



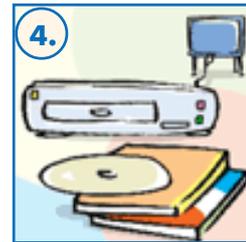
Pre-Reading Activities

A: Wedding Gifts

Today's article is about **weddings** and **wedding gifts**. Wedding gifts are presents you give to a couple who are getting married.

1. Look at the pictures below and match the words with the pictures.

honeymoon, bicycle, car, DVD player, banquet, apartment, household appliances, studio wedding photos, radio, furniture



2. Work in pairs and look at the pictures again. Which of them are wedding gifts? Do you think they are good wedding gifts? Put a tick beside the things you would like to be given.

Do you give similar things as wedding gifts in your country? Are there any other gifts which are usually given in your country that are not shown here? What are they?

B: Listening

Listen to your teacher read today's article. Number the pictures from **Pre-Reading Activity A** in the order that you hear them being mentioned. *If you hear one of the pictures being mentioned a **second** time, give it another number.*

C: Vocabulary

Match these words to the meanings below:

cost, salary, average, replace, essential, newlyweds

1. how much money you pay for something
2. the money you receive every month for the work you do
3. the usual or normal amount of something
4. to use or give something instead of another thing
5. something that is very important or absolutely necessary
6. a husband and wife who have only been married a short time



Reading Activities

A: Listening

Listen to your teacher read today's article again and choose the best summary.

Today's article is about:

1. ...newlyweds in Shanghai.
2. ...the expense of getting married in Shanghai.
3. ...Chinese workers.
4. ...marriages in Shanghai one hundred years ago.



B: Word Order Questions

Your teacher is going to divide your class into two groups and give each group different worksheets. The questions on the worksheets are not in the correct order. With a partner put the words into the correct order and check your answers with your group members.

C: Pair Work

Your teacher will give you another worksheet with a copy of today's article. The article has some gaps. Students in the other group will have the information you need to fill the gaps in your article. Work in pairs with someone from the other group and ask your partner the questions you made in **Reading Activity B**. Write your partner's answers in the gaps in the article.

D: Reading for Detail

Stay with your partner from **Reading Activity C**. Read today's article below and then choose the best answer for each question.

1. **setting up** their first home in this sentence means:
 - a. building their first home.
 - b. organizing things for their first home.
 - c. buying their first home.
2. 150,000 yuan (\$18,000) which is **double the amount 5 years ago** in this sentence means:
 - a. 5 years ago it cost 75,000 yuan (\$9,000) to have a wedding in Shanghai.
 - b. 5 years ago it cost 150,000 yuan (\$18,000) to have a wedding in Shanghai.
 - c. 5 years ago it cost 50,000 yuan (\$6,000) to have a wedding in Shanghai.
3. Their marriage was **rubber-stamped** at a local government office means:
 - a. the local government office agreed to the marriage.
 - b. the local government office disagreed to the marriage.
 - c. the local government office gave them the essential gifts.

Getting Married Costs More in Shanghai

SHANGHAI Tues Sept 10 (Reuters) - Marrying in Shanghai now costs the average Chinese worker eight years of salary. DVD players and cars have replaced radios and bicycles as essential gifts for newlyweds who are setting up their first home, a state newspaper said on Tuesday.

The China Daily said the average cost of getting married in Shanghai was 150,000 yuan (\$18,000) which is double the amount 5 years ago. The average city worker earns 1,530 yuan (\$184) a month.

Twenty-first century marriage essentials now include a

banquet for several hundred guests, studio wedding photos, a honeymoon, household appliances and an apartment. This is a big change from the 1970s when a couple received a bicycle, a radio and some furniture. Their marriage was **rubber-stamped** at a local government office.

But the traditional Chinese wedding gift is still money which is put into red envelopes.

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Glossary: **rubber-stamped** - someone in authority agrees to a decision, plan or law

Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language

Read today's article again and look for examples of:

Present simple (active):

Present simple (passive):

Present perfect:

Present continuous:

Past simple:

Compare your answers with a partner. Work together to explain why the writer of the article used these verb forms.

B: Discussion

Think about the five questions below and make notes. Then discuss each one in groups.

1. Do you think things like DVD players and cars are essential gifts for newlyweds?

Why / why not?

4. How much does an average wedding cost in your country?

2. What are the good points and the bad points of having a large wedding?

5. Describe to the group a wedding you have been to. **What was it like? Where was it held? What did people wear? How long was it for?**

3. Are large weddings common in your country?



TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Wedding Gifts - Answers

1: picture 1. **bicycle**, picture 2. **car**, picture 3. **radio**, picture 4. **DVD player**, picture 5. **banquet**, picture 6. **household appliances**, picture 7. **honeymoon**, picture 8. **studio wedding photos**, picture 9. **apartment**, picture 10. **furniture**

2: Weddings gifts could include: **bicycle, car, radio, DVD player, household appliances or furniture.**

In some countries the parents of the bride or groom, or a very generous relative or friend, might give the couple an apartment if they are very wealthy, and some would pay for the honeymoon. Who pays for the banquet varies, but this would not normally be termed a 'wedding gift'.

B: Listening - Notes

Read today's article at a slow to normal pace one time only. The students only have to correlate the written words with the spoken words.

B: Listening - Text to be Read Aloud to Students

SHANGHAI Tues Sept 10 (Reuters) - Marrying in Shanghai now costs the average Chinese worker eight years of salary. DVD players and cars have replaced radios and bicycles as essential gifts for newlyweds who are setting up their first home, a state newspaper said on Tuesday.

The China Daily said the average cost of getting married in Shanghai was 150,000 yuan (\$18,000) which is double the amount 5 years ago. The average city worker earns 1,530 yuan (\$184) a month.

Twenty-first century marriage essentials now include a lavish banquet for several hundred guests, studio wedding photos, a honeymoon, household appliances and an apartment. This is a big change from the 1970s when a couple received a bicycle, a radio and some furniture. Their marriage was rubber-stamped at a local government office.

But the traditional Chinese wedding gift is still money which is put into red envelopes.

B: Listening - Answers

1. DVD player
2. car
3. radio
4. bicycle
5. banquet
6. studio wedding photos
7. honeymoon
8. household appliances
9. an apartment
10. bicycle
11. radio
12. furniture

C: Vocabulary - Answers

1. cost
2. salary
3. average
4. replace
5. essential
6. newlyweds

Reading Activities

A: Listening - Notes

Read the article (from **Pre-Reading Activity B**) again at a normal pace. Repeat one more time if necessary. Go over the answers as a class.

A: Listening - Answer

Summary 2

B: Word Order - Notes

Divide the class into two groups **A** and **B**. Give out the worksheets on the next page. Ask the students to work together in their A or B groups to put the words into the correct order to make questions. Then ask the students to stay in their groups to check their answers before going over the answers with them.

B: Word Order - Worksheet for Group A - Answers

1. What costs the average Chinese worker eight years of salary?
3. What have replaced radios and bicycles as essential gifts?
5. How much does the average city worker earn?
7. What did couples receive in the 1970s?

B: Word Order - Worksheet for Group B - Answers

2. How much does it cost an average Chinese worker to marry in Shanghai?
4. What is the average cost of marrying in Shanghai?
6. What are twenty-first century marriage essentials?
8. What is the traditional Chinese wedding gift?

C: Pair Work - Notes

Hand out the gap-fill worksheet on the next page. Tell the students that the questions they worked on in the previous activity are to be used for obtaining information from their partners so that they can fill in the gaps in the article. Each student from **Group A** pairs with a student from **Group B**. Tell them that they should not show their worksheets to their partners.

C: Pair Work - Answers for Group A

1. marrying in Shanghai
3. DVD players and cars
5. 1,530 yuan (\$184) a month
7. a bicycle, a radio and some furniture

C: Pair Work - Answers for Group B

2. eight years of salary
4. 150,000 yuan (\$18,000)
6. a banquet for several hundred guests, studio wedding photos, a honeymoon, household appliances and an apartment
8. Money, which is put into red envelopes.

D: Reading for Detail - Answers

1. b, 2. a, 3. a

Post-Reading Activities

A: Language - Notes

You may like to write an example of each of these tenses on the board for students to refer to while doing the activity.

A: Language - Answers

Present simple (active): **gets, costs, is, earns, include, is, is**

Present simple (passive): **is put**

Present perfect: **have replaced**

Present continuous: **are setting up**

Past simple (active): **said, said, was, received**

Past simple (passive): **was rubber-stamped**

Please Also Note: This lesson also has further exercises for your students to do online at **www.instantworkbook.com**.

To get a username and password for your students, click on the blue icon next to this lesson description in the teachers' room at **www.english-to-go.com**.

B: Word Order - Worksheet for Group A

Here are some questions about today's article. Put the words into the correct order to make the questions.

1. the average What costs eight years Chinese worker of salary ?
 3. What have as essential gifts and bicycles replaced radios ?
 5. earn the average How much does city worker ?
 7. couples in the 1970s What did receive ?
-

B: Word Order - Worksheet for Group B

Here are some questions about today's article. Put the words into the correct order to make the questions.

2. in Shanghai Chinese worker How much does it cost an average to marry ?
 4. What is of marrying the average cost in Shanghai ?
 6. essentials twenty first century What are marriage ?
 8. Chinese traditional What is the wedding gift ?
-

C: Pair Work - Worksheet for Group A

Here is today's article but it has some gaps. Students in **Group B** have the information you need to fill the gaps in your article. Ask Student B the questions you made in **Reading Activity B** and write the answers in the gaps in the article.

SHANGHAI Tues Sept 10 (Reuters) - (1) _____ now costs the average Chinese worker eight years of salary. (3) _____ have replaced radios and bicycles as essential gifts for newlyweds who are setting up their first home, a state newspaper said on Tuesday.

The China Daily said the average cost of getting married in Shanghai was 150,000 yuan (\$18,000) which is double the amount 5 years ago. The average city worker earns (5) _____.

Twenty-first century marriage essentials now include a banquet for several hundred guests, studio wedding photos, a honeymoon, household appliances and an apartment. This is a big change from the 1970s when a couple received (7) _____. Their marriage was rubber-stamped at a local government office.

But the traditional Chinese wedding gift is still money which is put into red envelopes.

C: Pairwork - Worksheet for Group B

Here is today's article but it has some gaps. Students in **Group A** have the information you need to fill the gaps in your article. Ask Student A the questions you made in **Reading Activity B** and write the answers in the gaps in the article.

SHANGHAI Sept 10 (Reuters) - Marrying in Shanghai now costs the average Chinese worker (2) _____. DVD players and cars have replaced radios and bicycles as essential gifts for newlyweds who are setting up their first home, a state newspaper said on Tuesday.

The China Daily said the average cost of getting married in Shanghai was (4) _____ which is double the amount 5 years ago. The average city worker earns 1,530 yuan (\$184) a month.

Twenty-first century marriage essentials now include (6) _____. This is a big change from the 1970s when a couple received a bicycle, a radio and some furniture. Their marriage was rubber-stamped at a local government office.

But the traditional Chinese wedding gift is (8) _____.
