Getting married

Start thinking
1 What do couples wear when they get married in your country?
2 What do the guests usually wear?
3 Where do people usually get married? Why?

Comprehension check
1 Watch the video clip and choose the correct answers.
   1 Approximately how many couples get married per year nowadays?
      a 2,500
      b 25,000
      c 250,000
      d 2,500,000
   2 How long have Tania and Will known each other?
      a for six months
      b for eight months
      c since school
      d since June 2008
   3 How many guests did Tania and Will invite to the church?
      a 80
      b 140
      c 350
      d 400

2 Watch again and number the events (1–8) in the order they happened.
   1 They cut the cake.
   2 They had a church service.
   3 The guests threw confetti.
   4 There was some dancing.
   5 Will and Tania got engaged.
   6 There were some speeches.
   7 They had a meal.
   8 They took a rickshaw to the reception.

3 Match the words in A (1–8) to the words in B (a–h) to make compound nouns.
   A    B
   1 ___ civil  a service
   2 ___ dinner  b ceremony
   3 ___ engagement  c boy
   4 ___ wedding  d girl
   5 ___ page  e ring
   6 ___ flower  f party
   7 ___ best  g man
   8 ___ church  h dress

4 Watch again and write the compound nouns from Ex.3 in the order you hear them.
   1 __________
   2 __________
   3 __________
   4 __________

5 Watch again and choose the correct alternative.
   1 The number of weddings started to decline in the 1960s/1970s.
   2 Tania works in IT/education.
   3 Tania and Will have been married for six/eight months.
   4 They met when Tania’s cousin/friend had a dinner party.
   5 Tania and Will had a civil/religious ceremony.
   6 The ceremony lasted for an hour/an hour and a half.
   7 The best men and bridesmaids were all family/friends.
   8 There were three/four speeches.

6 Complete the summary with the words from the box.

In a traditional British wedding, the groom often wears a suit with a flower on the jacket. He usually has a best man to help him. The bride usually wears a long white dress and she carries a bouquet of beautiful flowers. She often has a ring to help her. After the service, the guests often wait outside the church to throw rice or confetti over the couple. Then everybody is invited to the reception and they usually eat a big meal. When they have finished eating, several people make a speech. Sometimes they say embarrassing things or tell funny stories about the bride or groom!
Language check

7 Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

already ever for just
never since still yet

1. My sister hasn’t seen her boyfriend ________ two weeks. He’s on holiday.
2. They haven’t cut the cake ________.
3. We’ve ________ got engaged. I asked her last week!
4. I can’t believe you’ve ________ booked the reception!
5. John has known his girlfriend ________ last year.
6. You ________ haven’t thrown the bouquet and some of the guests are leaving.
7. The best man has ________ made a speech before, so he’s a bit nervous.
8. Have you ________ been to a wedding?

8 Complete the sentences with the Past simple, Present perfect or Present perfect continuous form of the verb.

1. George ________ (break) his leg, so he can’t play football.
2. They ________ (live) in the city for the past three years, but now they ________ (decide) to move to the countryside.
3. Charlie ________ (meet) Anna at a friend’s party on Saturday.
4. We ________ (study) English since we were six.
5. Harry feels sick, so he ________ (not eat) anything today.
6. Sheila ________ (not speak) to me all day yesterday.
7. My sister ________ (do) her homework, so she’s going out.
8. I didn’t call you earlier because I ________ (work) all day.

Talk about it

9 In pairs. Think about weddings in your country. Ask and answer the questions.

- Do you know any traditional wedding superstitions? What are they?
- What do people usually eat at weddings in your country?

A. Have you ever been to a wedding?
   B. Yes, I have. I went to my cousin’s wedding last year.

Extension

10 In pairs. Look at photos A and B and answer the questions.

Photograph A

1. Describe the photo.
2. Have you ever eaten a special meal? When? What were you celebrating?
3. Have you ever helped to prepare a special meal? What for?
4. What preparations do you need to make before a special meal?

Photograph B

1. Describe the photo.
2. Have you ever heard a speech? When? What was it about?
3. Have you ever made a speech? Why?
4. What preparations do you need to make before a speech?