

Now answer the question.

2. What was his problem?



B: Ordering events

Read today's article and put the sentences below into the correct order.



1. He went home to Britain.
2. He drank a lot.
3. He got married to a complete stranger.
4. His girlfriend dumped him.
5. He is trying to find his bride because he wants to end the marriage.
6. A British student went to Las Vegas.
7. He told his girlfriend.

Marriage Vegas Style Fails to Please Girlfriend

LONDON - Friday November 2 (Reuters) A British student went to Las Vegas, had a few drinks and got married.

His problem was that he already had a girlfriend, and she was not pleased to hear that he had married a complete stranger. He didn't tell his girlfriend for three days after he returned from the United States, and then she dumped him.

The Times newspaper said the 21-year-old had now begun the humiliating process of trying to find his bride, a 26-year-old optician from Australia, to try and persuade her to agree to end the marriage.

The student can't remember much about his new wife, nor can he recall much of the ceremony.

"I was way too drunk," he was quoted as saying. "We were all very drunk and thought it would be a laugh if we got married. It was one of those stupid things. If you go to Las Vegas, you drink, you gamble and you get married, which is what I did, although I regret it now."

He added: "It was funny for a while, but now my ex-girlfriend is never going to talk to me again."

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C: Comprehension

Now try to answer the questions below without looking back at today's article.

1. How old is the British student?
2. Why did he get married?
3. Why do you think it is humiliating for him to try and find his bride?
4. What did he think about it before?
5. What does he think about it now?
6. What do you think of what he did?
7. How would you feel if you were his girlfriend?
8. Do you know any similar stories?

D: Vocabulary

Find the words in today's article that match the meanings below.

1. Two words : *Someone you don't know and have never met.*
2. An adjective: *To feel embarrassed or ashamed.*
3. A verb: *To try and get a person to agree with you.*
4. A verb: *When you wish you hadn't done something.*

E: Language

Here are five sentences from the article. One word has been removed from each sentence. Choose the correct answer from the words in the brackets. Do not look back at the article until you have finished.

1. A British student went (**on / to / up**) Las Vegas, had a few drinks and got married.
2. He didn't tell his girlfriend (**about / at / for**) three days after he returned from the United States.
3. The student can't remember much (**about / for / from**) his new wife.
4. It was one (**for / of / to**) those stupid things.
5. Now my ex-girlfriend is never going to talk (**about / for / to**) me again.

Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Apologizing

Imagine you are the British student who went to Las Vegas and got married. Write an apology letter to your girlfriend telling her how sorry you are for getting married. Tell her how wonderful you will be to her if she gives you a second chance.

Design a beautiful card, and include your letter inside it.

Post your letter in the 'post box' your teacher provides. When all the letters and cards are 'posted' choose one to read (**not** your own), and write a brief reply to it.

B: Vocabulary

Work with a partner and discuss the questions below. Give examples to support your answers.

1. Have you ever **persuaded** someone to do something?
2. Have you ever done something that you **regretted** later?
3. Have you ever been **dumped** by a girlfriend or boyfriend?
4. Do you like to have **a few drinks**?
5. Have you ever been to a **wedding ceremony**?

C: Role Play

Do the role play below. One of you is Student A, the other is Student B.

Student A: Imagine you are the British student who went to Las Vegas and got married. You have gone to Australia to find your 'wife'. You go to her house and ring the doorbell, the door opens, it's her!

Student B: Imagine you are the Australian 'bride' of the British student you met in Las Vegas. One day you answer your door to find your 'husband' standing there. What do you say to him?

Teachers' Notes and Answer Key follow on next page.



TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion - Answers

1. In the United States.
2. Las Vegas is famous primarily for gambling and casinos but people also go there to have a 'good time'. Las Vegas is also famous for its 'quickie' weddings, where, as long as people have the right documentation, they can get married straight away. (Las Vegas even has drive-through wedding chapels.)

B: Predicting - Notes

Allow some time for the students to look at the pictures and come up with ideas. If the discussion about Las Vegas has gone well, then the students will probably be able to predict what the article is about.

B: Predicting - Answers

- P.1 - have a few drinks
P.2 - drunk, ceremony, bride, get married, groom
P.3 - girlfriend, boy friend, dumped

Reading Activities

A: Mixed Sentences - Answers

1. A British student went to Las Vegas, had a few drinks and got married.
2. His problem was that he already had a girlfriend.

B: Ordering of Events - Answers

The correct sequence is: 6, 2, 3, 1, 7, 4, 5.

C: Comprehension - Notes

Questions 6, 7 and 8 are a chance for the students to express their opinion about today's article. There are no set answers.

C: Comprehension - Answers

1. 21 years old.
2. Because he thought it would be a laugh and he was very drunk.
3. Because he can't remember much about his wife and it is an unusual situation.
4. He thought it was funny before.
5. He now regrets it.

D: Vocabulary - Answers

1. complete stranger
2. humiliating
3. persuade
4. regret

E: Language - Answers

1. A British student went **to** Las Vegas, had a few drinks and got married.
2. He didn't tell his girlfriend **for** three days after he returned from the United States.
3. The student can't remember much **about** his new wife.
4. It was **one of** those stupid things.
5. Now my ex-girlfriend is never going **to** talk to me again.

Post Reading Activities

A: Apologizing - Notes

You will need to provide your students with pieces of card, glue, colored pens, scissors and magazine pictures with which to make a card. Get them to put their letters inside the cards.

Give students the opportunity to read each others' work by having them 'post' their cards / letters into a 'post box' which you have prepared. When everyone has deposited their writing, they can select a card at random to read. They should then reply to the letter they read.

B: Vocabulary - Notes

Students should not just answer 'yes' or 'no' to these questions, but should elaborate with examples from their experience. If there are any very interesting stories, get partners to report these back to the whole class, but encourage tact, as some of these situations are potentially very embarrassing.

C: Role Play - Notes

Monitor students as they prepare their role plays, then get them to perform these for the whole class.