

Celebrity wedding planner

by Jodi Hope

Age group: Teenagers / Adults

Level: Pre-intermediate +

Time: 45 minutes +

Objectives: for students to let their imaginations run riot using modal verbs

Key skills: speaking; writing; making suggestions; making decisions; making excuses

Materials: Photos of weddings from bridal / celebrity magazines; one set of modal verb cut-outs and 'Wedding plan' for each group; one copy of 'Guest list A' and one copy of 'Guest list B' for each group.

Procedure:

1. Pass round the selection of materials you have brought to the class on weddings to have a brief class discussion about the subject. Prompt students, if necessary, on upcoming weddings, their weddings (if applicable), weddings they have been to, your own wedding (if applicable), etc.

2. Elicit words that students already know in connection with weddings and ask a confident student to write these on board. Introduce new words, e.g. *registry office*, *venue*, etc.

3. Put students into groups of four and give one copy of the 'Guest list A' and 'Guest list B' to each group. Tell each group to:

- decide on a famous couple they would like to see married
- write the guest list. Explain to students that they should write two copies of the guest list, one on 'Guest list A' and the other on 'Guest list B'. Ensure students understand that each list should contain the same people and encourage them to complete their lists with all 20 names.

4. Elicit from students what has to be planned for a wedding and write their ideas on the board. Add any other useful words and ideas, e.g. *photos*, *music*, *cake*, etc. as appropriate to the level of group.

5. Tell students that they are celebrity wedding planners and are going to create a plan for their celebrity wedding. Give each group one copy of the 'Wedding plan' worksheet and a set of modal verb cut-outs. Let them know that they can discuss their wedding plans as they wish but every member of the group has to take a card at some point in the discussion. All the cards must be used and they should write their ideas on the 'Wedding plan' worksheet. Give examples:

Shall we have a marquee?

It **might** rain, so that's a good idea.

We **must** have a rock band!

6. While they are creating their wedding plan, collect both guest lists from each group. On the first list, mark either a tick (✓) or a cross (x) next to half of the names

to signify whether they can attend the wedding (i.e. if there are 20 names on the list, put a tick or a cross next to ten of them). On the second list, put a tick or a cross next to the ten names that you did not mark on the first list. Ensure that that are at least eight celebrities that are unable to attend each wedding (an equal number on each half of the list). Don't give them back to the students yet.

7. Allow each group to feed back to the class on their plans for their celebrity wedding.

8. When the students have had enough time to feed back, tell them you have now had the replies to the wedding invitations.

Write on the board:

He couldn't make it because ...

She can't come because ...

8. Divide each group into pairs. Return the guest lists to the students, giving guest list 'A' to one pair and guest list 'B' to the other pair. Explain that they should not show their list to the other pair.

9. Tell students that they are going to complete the replies on their guest lists by asking the other pair in their group who is coming to the wedding. They should take it in turns to ask questions and respond using either of the constructions on the board with an excuse of their choice. Perform an example with a strong student, e.g.:

Is Simon Cowell coming?

He can't come because he's on holiday in the Bahamas.

Possible homework tasks

Students could use the internet to research weddings in different cultures to discuss in the next lesson. Alternatively, they could write about a wedding based on their own experiences or plan their own imaginary wedding.

Modal verb cut-outs



should

should

shall

shall

may

might

ought to

must

★ ☆ ★ *Guest list A* ★ ☆ ★

Wedding of

..... and

★ 1

★ 11

☆ 2

☆ 12

★ 3

★ 13

☆ 4

☆ 14

★ 5

★ 15

☆ 6

☆ 16

★ 7

★ 17

☆ 8

☆ 18

★ 9

★ 19

☆ 10

☆ 20

★ ☆ ★ *Guest list B* ★ ☆ ★

Wedding of

..... *and*

★ 1

★ 11

☆ 2

☆ 12

★ 3

★ 13

☆ 4

☆ 14

★ 5

★ 15

☆ 6

☆ 16

★ 7

★ 17

☆ 8

☆ 18

★ 9

★ 19

☆ 10

☆ 20

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