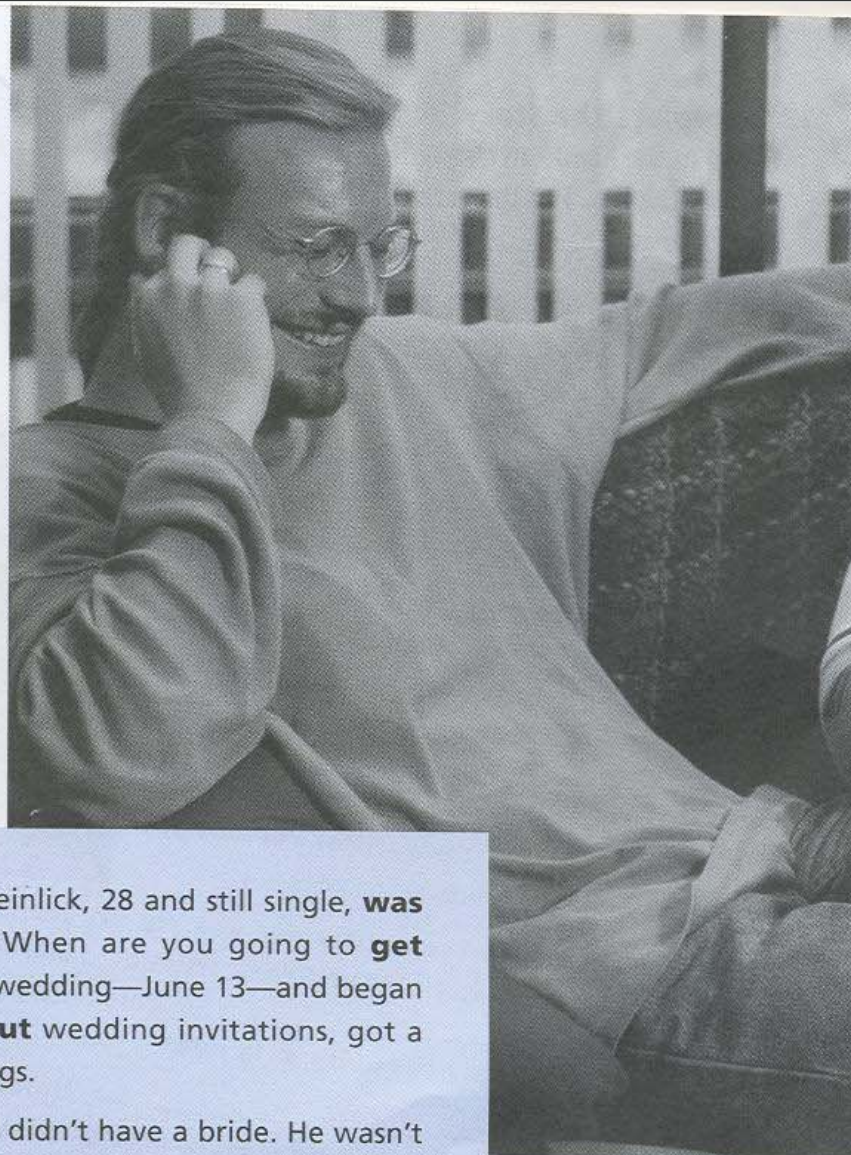


Man Ties the Knot with Stranger



1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 57.

What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, USA ¹David Weinlick, 28 and still single, **was sick and tired of** the question “When are you going to **get married?**” ²So he set a date for his wedding—June 13—and began to **get ready for** it. He **handed out** wedding invitations, got a tuxedo, and bought the wedding rings.

³There was only one problem: David didn’t have a bride. He wasn’t even **going out with** anyone! ⁴So he began to organize a bridal contest. It would **take place** on June 13 at a shopping mall, and he would marry the winner immediately afterwards. He invited his friends and relatives to come and choose the perfect wife for him.

⁵Some people thought he **was out of his mind**, but only his father refused the invitation. “I think a bridal contest **makes light of** something serious,” he said.

⁶On June 13, the wedding day, 25 single women showed up at the mall. David’s friends interviewed the women and then they voted.

⁷The winner was Elizabeth Runze, who, like David, is a student at the University of Minnesota. Moments later, Elizabeth and David **tied the knot**. The lucky bride **was flying high**. “This is the most incredible day of my life,” Elizabeth told the crowd of friends, shoppers, and reporters. ⁸David is happy too. He and his new bride have **hit it off**. “She is marvelous,” he says.

New idioms and expressions

- tie the knot (with someone)** ···· marry (someone)
- be sick and tired of something** ·· feel unable to tolerate something any longer
- get married (to someone)** ····· marry (someone)
- get ready (for something)** ····· prepare (for something)
- hand something out*** ······ distribute something
- go out with someone*** ······ have a romance with someone; go somewhere with a friend
- take place** ············ happen
- be out of one's mind** ········ be crazy, irrational, silly
- make light of something** ······· act as if something is unimportant
- be flying high** ············ be very happy
- hit it off (with someone)** ······ quickly become good friends (with someone)

recycled idiom: show up

*phrasal verb (see Lexicon and Appendix D)

2. Listen

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.

1 When are you going to get married?

2 Invitation
JUNE
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

3 ?

4 Will you choose a wife for me?
JUNE 13 BRIDAL CONTEST

5 This makes light of something serious.

6 BRIDAL CONTEST

7

8

3. Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

4. Listen and Complete

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

5. Match

Complete the idioms using the words in the box. Then write the number of the matching definition.

one's mind	the knot	and tired of	it off
high	ready for	light of	

___ a. tie _____	1. be very happy
___ b. hit _____	2. unable to tolerate any longer
___ c. make _____	3. marry
___ d. be sick _____	4. be crazy or irrational
___ e. get _____	5. prepare for
___ f. be out of _____	6. quickly become good friends
___ g. be flying _____	7. act as if something is unimportant

6. Tell the Story

Look only at the pictures and the New Idioms box on page 57. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- Then tell the story to a partner or small group.

7. Answer the Questions

About the story

- Why did David Weinlick decide to get married?
- What did he do to get ready for his wedding?
- What was David's one big problem?
- When did the bridal competition take place?
- What did his friends think about David's plan?
- Why did his father refuse to come?
- Who showed up?
- Who was the winner? How did she feel?
- What do you think of David's wedding? Was he out of his mind?

About you

- Are you married? If not, are you going out with someone? Do you want to tie the knot?
- Has anyone ever told you that you were out of your mind?
- What kind of people do you hit it off with?
- Tell about a time when you were flying high.
- What job do you have in mind for your future? How can you get ready for the job?
- What are you sick and tired of?

8. Take a Dictation

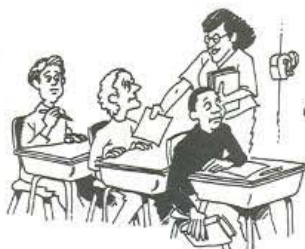
Listen to the tape or your teacher and write the dictation in your notebook.

9. Complete the Idioms



- a. Petra and Boris just tied the _____ and they're flying _____.

- b. Jared went _____ with his girlfriend last night to a party, which took _____ at the Red Hot Pepper Club.



- c. The teacher is handing _____ a test which her students are getting _____ to take.

10. Look at Grammar

hit it off

hit it off with someone

Mary and I really hit it off.

I really hit it off with Mary.

Note: This expression is often used in the past tense, as in the above examples. Remember that the past tense of *hit* is *hit*.

be sick and tired of something

be sick and tired of doing something

I'm sick and tired of that loud music.

I'm sick and tired of hearing that loud music.

Note: The expressions *be sick of* and *be tired of* are similar in meaning to *be sick and tired of*, but are not quite as strong.

get ready

get ready for something

get ready to do something

I'm getting ready!

I'm getting ready for the party.

I'm getting ready to go to the party.

hand out something / hand something out

hand out something to someone / hand something out to someone

She handed out her business cards. She handed her business cards out.

She handed out her business cards to everyone. She handed her business cards out to everyone.

She handed them out to everyone.

Note: *Hand out* is a phrasal verb. It is transitive and separable. Remember that the pronoun must occur between the two parts of the phrasal verb when the verb is separable. See Appendix D for more information on phrasal verbs.

Complete the sentences with help from the grammar box above. Make sure they are true for you.

- When I met _____ I really hit it off _____
because _____.
- I'm sick and tired _____.
- In the morning, I get ready for _____.
- I need to get ready to _____.
- This week, my teacher handed _____
out to _____.

11. Write a Dialogue

Work with a partner. Write a dialogue using at least four idioms from the unit.
Act it out for the class.

12. Complete the Story

- a. Fill in the blanks in this true story with idioms from the box. Put the verbs in the correct form and tense.

- tie the knot (v)
- get ready (v)
- out of their minds
- show up (v)
- hit it off (v)
- take place (v)

Couple Has Wedding in the Skies

Perris, CA, USA Scott Gehrke and Lorrie Kilgore met while they were taking skydiving lessons. They (1) _____ immediately. A year later they decided to (2) _____ —in the sky!

On their wedding day, they went up in a plane with a parachuting preacher and (3) _____ to jump. The ceremony (4) _____ as they fell 13,000 feet (3962 meters). Preacher Rick Lemons used hand signals to conduct the one-minute ceremony in the skies. The bride and groom kissed before pulling the ripcords on their parachutes. About 100 friends and family members (5) _____ to watch from the ground, including Kilgore's two daughters from a previous marriage.

Afterwards, the bride and groom **were all smiles***. Some people thought they were (6) _____, but Kilgore, 31, said, "We are rebels. This made sense to us. We **fell for**** each other, literally!



* be all smiles: be very happy (informal)

** fall for someone: fall in love with someone (informal)

- b. Read or tell the story to a partner.