

B1. II

Unit 7

Exercise 1

Read the text and write an adequate modal verb in each gap according to the context. The modal verb can be in its negative form.

Marriage: A Big Decision

Getting married is an important step in many people's lives. Before making this decision, you **(1)** _____ think carefully about your future together.

Nobody knows exactly what will happen after the wedding. Life **(2)** _____ change in unexpected ways, and couples need to be ready for new situations.

If two people communicate well and respect each other, they **(3)** _____ have a strong and happy relationship. Of course, this is not always certain.

When a couple argues all the time and never listens to each other, they **(4)** _____ be very happy. Good communication is essential.

Some people believe that marriage is the only way to have a successful relationship, but that **(5)** _____ be true for everyone. Different people have different opinions.

If you see a couple who always support each other and enjoy spending time together, you **(6)** _____ think they have a good chance of a happy marriage.

Exercise 2

Read the following text.

“Marry in April if you can, joy for maiden and for man”

So says one Irish wedding tradition which, like many others, has its roots in ancient history, folklore and interesting superstitions! Even in these modern times, many couples try to include ancient customs in their wedding, in the hope that it will bring them luck and happiness. Here are some of the traditions that Irish people follow on their wedding day.

A treat for the groom

In the past, the groom was invited to the bride's house just before the wedding and a goose was cooked in his honour. Many Irish people believe that showing such generosity to the groom will make sure that he won't change his mind about the wedding at the last minute.

Bride, be beautiful!

A traditional Irish bride doesn't spend a fortune on bouquets of exotic flowers. Instead, she usually wears a wreath of wild flowers in her hair, freshly picked on the morning of her wedding. She carries more wild

flowers in her hands, as well as a “magic” handkerchief and a horseshoe for luck. Part of the bride’s wedding dress is usually used to make the christening robe for the first-born child.

The icing on the cake

In the old days, an older female member of the family would take great pride in producing a traditional three-tiered fruitcake for the reception. Nowadays, however, most Irish couples go to their local baker and order a cake which is decorated with Irish themes such as swans or fairies. According to tradition, the couple save the top layer of the cake. They often store it in a tin and use it as a christening cake for their first baby.

Fairies and luck

Whether you believe in them or not, Ireland is traditionally the home of fairies, who are said to love beautiful things – especially brides! For this reason, Irish wisdom advises brides never to wear green on their wedding day or to dance with both feet off the ground, as both of these things will tempt the fairies to carry them off forever!

Mark the following statements true (T) or false (F):

1. ____ People in Ireland today completely ignore old wedding traditions because they are old-fashioned.
2. ____ The meal for the groom was intended to encourage him to go ahead with the wedding.
3. ____ Traditional Irish brides choose simple natural decorations instead of expensive flowers.
4. ____ Modern Irish wedding cakes are usually made by older women in the family.
5. ____ Irish couples keep part of their wedding cake because they expect it to have another important use in the future.
6. ____ The advice against wearing green or jumping while dancing suggests that many Irish wedding traditions are influenced by old beliefs rather than scientific facts.

Exercise 3

Complete the sentences with ‘must’, ‘might’, or ‘can’t’.

1. It _____ be her - she's in Italy this week. I’m sure you’ve confused her with someone else.
2. Come in and make yourself at home. You _____ be exhausted after your flight.
3. Who's this postcard from? It _____ be from my brother - he never sends postcards.
4. The exam results should be out soon. It _____ be this week or it _____ be next week.
5. She always gets such good grades at school. She _____ work very hard.
6. That _____ be Danny. I recognize his jacket.
7. I'm leaving for work now but I _____ be a little late if there's traffic on the road.
8. Of course Ross isn't here today. He went clubbing last night. He _____ be at home with a serious hangover.

9. You _____ possibly be tired. You've just woken up.
10. You _____ know Laura because she went to the same high school that we went to but she is a few years younger than we are.
11. I'm sorry, you _____ be confusing me with someone else, that's not my name.
12. He _____ be at his parent's house, but I'm not sure.
13. Paul _____ be at home. His car is still in the parking lot.
14. I _____ still have your book, but I'm not certain.
15. This _____ be the right answer. The others are definitely wrong.